



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**POLICE REPORT**

Case No: 22CC/08

Date: 10.11.2019

Prepared By: [Signature]

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**MAY 18-20, 2023**  
 LITTLE ROCK,  
 ARKANSAS

2023 NATIONAL  
 HIGH SCHOOL  
**MOCK TRIAL  
 CHAMPIONSHIP**



**ARKANSAS  
 MOCK TRIAL  
 FOUNDATION**

*State of Arkansas*  
*v. Scout Cumberland*

ED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
**EVIDENCE**  
 ED BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ON

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation, Inc. is honored and thrilled to host the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship (NHSMTTC) in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 18-20, 2023. Members of the Mock Trial Committee of the Arkansas Bar Association who have participated in the NHSMTTC (either as student competitors, coaches, or state coordinators) have dreamed of hosting this event in Arkansas for over a decade. Keenly aware that Arkansas has never before hosted, they felt strongly that the Natural State could provide a memorable and enjoyable experience for participating students. A few years ago, several determined members of that Committee decided to make their dream a reality, forming the Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation, Inc. (with substantial assistance from the Arkansas Bar Association and Arkansas Bar Foundation), and charging it with the mission of bringing the NHSMTTC to Little Rock.

The administration and officers of the Arkansas Bar Association and Arkansas Bar Foundation deserve special recognition for the resources they have provided the Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation. They never wavered in their support of its mission, even when faced with a challenge as daunting as a global pandemic.

The judges and staff for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas also deserve our deepest gratitude. Not only have they opened the doors of their beautiful courthouse for this event, but they have also supported our endeavor in myriad other ways. They too are thrilled and honored to host this event.

The National Board members of the NHSMTTC have also been integral to our efforts. They have all been there and done that, and the Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation has leaned hard on their intrepid guidance at every step of the way, including the refining of these case materials.

In the ensuing years after formation of the Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation, dozens of volunteers have assisted with bringing this dream of hosting the NHSMTTC to fruition. Each of them has a day job. Each of them has a family. Yet they have donated their spare time, hard labor, and creative ideas to our cause. While they are too numerous to recognize here, they know who they are, and they know this could not have happened without each and every one of them.

In particular, several of those volunteers have worked tirelessly to develop these case materials, which we hope will entertain and challenge the teams participating in the 2023 NHSMTTC. The case beautifully foregrounds the roller coaster that is Arkansas history while also evoking timeless themes that continue to resonate in communities across the United States. The Arkansas Mock Trial Foundation strongly believes this case

does justice to the preparation and hard work the participating students have put in to make it this far, as well as the diligence and spirit they will invest over the next six weeks or so, as they prepare to test their mettle against the best and brightest from across the land. The volunteers who worked on the case materials include the following:

- Anthony L. McMullen, University of Central Arkansas
- Adam Jackson, Arkansas Attorney General's Office
- Brooke Gasaway, Arkansas Attorney General's Office
- Laura O'Hara, Quattlebaum, Grooms & Tull PLLC
- Jordan Slatten, formerly of Munson, Rowlett, Moore, & Boone P.A.
- Bennett Stuckey, Watton Law Group
- Olivia Moore, Hendrix College Mock Trial Student

Each of them deserves our respect and gratitude for the hard work and artful intelligence they used to craft and refine this fun and educational mock trial case. Enjoy, and best of luck!

## CASE INTRODUCTION

*Note: This introduction is for background purposes only and is of no legal consequence in the terms of the trial. Nothing in this document is admissible for any purpose.*

The State of Arkansas has a colorful political history dating back to June 1836, when Arkansas was granted statehood. Around this time, wolves were a problem in the state. On December 4, 1837, the Arkansas House of Representatives was debating a bill to provide a \$2 bounty for each wolf killed. The bill required a magistrate to verify the wolf pelts, evidence of a wolf kill. Representative Joseph J. Anthony suggested requiring verification by the president of the recently chartered Real Estate Bank instead. Speaker of the House John Wilson, who happened to be said president, shouted at Anthony to sit down. When Anthony refused, Wilson drew a Bowie knife, said "I'll make you sit down," and charged Anthony.

The story continues:

Things happened so fast that even members of the House who saw it could not agree later on what happened. As Wilson charged toward Anthony, someone pushed a straight-backed chair between them. Anthony grabbed it to use it as a shield. When Wilson also took hold of the chair to wrest it out of the way, Anthony slashed at him with his own knife, nearly severing Wilson's left hand. He then either threw the knife at the speaker without effect or threw it on the floor. In either case, Wilson stabbed Anthony and he died almost instantly.<sup>1</sup>

Needless to say, the session immediately adjourned.

Two days later, Wilson tendered his resignation from the House of Representatives. The resignation was refused, however, as members of the House preferred expulsion. The House subsequently affirmed a resolution removing him from the House without debate on a 36-4 vote (with four members abstaining because they were not present when the stabbing occurred). Wilson was charged with murder and tried in neighboring Saline County, where he was found guilty of "excusable homicide."

Who knew that, almost two centuries later, history would repeat itself at a school board meeting?

Riley Truman and Scout Cumberland were once good friends. They met at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway (about thirty miles from Little Rock). Eventually, they banded together to form an education consulting firm. They often disagreed on how to

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<sup>1</sup> From Jerry E. Hinshaw, *Call the Roll: The First 150 Years of the Arkansas Legislature* (1986).

accomplish their goals, but their mutual goal of promoting education kept the business afloat.

The friendship finally ended after a company outing at Crater of Diamonds National Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. Before the trip started, Truman said, "You know, this is a company outing, so if anyone finds a big diamond, it belongs to the company." Everyone had a good laugh, presumably for two reasons. No one believed anyone would actually find anything worth writing about. And no one believed the company would actually try to claim anything that was found.

After a few minutes of digging, Cumberland made an amazing find: a ten-carat diamond. An employee affectionately named the find *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* ("the Big Shiny Rock."). On the drive back to Little Rock, Truman kept talking about ways the firm could use *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* for self-promotion. Cumberland grew increasingly annoyed at Truman's "jokes." Four days later, Cumberland was served with a complaint filed by Truman's lawyer, demanding possession of the diamond. Cumberland filed a response without an attorney. Unfortunately, Cumberland responded too late, resulting in an automatic judgment in Truman's favor. *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* belonged to the business. But because Cumberland no longer wanted to be in business with Truman, the partnership dissolved, and the diamond was sold at auction. The friendship was broken.

Later, both Cumberland and Truman were elected to the Little Rock School Board. Their hostility toward each other was apparent, to the point of making others uncomfortable. This came to a climax during an executive session at a December 2, 2021 school board meeting. At this point, Cumberland started hurling insults toward Truman. After several minutes of this, Truman left the room, and Cumberland followed.

Though it is hard to tell what happened after the two left the room, we know that Cumberland shot Truman. Many suspect that Cumberland wanted Truman dead all along. And more than one person thought Cumberland intentionally provoked Truman to "justify" the shooting. The evidence was enough to convince the prosecuting attorney to charge Cumberland with murder in the first degree. Cumberland insists that the shooting was in self-defense.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**V.**

**Case No.: 60-CR-2021-523**

**SCOUT CUMBERLAND**

**CRIMINAL INFORMATION**

I, Prosecuting Attorney, 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, in the name, by the authority, and on behalf of the State of Arkansas, Pulaski County, charge the Defendant, SCOUT CUMBERLAND, with violating Arkansas Code Annotated section 5-10-102, MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE, committed as follows, to wit: said Defendant, in Pulaski County, on or about the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2021, with the purpose of causing the death of another person, namely RILEY TRUMAN, did cause the death of that person. As a result, Defendant committed the offense of murder in the first degree, said offense being a Class Y felony, against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas.

I swear, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing representations are true.

**Melanie Kwan**

Melanie Kwan, Prosecuting Attorney  
Sixth Judicial District

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**V.**

**Case No.: 60-CR-2021-523**

**SCOUT CUMBERLAND**

**PRETRIAL HEARING ORDER**

**1. Trial Setting:** This case is set for trial on May 19-20, 2023. If the defendant is found guilty, the appropriate sentence will be determined at a separate hearing.

**2. Charges:** The State has charged Scout Cumberland with murder in the first degree. At the pretrial hearing, Cumberland made a motion to have the jury instructed on the charge of manslaughter. The State opposed the motion. After considering arguments, the court GRANTS the motion. However, it is expected that the prosecution will seek a conviction for murder in the first degree, while the defense will seek an outright acquittal.

**3. Introduction of Character Evidence:** It is anticipated that both the prosecution and the defense will rely upon character evidence to establish their respective cases. Parties are to keep in mind the instructions from the Arkansas Supreme Court in *Schnarr v. State*, 2017 Ark. 10, at 5:

Where character evidence is offered in support of the contention that the deceased was the aggressor or to characterize and explain his acts, the defense is restricted to proof of general reputation in the community where the deceased lived, and may not show particular acts or conduct at specified times. . . . But, on the issue whether or not the accused had reasonable ground to believe himself in imminent danger, he may show his knowledge of specific instances of violence on the part of the deceased.

There is also an issue created by the unique procedures of the mock trial court. In a typical trial, once the defendant has presented their case-in-chief, the prosecution is given the opportunity to present evidence in rebuttal. Within the mock trial court, however, the prosecution must call of its witnesses in its case-in-chief and is not offered the opportunity for rebuttal. If strict adherence to the rules of evidence were followed, mock trial procedure would completely bar the prosecution from introducing evidence that it would have the chance to introduce if rebuttals were allowed. Given the expectation that the defendant will offer character evidence, the door is considered open for the state to also introduce character evidence in its case-in-chief.

Alternatively, teams may agree not to introduce any character evidence related to the victim or defendant. Such a stipulation must be agreed upon by both teams and announced at pre-trial to be binding. Further, no team is obligated to agree to such a stipulation.

**4. Stipulations:** The parties stipulate the following facts. These facts may be considered in the record. No witness may contradict knowledge of facts contained in the stipulations:

- a. No jurisdiction or venue issues exist in this case.
- b. All exhibits and signatures are authentic and accurate. No party may challenge the authenticity of an exhibit or signature.
- c. Chain of custody for evidence is not in dispute.
- d. Both sides have provided timely pretrial notice regarding testimony as to character evidence.
- e. Cumberland has waived the Fifth Amendment and state constitutional right against self-incrimination and will testify at trial. Either side may comment on the defendant's choice to testify during opening statements and/or during the prosecution's case, and any evidentiary objections contingent on the defendant's testifying may be made during the prosecution's case.
- f. Little Rock School Board member Addy Adams passed away on December 23, 2021.
- g. Exhibit 1 is a not-to-scale diagram of the school board meeting room created by the school board for its administrative use. The blue star was added by Officer Rayburn and indicates the location of Riley Truman's body when he arrived at the scene on December 2, 2021. The names on the diagram show where the board members were sitting just before the meeting went into executive session.
- h. Exhibit 2 is a true and accurate copy of the letter announcing Judge Gasaway's ruling over the disposition of *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*. Judge Gasaway entered a final order consistent with the court's letter opinion the same day.
- i. Exhibit 3 is a true and accurate copy of an article that appeared in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* on September 2, 2021.
- j. Exhibit 4 is a true and accurate copy of the receipt from the sale of *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*.
- k. Exhibit 5 is a true and accurate copy of the resolution presented at the November 18, 2021, school board meeting. The handwritten portion "Failed by a 2-2 vote" was written by Addy Adams.
- l. Exhibit 6 is a true and accurate copy of the short-form autopsy report prepared by Dr. Valerie Jenkins of the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory. Dr. Frankie Rose assisted in the autopsy.
- m. Exhibit 7 is a true and accurate copy of the report drafted by Dr. Frankie Rose.



- n. Exhibits 8 and 9 are the gun and knife owned by Scout Cumberland and Riley Truman, respectively. At all relevant times in the case, both were in the lawful possession of their owners. The legality of any use or alleged use, however, is not stipulated. Both exhibits should be treated as the physical evidence they represent (not a picture of it).
- o. Exhibit 10 is a true and accurate transcript of the 911 call placed on the evening of December 2, 2021.
- p. Exhibit 11 is a true and accurate copy of a text exchange between Riley Truman and Robin Weston. The texts were exchanged on November 19, 2021, at 8:43 a.m.
- q. Exhibit 12 is a true and accurate copy of a text exchange between Scout Cumberland and Charlie Goodman. The texts were exchanged on November 18, 2021 at 10:35 p.m.
- r. Exhibit 13 is a true and accurate copy of the police report filed by Officer Alex Rayburn.

**5. Witnesses:** The designated witnesses, and only these witnesses, may be called at trial. Only the party sponsoring their testimony may call them, but they may call them in any order:

Witnesses for the Prosecution

Alex Rayburn  
Robin Weston  
Drew Arden

Witnesses for the Defendant

Scout Cumberland  
Dr. Charlie Goodman  
Dr. Frankie Rose

**6. Exhibits:** Both parties have collectively identified the following exhibits, which have been pre-marked and may be offered into evidence by either party. Except as provided in the stipulations, no party has waived any objection to the admissibility of any exhibit.

- a. Exhibit 1: Diagram of school board meeting room
- b. Exhibit 2: Letter Opinion from Pulaski County Circuit Court
- c. Exhibit 3: *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* Newspaper Article
- d. Exhibit 4: Receipt from the sale of *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*
- e. Exhibit 5: Proposed Resolution No. 2021-04 of the Little Rock School Board
- f. Exhibit 6: Short-Form Autopsy Report
- g. Exhibit 7: Report of Dr. Frankie Rose
- h. Exhibit 8: Scout Cumberland's Gun
- i. Exhibit 9: Riley Truman's Knife

- j. Exhibit 10: Transcript of 911 Call
- k. Exhibit 11: Text Exchange between Riley Truman and Robin Weston
- l. Exhibit 12: Text Exchange between Scout Cumberland and Charlie Goodman
- m. Exhibit 13: Police Report

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2023

*Winston Caruthers*

Judge Winston Caruthers

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**

**V. Case No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCOUT CUMBERLAND**

**JURY INSTRUCTIONS**

The faithful performance of your duties as jurors is essential to the administration of justice. It is my duty as judge to inform you of the law applicable to this case by instructions, and it is your duty to accept and follow them as a whole, not singling out one instruction to the exclusion of others. You should not consider any rule of law with which you may be familiar unless it is included in my instructions.

It is your duty to determine the facts from the evidence produced in this trial. You are to apply the law as contained in these instructions to the facts and render your verdict upon the evidence and law. You should not permit sympathy, prejudice, or like or dislike of any party to this action or of any attorney to influence your findings in this case.

In deciding the issues, you should consider the testimony of the witnesses and the exhibits received in evidence. The introduction of evidence in court is governed by law. You should accept without question my rulings as to the admissibility or rejection of evidence, drawing no inferences that by these rulings I have in any manner indicated my views on the merits of the case.

Opening statements, remarks during the trial, and closing arguments of the attorneys are not evidence but are made only to help you in understanding the evidence and applicable law. Any argument, statements, or remarks of attorneys having no basis in the evidence should be disregarded by you.

In considering the evidence in this case, you are not required to set aside your common knowledge, but you have a right to consider all the evidence in the light of your own observations and experiences in the affairs of life.

You are the sole judges of the weight of the evidence and the credibility of the witnesses. In determining the credibility of any witness and the weight to be given their testimony, you may take into consideration their demeanor while on the witness stand, any prejudice for or against a party, their means of acquiring knowledge concerning any matter to which they testified, any interest they may have in the outcome of the case, the consistency or inconsistency of their

testimony, its reasonableness or unreasonableness, and any other fact or circumstance tending to shed light upon the truth or falsity of their testimony.

A fact in dispute may be proved by circumstantial evidence as well as by direct evidence. A fact is established by direct evidence when, for example, it is proved by witnesses who testified to what they saw, heard, or experienced. A fact is established by circumstantial evidence when its existence can reasonably be inferred from other facts proved in the case. However, circumstantial evidence must be consistent with the guilt of the defendant and inconsistent with any other reasonable conclusion.

The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt each element of the offense charged. On the other hand, the defendant is not required to prove their innocence.

The filing of an information is merely the means by which a person is brought to trial. It is not evidence and is not to be considered by you in determining the guilt or innocence of Scout Cumberland.

There is a presumption of the defendant's innocence in a criminal prosecution. In this case, Scout Cumberland is presumed to be innocent. That presumption of innocence attends and protects the defendant throughout the trial and should continue and prevail in your minds until you are convinced of their guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Reasonable doubt is not a mere possible or imaginary doubt. It is a doubt that arises from your consideration of the evidence and one that would cause a careful person to pause and hesitate in the graver transactions of life. A juror is satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt if after an impartial consideration of all the evidence he or she has an abiding conviction of the truth of the charge.

If you find that the defendant is a person of good character, you may take that fact into consideration in determining their guilt or innocence, but if you believe from all the evidence in the case beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty, you should so find, notwithstanding their good character.

You are instructed that evidence of other alleged crimes, wrongs or acts of Cumberland may not be considered by you to prove the character of Cumberland in order to show that they acted in conformity therewith. This evidence is not to be considered to establish a particular trait of character that they may have, nor is it to be considered to show that he acted similarly or accordingly on the day of the incident. This evidence is merely offered as evidence of motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, or absence of mistake or accident. Whether any other alleged crimes, wrongs, or acts have been committed is for you to determine.

Cumberland is charged with the offense of murder in the first degree. This charge includes the lesser offense of manslaughter. You may find the defendant guilty of one of these offenses or you may acquit them outright. If you have reasonable doubt of the guilt of the defendant on the greater

offense, you may find them guilty only of the lesser offense. If you have a reasonable doubt as to the defendant's guilt of all offenses, you must find the defendant not guilty.

Cumberland is charged with the offense of murder in the first degree. To sustain this charge, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Cumberland, with the purpose of causing the death of Riley Truman, caused the death of Truman. A person acts purposely with respect to their conduct or a result of their conduct when it is the person's conscious object to engage in conduct of that nature or to cause the result.

If you have a reasonable doubt of the defendant's guilt on the charge of murder in the first degree, you will then consider the charge of manslaughter. To sustain this charge, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Cumberland recklessly caused the death of Truman. A person acts recklessly with respect to the results of their conduct when they consciously disregard a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the results will occur. The risk must be of a nature and degree that disregard thereof constitutes a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the same situation.

Cumberland asserts as a defense to the charges that they were acting in self-defense. This is a defense only if:

First: Cumberland reasonably believed that Truman was using or about to use unlawful physical force upon them; and

Second: Cumberland only used such force as they reasonably believed to be necessary.

A person is not required to retreat before using deadly physical force if they:

- (a) Are lawfully present at the location where deadly physical force is used;
- (b) Has a reasonable belief that the person against whom the deadly physical force is used is imminently threatening to cause death or serious physical injury to the person;
- (c) Is not the initial aggressor and has not provoked the person against whom the deadly physical force is used; and
- (d) Is not engaged in criminal activity that gives rise to the need for the use of deadly physical force at the time the deadly physical force is used.

However, Cumberland would not have been justified in using physical force upon another if:

- (a) With the purpose to cause physical injury or death to Truman, Cumberland provoked the use of unlawful physical force;
- (b) Cumberland was the initial aggressor; or

(c) Cumberland created the situation necessitating their conduct.

Cumberland, in asserting self-defense, is required only to raise a reasonable doubt in your minds. Consequently, if you believe that this defense has been shown to exist, or if the evidence leaves you with a reasonable doubt as to their guilt of murder, then you must find Cumberland not guilty. However, if you find that Cumberland recklessly or negligently formed the belief that they were justified in acting in self-defense or recklessly or negligently employed an excessive degree of force, then their actions would not be a defense to manslaughter. Negligence is where a person acts with respect to attendant circumstances or a result of their conduct when the person should be aware of a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the attendant circumstances exist, or the result will exist. The risk must be of such a nature and degree that the actor's failure to perceive the risk that involves a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the actor's situation considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct and the circumstances known to the actor.

In your deliberations, you should not discuss the subject of punishment. If you return a verdict of guilty, the matter of punishment will be addressed in a separate proceeding.

## Statement of Alex Rayburn

1 My name is Alex Rayburn, I am 47 years old, and I have been with the Little Rock Police  
2 Department now for almost twenty years. I grew up in Fayetteville, in northwest Arkansas.  
3 I graduated from Fayetteville High School in 1994, and I attended Arkansas State  
4 University in Jonesboro. Students are required to take a whole bunch of general education  
5 classes to start, and one of them changed my life. I took an Introduction to Sociology  
6 class during freshman year, and I became fascinated with just thinking about how people  
7 treated each other. The following semester, I took an Intro to Criminal Justice course as  
8 an elective. I later decided to double major in sociology and criminology. I graduated from  
9 ASU with my bachelor's in 1999. Soon after I graduated, there was an opening at the ASU  
10 Campus Police Department. I had to go through the police academy, but when I was done,  
11 I was welcomed into the department. Working for ASU allowed me the opportunity to  
12 obtain a Master's in criminology. I finished that in 2002. But as much as I enjoyed working  
13 as a campus law enforcement officer, I wanted a more typical law enforcement position.  
14 So, I moved to Little Rock in 2003 when an opportunity became available in its police  
15 department. I have been here ever since.

16 I have held several positions within the department, but I was promoted to lead homicide  
17 detective in November 2021, about a month before Scout shot Riley. I spent the previous  
18 five years assisting in other investigations. In that time, I assisted in investigating 15  
19 homicides. I have no special training related specifically to ballistics, but I have assisted  
20 in several investigations involving gunshot incidents, including five homicides involving  
21 shootings. I'll be up front about this: about three months before I received my promotion  
22 to lead detective, I investigated a homicide which involved a knife. I missed a key piece  
23 of evidence from the crime lab indicating the defendant may have engaged in self-  
24 defense. Shortly after the defendant was arrested, the deputy prosecuting attorney  
25 approached me and identified my oversight. I had to put my tail between my legs before  
26 the Court, ultimately. I wasn't thrilled to have this blot on my record, and for a moment I  
27 thought the incident might ultimately affect my pension when I retire. But of course, I am  
28 grateful for the judicial processes for serving as a second set of eyes so that we got the  
29 facts correct and charges dropped against that person.

30 My spouse and I have three children, and they all attend Little Rock public schools.  
31 Because we wanted to ensure that they were getting the best education possible, I started  
32 attending local school board meetings. It wasn't long before I became good friends with  
33 the late Addy Adams, the long-time member and secretary of the Board. Addy was  
34 introverted, and at first, I thought that Addy had nothing interesting to say. But I quickly  
35 discovered that Addy carefully listened to everyone else before summarizing discussions  
36 and promoting consensus. Addy's children were close to the ages of our children, so our

37 families became close and even went on road trips together. My heart goes out to Addy's  
38 kids. We were all devastated when Addy passed away a couple years ago.

39 I attended the November 18, 2021, school board meeting. I thought it was going to be a  
40 routine meeting. You know, approve some personnel decisions, and get into some  
41 curriculum questions. But there was the resolution to support the field trip to the  
42 Japanese internment museum down in McGehee. Charlie Goodman introduced the  
43 resolution at the meeting, but you could tell that Scout was fired up about it. Scout gave  
44 an impassioned speech about the importance of educating students about American  
45 history—the good parts and the bad. Scout mentioned walking around the campus at the  
46 University of Central Arkansas and seeing all of the trees dedicated to the memories of  
47 those who lost their lives in World War II. But Scout also wanted people to keep in mind  
48 the lives of Japanese families who were uprooted for no other reason than that they  
49 happen to look like the enemy. It was a moving speech, and I honestly thought the  
50 resolution would easily pass.

51 Then Riley spoke. Riley brought up the school district's budget. The Little Rock School  
52 District was not in any financial distress, but it was far from comfortable. Riley spoke of  
53 fiscal priorities and thought field trips needed to be subordinated when the funding wasn't  
54 there. But then, Riley made a remark that set Scout off. I still remember the vitriol in Riley's  
55 voice when Riley stared directly at Scout and said, "And finally, even if we were sitting on  
56 mountains of cash, we don't have enough time for another one of Cumberland's social  
57 justice crusades." You could just look in Scout's eyes and tell that Scout did not  
58 appreciate that remark. Scout might have jumped out of the chair right there but for  
59 Charlie's giving Scout a stern look. Scout then just folded their arms and slumped down  
60 in their chair. In the end, though, I guess Riley was persuasive. Charlie and Scout were the  
61 only two to vote for the resolution. Riley, of course, voted against it. So did Robin Weston  
62 for some reason. Addy abstained. With the vote tied, the resolution failed. A couple of  
63 days after the meeting, I asked Addy why he abstained. He told me he thought the trip to  
64 McGehee would be good for the students, especially since he doubted most Arkansans  
65 even knew about it. But Addy didn't want to be pulled into whatever drama Scout and Riley  
66 seemed to be working through.

67 Apparently, I should have attended the meeting on December 2, 2021. Of course, if I had,  
68 I would possibly be testifying here in a different capacity. I missed it because I was  
69 helping my youngest child prepare for her role in a big school play. (She got to play Hattie  
70 Caraway, the first woman elected to serve a full term in the U.S. Senate.) Just as we  
71 finished for the evening, shortly before 8 p.m., I received a call from my captain, reporting  
72 a shooting incident at the school board meeting and I needed to get down there ASAP. It



73 took me about ten minutes to reach the building. I noted my arrival on the scene at  
74 approximately 8:06 p.m.

75 My first task was to touch base with the building security on the scene. They weren't  
76 witnesses to the events, but took control of the scene once the shooting occurred. They  
77 indicated the board members were all in the board meeting room, and I was surprised to  
78 learn the shooting involved just the board members.

79 I proceeded to the meeting room, and found Scout, Charlie, Addy, and Robin. I noticed the  
80 EMT crew was just through a doorway to the back hallway to the Board offices, and I  
81 proceeded that direction. That's when I saw a body covered in a white sheet on the floor.  
82 The EMT lifted the sheet, and I confirmed it was Riley Truman. The EMT indicated Riley  
83 was pronounced dead shortly before I arrived, from what appeared to be gunshot  
84 wounds.

85 I then overheard Scout and Addy arguing in the meeting room. This was unusual, since  
86 I'd never seen Addy so upset. I don't know how long they argued before I noticed, but it  
87 grabbed my attention when Addy cried out, "You just couldn't control yourself. Why  
88 couldn't you leave Riley alone? You just murdered a good person. What's wrong with you?"  
89 Addy was sobbing. I intervened and asked an EMT to tend to Addy while I spoke first with  
90 Scout. I led Scout into the meeting room gallery away from the others and asked what  
91 happened.

92 Scout explained that the Board went into executive session, and after some comments  
93 that went back and forth, Riley grabbed Scout and made a threat similar to "don't test me"  
94 or something like that, after which Riley began to walk outside of the meeting room  
95 toward the board offices. Scout said they followed to continue the conversation, but once  
96 in the hallway, Riley blocked the exit. The back and forth continued until Scout felt Riley  
97 was reaching for a knife and was about to attack, at which point Scout grabbed for the  
98 gun and fired two shots.

99 Scout told me, "I never imagined I would have to actually fire my gun like this. But if I  
100 hadn't, you would be looking at my dead body instead of Riley's." Despite having shot  
101 someone, Scout seemed unusually calm. Like it was no big deal. I've fortunately never  
102 had to fire my weapon outside of the shooting range, but just the thought of it makes me  
103 nervous. I've been to the scene of a number of unpremeditated shootings over the course  
104 of my career, and anytime the shooter is still present at the scene, there is always some  
105 type of reaction. Either some adrenaline is still going through their veins and they are  
106 trying to calm themselves down, or they are in absolute shock and disbelief. So, seeing

107 Scout so calm after what happened seemed unusual. I advised Scout to remain in the  
108 meeting room until I had spoken with everyone.

109 I then went to Addy, who immediately cried out, "When are you going to arrest Scout  
110 Cumberland for the murder of Riley Truman?" This was the most expressive I've ever seen  
111 Addy. It took me a good five minutes to calm Addy back down so that I could get a  
112 statement. Addy said that, after the Board went into executive session, Scout just started  
113 yelling at Riley. Addy could not recall everything Scout said, but Addy was definitely sure  
114 that Scout yelled, "Yeah, I know that you aren't a racist or anything. But that has nothing  
115 to do with you being the biggest" ... I'm sorry for saying this, but ... "the biggest piece of  
116 'animal feces' I know." And no, the words used were not "animal feces." Addy said that  
117 Riley stood up and walked out the door, but Scout followed and continued to scream  
118 profanities and saying things like, "You can't handle anything that brings you down from  
119 your ivory tower." Addy said that Riley said something to Scout, which Addy did not hear,  
120 then all of a sudden, Scout yelled, "Make me!" Seconds later ... "boom, boom." Addy did  
121 not see either Riley or Scout once they left the room, but only heard the continuing  
122 commotion. I think Addy was really traumatized by the entire event. I called one of the  
123 paramedics at the scene to check on Addy physically. Later, I asked another officer on  
124 the scene to give Addy a lift home. I planned to follow-up after Addy had some more time  
125 to settle down.

126 I then interviewed Robin Weston. Robin usually sat between Riley and Scout during the  
127 school board meetings, and I confirmed Robin had done so on this occasion as well.  
128 Robin had called 911 after the shooting. Robin's account to me was substantially similar  
129 to the basic details I got from Addy, although Robin had a slightly better vantage point  
130 and was able to see Riley even after the two entered the hallway. Robin did report  
131 movement by Riley back toward the doorway, which was also toward where Scout was  
132 standing just before the shooting and also said that Riley was making some motion with  
133 his left hand. I tried to get Robin to demonstrate the movement, but Robin said that things  
134 happened so quickly that they could not remember how the movement went.

135 I asked Robin about a possible knife. Robin explained that Riley usually had a knife with  
136 him, but Robin did not recall specifically seeing it that evening. I also asked whether there  
137 was any physicality between Riley and Scout before they left the meeting room. Robin did  
138 not recall anything out of the ordinary. When I asked if there was anything Robin could  
139 think of that would have led to this, Robin recalled seeing a parking-lot argument after the  
140 November board meeting that was, in Robin's words, "heated." Robin reported largely  
141 keeping out of the middle of Riley and Scout's disputes. However, Robin did share with  
142 me a text exchange that they had with Riley the next day. Robin also reminded me about

143 Riley and Scout's history with their dissolved partnership and recommended that I talk to  
144 Drew Arden, one of their former employees, for more information.

145 Finally, I interviewed Charlie Goodman. Charlie told me that there seemed to still be some  
146 tension between Scout and Riley stemming from the last meeting. Charlie spent much of  
147 that December 2 meeting trying to figure out how to calm Scout down, indicating that  
148 Riley seemed to be pushing Scout's buttons particularly hard that evening. Charlie was  
149 trying to tune everything out after the blowup between the two of them started, until  
150 hearing two loud bangs and immediately hitting the deck. When everything went silent,  
151 Charlie went into the hallway and saw Riley on the floor bleeding.

152 Charlie started CPR and attempted to use a cotton mask to help stop the bleeding, but  
153 there was nothing to be done. Riley was pretty much dead. Charlie did not recall whether  
154 Riley did or did not have a knife that night, but Charlie did say that Riley grabbed Scout's  
155 arm as Riley was leaving the meeting room. I asked if that was unusual, and Charlie  
156 explained that between those two, it was.

157 At this point, I went back to the body. There was blood all over Riley's chest and face. I  
158 observed, consistent with Charlie's statement, a piece of bloody cloth in the chest wound.  
159 I did not touch the body, but I did observe a knife on Riley's person. It looked like a small  
160 Bowie knife. The knife was partially un-sheathed, but the sheath was attached to Riley's  
161 belt on his left side. I could not tell whether Riley (or someone else) had pulled the knife  
162 out partially. Nor did I assess whether it could have slipped out partially when Riley hit the  
163 floor. In hindsight, I wish I had studied it more.

164 I decided not to arrest Scout that evening. Scout claimed self-defense, and some  
165 evidence suggested that could be true. However, I continued my investigation in the  
166 following days, including waiting for a report from the medical examiner. I did advise  
167 Scout to remain in Little Rock. In the meantime, I sought a subpoena for phone and text  
168 records from both Riley's and Scout's phones.

169 To get background on the relationship between Scout and Riley, I found Drew Arden and  
170 had a conversation with them the day after the shooting. Drew worked for Scout and Riley  
171 when their partnership was still operating and knew both from their time in college. Drew  
172 said the turning point in their relationship was a company trip to Crater of Diamonds  
173 where Scout found a diamond, which Riley argued should belong to the company. Drew  
174 appeared visibly upset when recalling the story. But one thing I got out of my conversation  
175 with Drew was how angry Riley's actions to obtain the diamond made Scout. Drew told  
176 me that Scout wanted to "personally make sure that Riley got what was coming to him."  
177 I asked Drew whether Riley had any history of being violent. Drew could only recall a single

178 occasion where Riley had been in a fight—some argument with a guy at a sporting event  
179 two years ago. Drew said that Riley injured his hand in that fight. But, according to Drew,  
180 that was the only occasion in which Riley had ever been violent.

181 On December 9, I followed up with Addy. I first asked Addy whether he was okay after  
182 everything that happened. Addy nodded, then said, “I didn’t think much about it at the  
183 time, but you should know that, before the meeting, I saw Scout get out of their car, open  
184 their trunk, and move a gun from the trunk of the car to their inside jacket pocket.” Addy  
185 paused before saying, “I know that the two hated each other. I guess Scout really wanted  
186 Riley dead.”

187 I was also beginning to question whether the shooting was in self-defense. Three days  
188 later, I received the autopsy report, which concluded the death was a homicide and largely  
189 aligned with the facts I had. The report acknowledged additional “unremarkable”  
190 information, to which I gave little mind as a result of the pathologist’s finding that they  
191 were not relevant. I also reviewed some text message exchanges, which further  
192 convinced me that Scout wanted Riley dead. I finished my report and presented the facts  
193 to the prosecuting attorney, who filed charges against Scout and sought an arrest  
194 warrant. I served the warrant and arrested Scout on December 14, 2021.

195 Unfortunately, a week after my last conversation with Addy, he got really sick and had to  
196 be hospitalized. He never recovered and died a few days before Christmas—our family  
197 was hit pretty hard by it. It was one of those things where one day, you are healthy, and  
198 then all of a sudden, you are in the hospital. I never learned the official cause of death,  
199 but the entire community was broken up about it. Like I said before, I really feel for Addy’s  
200 kids. What a tragedy.

201 Scout and Riley could have done so much good for our community. Instead, Scout just  
202 stayed perpetually angry at Riley and finally murdered him. Scout will probably find peace  
203 one day. Too bad it is going to be in a prison cell.

***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Alex Rayburn*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public

State of Arkansas

My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024

## Statement of Robin Weston

1 My name is Robin Weston, and I live in Little Rock, Arkansas. I celebrated my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday  
2 last month by climbing Pinnacle Mountain in West Little Rock. I've lived in Little Rock  
3 almost my entire life. My folks (bless their souls) owned a mom-and-pop restaurant  
4 downtown on West Third Street. As a matter of fact, Weston's is still proudly serving the  
5 citizens of Little Rock today. I don't have much to do with the business now though; my  
6 sweet sister May took it over when my folks were no longer able to handle it in their old  
7 age. But I'm there at least once a week.

8 When I was younger, I would work at the restaurant during the summer, school breaks,  
9 and weekends to help out my folks. Our regular customers were lawyers, legislators, and  
10 judges, considering our close proximity to the Capitol, the courts, and the downtown area.  
11 While waiting tables, I would often overhear their conversation about what was going on  
12 during the legislative session, what cases were about to go before the Arkansas Supreme  
13 Court, and if I was lucky, I would overhear some juicy town gossip. Once I grew  
14 comfortable with these regulars, I began to ask them questions about Arkansas history,  
15 and to my surprise, they entertained me! Well more than entertained really, they began  
16 giving me interesting facts about the state every time they came in—even without me  
17 asking! For example, one time, a legislator told me that the State Capitol was built on the  
18 site of the old state penitentiary! Once the legislator started telling this story, a lawyer  
19 from a table next to him chimed in and told me that the Capitol's marble floors and walls  
20 came from Vermont, its columns came from Colorado, and the grand staircases came  
21 from Alabama. The limestone on the exterior of the building was quarried near Batesville,  
22 Arkansas, and a softer Indiana limestone was used for the dome. I found all this  
23 information so fascinating!

24 I was always interested in events of the past because I strongly believe we can learn from  
25 history—we can either strive to repeat the good parts or try by all means to not make the  
26 same mistakes. History and social studies were always my best grades in primary and  
27 secondary school. I guess you could say that I was that nerdy kid in school—the one who  
28 always had their nose in a book, eager to learn something new. But this paid off because  
29 when I graduated from Little Rock Central High School—a historic site itself—I I knew  
30 exactly what I was going to major in when I headed off to college . . . history, of course. I  
31 attended the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Arkansas, and I loved every minute of  
32 my college experience.

33 During college, I took a ton of history classes not only focusing on Arkansas history, but  
34 also on U.S. history. I also minored in political science because of the influence my regular  
35 customers (the lawyers, legislators, and judges) had on me during my younger years. And

36 luckily for me, my minor and major merged perfectly while I was writing my honors thesis  
37 prior to receiving my undergraduate degree. My thesis, "When Words Failed," examined  
38 instances in Arkansas history in which differences were not resolved in the political arena,  
39 but rather by violent duels. I guess you could say that I became a little obsessed with this  
40 aspect of Arkansas history. How could I not after writing a thesis on it? Even though  
41 dueling is uncivilized by today's social norms, I can't help but be fascinated by how  
42 prevalent duels were in Arkansas history.

43 Although I loved my time in Clarksville and its small-town feel, I desperately missed "big  
44 city" Little Rock. So, immediately after graduating, I moved back. I also married my high  
45 school sweetheart, Sam, and we started our family. When I moved back to Little Rock,  
46 there was an opening at Central High School for a history teacher. Well, I needed a job,  
47 and this seemed like the perfect opportunity for me, but I was a little nervous considering  
48 how young I was. But I guess the principal saw something special in me because she  
49 offered me the job on the spot!

50 I taught at Central High for 36 years and then I decided it was time for me to retire in  
51 2014. My children had all grown up and moved on with their own lives, and I wanted to  
52 spend more time with Sam. I had also just gone through a full administrative inquiry into  
53 an issue involving two of my students. They were disputing something related to a project  
54 they had been assigned. The one was the school salutatorian that year and the other was  
55 a solid B student. They just could not resolve their conflict. When I had to intervene, I  
56 agreed with the salutatorian about how to resolve the matter. The other student filed a  
57 complaint with the administration, alleging that I sided with the other student simply  
58 because that student was president of the National Honor Society, of which I was the  
59 long-time faculty advisor. I retired before it was resolved, and the student agreed to drop  
60 the complaint at that point. I am not sure what the final resolution was.

61 I quickly learned that retirement was overrated. After my first month of retirement, I had  
62 already finished twelve books! I had so much extra time that I didn't know what to do with  
63 myself. I tried to pick up a few new hobbies like hiking, gardening, and cooking, but that  
64 just didn't keep me busy enough. Plus, I wanted to contribute to my community in some  
65 way. I missed the connection with the community and the joy I got from positively  
66 influencing the students. So, that's when I decided that I would run for a position on the  
67 Little Rock School Board. I was first elected to the Board in 2015.

68 In 2021, Little Rock had two openings on the School Board. Addy really wanted two  
69 younger people to join the board, and Addy told me about these two people, Riley Truman  
70 and Scout Cumberland, who operated an education consulting firm and were passionate  
71 about schools. Addy did not know much about them at the time, but Addy told me that he

72 had heard from others who used their services that Riley and Scout seemed very helpful  
73 in supporting educational goals. Addy would later confess to me over drinks that he  
74 wished he would have done more homework on them. He would have endorsed Riley in  
75 a heartbeat. Scout . . . not so much. When I asked Addy why he did not like Scout, he just  
76 replied, “We just did not need that negative energy on our board.”

77 Riley was actually a student of mine in the last couple years before I retired. He stood out  
78 among his peers, mostly in a good way. Riley was National Honor Society president his  
79 senior year. He had more volunteer hours than the next two highest students combined.  
80 He was just a few points away from being the class salutatorian, and he was liked by  
81 most students. I do remember him having a stubborn side whenever he made his mind  
82 up about something, even when presented evidence to the contrary. It landed him in some  
83 hot water at times.

84 Because it had been a while since I had spoken to him, I wanted to catch up with Riley  
85 and find out more about his work after high school, before deciding whether to  
86 recommend he run for a board seat. So, I invited Riley to my parents’ restaurant on May  
87 17, 2021. He told me about his great experience at the College of Business at the  
88 University of Central Arkansas, and how he wanted to use his acquired business acumen  
89 for the public good. He told me about his educational consulting firm and his goal to  
90 ensure students had an adequate education. He also recounted one particular “big win,”  
91 as he called it. He showed me a knife he said he always carried as a sort of trophy for the  
92 win. He said it was a gift from a friend and colleague. He was real proud of what that knife  
93 represented, and he carried it like a soldier proudly carries a gun. He was very comfortable  
94 wielding it.

95 I knew that Riley would be great for the school board. So, I invited him to another dinner  
96 to meet Addy and Charlie Goodman. On May 29, we had dinner and continued the  
97 conversation. I met Scout Cumberland for the first time that night, too. Riley and Scout  
98 were still business partners in the education consulting firm. Riley and Scout seemed a  
99 bit cold toward each other, but I tried not to worry about that. (At the time, I didn’t know  
100 that their partnership was essentially over.) I wanted to make sure that Riley would be a  
101 good fit for the board before I threw my support behind him. Riley impressed Addy and  
102 Charlie that evening. And when the meeting was over, I told Riley that he was going to be  
103 running for the board. I had wanted to be pretty active in helping him campaign, but Riley  
104 insisted that he just needed to get in front of the right people, and he could sell himself.  
105 He suggested weekly meetings at the restaurant, and during those meetings, I was either  
106 introducing him to people I thought he needed to know or telling him what phone calls he  
107 needed to make. I don’t know what Riley did outside of those meetings, but whatever he  
108 did, it worked. He was elected to the board.



109 I was also aware that Charlie encouraged Scout to run for a seat as well. I didn't really  
110 know Scout prior to Scout joining the board, but I thought we were really going to hit it off,  
111 especially after Scout learned I was a retired history teacher. Just before the first board  
112 meeting of the 2021-22 school year, Scout asked me if I had a particular favorite event in  
113 Arkansas history, so of course I told Scout about my thesis, which I also taught my  
114 students back when I was teaching. I tried to summarize it quickly, but I was not able to  
115 give him a full account before we had to start the meeting. In fact, I was only able to tell  
116 him about the Conway-Crittenden Duel of 1827 and how it impacted Arkansas history and  
117 politics.

118 This duel was between Henry Wharton Conway and Robert Crittenden. Both moved to  
119 Arkansas in the 1800s to pursue a career in politics. Interestingly, though, Crittenden was  
120 initially a supporter of Conway, but as the election campaign progressed, tension grew  
121 between the two men. Conway's opponent accused him of mishandling government  
122 money that was supposed to be allocated to the Quapaw Indians along the way. Conway  
123 publicly stated that Crittenden allowed him to keep some of the funds that were supposed  
124 to go to the Quapaw Tribe. Crittenden, of course, denied this. But because of Conway's  
125 political ties and his crafty efforts to cover up this story, he won the election. To defend  
126 his honor, Crittenden challenged Conway to a duel on October 29, 1827. Like any other  
127 duel, the men stood across from each other, back to back, until the moment came, and  
128 they turned around and shot at each other. Crittenden's bullet struck Conway directly in  
129 his chest, killing him. As a result of Conway's death, his political position needed to be  
130 filled. Ironically, one of Crittenden's supporters (and his cousin), Ambrose Sevier, won the  
131 special election and replaced Conway. Relaying the story immediately brought me back  
132 into the classroom, and I was genuinely excited that someone other than me found these  
133 duels so fascinating.

134 At the next meeting, Scout asked me for another story, so I told him about the most  
135 important duel in state history, the Wilson-Anthony Duel on the statehouse floor on  
136 December 4, 1837. The House was debating a bill about paying bounties on wolf scalps.  
137 State Representative Major Joseph J. Anthony made a comment that the wolf scalps  
138 should be verified by the bank president (Wilson). This angered Speaker John Wilson,  
139 who set upon Anthony with a large Bowie knife and killed him. He was prosecuted by  
140 Albert Pike, who, years later, would be involved in a duel with John Selden Roane, a future  
141 Arkansas Governor. Ultimately, in the Wilson duel case, the jury returned a verdict of  
142 "guilty of excusable homicide." Wilson celebrated the verdict by directing the sheriff to  
143 take the jurors to a local tavern, and he paid for all they could drink that night. The justice  
144 system sure was different back then!

145 Scout continued to ask me about other duels. Scout seemed entranced with each story.  
146 Finally, I asked Scout, "Haven't I told you everything that there is to know about these  
147 duels?" Scout responded, "I'm just really interested in them." It was like Scout was  
148 obsessed with the duels for some reason, and that observation is coming from someone  
149 who was fascinated with duels enough to write over 200 pages about them. At the time,  
150 I thought this obsession with the duels was a little strange, but I never thought, until now,  
151 that this obsession could have led to something as sinister as what happened during that  
152 December 2021 board meeting. I mean, thinking back now, you know hindsight is always  
153 20/20, but it seems like Scout admired the challengers in these duels.

154 As a member of the school board, I have heard the concerns of teachers and parents  
155 alike. For example, during an open forum at Scout and Riley's second meeting on the  
156 board, one of our teachers suggested that they be allowed to wear blue jeans on Mondays  
157 and Fridays instead of just Fridays. Personally, I did not see a problem with this. I thought  
158 that having teachers dressed casually would make them more approachable, hopefully  
159 leading to our students being able to trust them whenever they had issues at school.

160 Riley was the first board member to respond and spoke in favor of the idea. But just as  
161 Riley finished speaking, Scout went on this long diatribe about how teachers are  
162 professionals and should always dress the part. No one argued about teachers being  
163 professionals, but no one else on the board seemed to have the stomach to get into this  
164 level of micromanaging teachers' classrooms or their attire. What was strange about the  
165 entire debate, however, was that Scout showed no hint of being against the idea until  
166 Riley started speaking. It led to a four-hour discussion, mostly dominated by Riley trying  
167 to be supportive of the idea and Scout opposing anything that Riley said. In hindsight, I  
168 wonder if this was just an instance of Scout antagonizing Riley for the sake of  
169 antagonizing Riley.

170 The November 18 meeting was more of the same, but this time about field trips to former  
171 Japanese internment camp sites in southeast Arkansas. Riley spoke out against this idea,  
172 stating that the funding was just not there. The idea was voted down, and Scout was very  
173 vocal about being disappointed. After the meeting, I turned on my phone and responded  
174 to a couple of emails. Then I left the building. As I was walking toward my car, I overheard  
175 Scout and Riley just absolutely screaming at each other. It made others in the area  
176 uncomfortable, and I saw people scrambling to get to their cars and get out of there as  
177 fast as possible. I do not remember the entire argument, but there is one part that stood  
178 out. Scout yelled at Riley, "Typical. If I had your family's history, I wouldn't want to deal  
179 with the past, either." Riley was visibly upset by that comment. Riley turned around swiftly  
180 toward Scout. Mid-turn, I saw Riley's left hand go into his coat as if he was grabbing for  
181 something, but both Riley and Scout stopped. Riley then said something that I didn't quite

182 hear (though I doubt that it would be worth repeating in polite company), then walked to  
183 his car and sped off. I later texted Riley to ask about what happened that night, which was  
184 unusual as I tended to avoid getting involved in their personal dispute, but for whatever  
185 reason, I was concerned.

186 The most bizarre thing I have ever witnessed at a Little Rock School Board meeting  
187 occurred on December 2, 2021, when Scout shot Riley. The meeting began as had  
188 become usual: with tension in the air between Scout and Riley. But the tension between  
189 the two at that meeting was particularly strong. I assumed it was leftover aggression  
190 from the previous meeting, but I didn't think anything of it since it had unfortunately grown  
191 so common.

192 After we finished our regular business during the December meeting, we needed to  
193 discuss a personnel matter. So, the board moved to executive session, meaning the  
194 meeting was no longer open to the public. After the public left the meeting room, Scout  
195 started mumbling something. I actually sat right beside Scout (Riley was on my other  
196 side) during the meetings, but I didn't catch exactly what Scout said. Thinking that Scout  
197 was maybe speaking to me, I turned and asked Scout to repeat it. But I was shocked when  
198 Scout ignored me, leaned forward, turned left, looked at Riley and started hurling insults.

199 As of this moment, for the life of me, I cannot remember exactly what it was that Scout  
200 said, because I was just so taken off guard. But I can remember two things: the insults  
201 were clearly aimed at Riley, and they included profanity, which I do not wish to repeat.  
202 Other than the general hostility between the two, I did not notice anything specifically that  
203 night that would have set Scout off. Certainly, it wasn't anything Riley had done at the  
204 meeting. I sat between Riley and Scout all night. Scout was rather quiet throughout the  
205 regular business meeting until the doors closed, but Riley and I had a delightful  
206 conversation about our Christmas vacation plans.

207 Scout's insults went on and on for about two minutes without Riley saying anything. Riley  
208 seemed to be trying to be the bigger person and just ignore Scout altogether. I even heard  
209 Riley mumble "just ignore Scout" under his breath. But then, Scout said: "Nice work as  
210 usual, Georgie V." At that point, Riley looked disgusted, stood up, and headed toward the  
211 door to the board offices—I've never heard that phrase before, but it certainly seemed  
212 upsetting to Riley. The verbal jostling continued as Riley walked past me and then Scout.  
213 But Scout stood up and started following Riley out of the meeting room. I was particularly  
214 glad that the two had decided to take their bickering somewhere else because I was quite  
215 literally in the middle of this argument.

216 Riley must have noticed that Scout was following him a few steps after Riley left the room  
217 because he appeared to stop just inside the hallway and turn to face Scout. I could not  
218 see everything because they had made their way outside of the room. I clearly heard Riley  
219 tell Scout to go back and sit back down. Scout very loudly yelled, "Make me." From where  
220 I was sitting, Riley appeared to step and lean toward where Scout was standing, and his  
221 left hand began to rise from his side. I don't know if Riley was going to attack Scout or  
222 whether Riley was just beginning to move back into the meeting room and making some  
223 kind of gesture. It was hard to tell what was going on. All I know is that I then heard two  
224 gunshots. I initially ducked, then I got up with Charlie Goodman to see what happened.  
225 The first clear thing I saw was Scout standing over Riley's body. It was weird, but Scout  
226 seemed awfully calm after just shooting someone. And then—and this creeps me out—  
227 Scout just turned to us and said, "Riley finally got what was coming. Good riddance." I  
228 was shocked and returned to my chair to call 911. Charlie started CPR, and building  
229 security rushed in and separated Scout from the rest of us. After that I spoke with Officer  
230 Rayburn and gave my account of what happened.

231 Soon after the incident, there were rumors flying all over town about what exactly had  
232 happened. Many suspected that Scout wanted Riley dead all along, which to me would  
233 explain Scout's fascination with the dueling, and some of the similarities I am now  
234 noticing. Some even thought that Scout intentionally provoked Riley to "justify" shooting  
235 him. Scout seemed to be fascinated with how each of the challengers in the historic duels  
236 were actually able to convince their opponent to participate in a duel. One time, Scout  
237 asked me, "Why didn't they just say no?" Honestly, I'm not sure. I guess it was just a point  
238 of pride. With what I knew about Scout and Riley's history, mostly from Riley, coupled with  
239 Scout's intensive interest in duels, it certainly seemed plausible that Scout wanted to  
240 provoke a challenge from Riley.

241 The day after the shooting, I called Scout and suggested that they resign from the Board.  
242 Scout declined and hung up on me. After Addy's passing, and with Charlie on Scout's side,  
243 we will have to wait for another election to get rid of Scout. Of course, an election won't  
244 be necessary when the jury convicts Scout of murder.

***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Robin Weston*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public

State of Arkansas

My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024

## Statement of Drew Arden

1 My name is Drew Arden, and I am 26 years old. I currently live in Conway, Arkansas, but I  
2 grew up in Hoxie, up in northeast Arkansas. I attended the University of Central Arkansas  
3 majoring in history, with an emphasis on Arkansas history. I particularly enjoy U.S. history  
4 from the Reconstruction Era following the Civil War to the middle of the Black Civil Rights  
5 Movement—which in the 1950’s Arkansas featured prominently. Hoxie actually gets its  
6 efforts overshadowed by what happened in Little Rock. In 1955, two years before the  
7 story of the Little Rock Nine, our town’s school board became one of the first—if not the  
8 first—school districts in the state to desegregate. My parents told me that it was for three  
9 reasons: it was cheaper for the school system, it followed the law, and—most  
10 importantly—it was just the right thing to do. Of course, not everyone saw it this way, and  
11 members of the school community had to stand up for what they believed. When the  
12 segregationists lost in Hoxie, though, they turned their attention to Little Rock and Central  
13 High, and they had a powerful ally in Governor Orval Faubus.

14 While I was at UCA, I met Riley Truman. Even though Riley was majoring in business and  
15 a year ahead of me, we had a few general education classes together. Riley often made  
16 jokes in class and everyone, even the professors, liked Riley. But I heard Riley say to  
17 someone one day that he was having some trouble in a history class he was taking. I  
18 loved history and I was pretty good at it, if I do say so myself. So, I offered to tutor Riley  
19 for his upcoming midterm. Right away, Riley and I just clicked. It turned out that he was  
20 really interested in history but just didn’t know how to study for the exams. We worked on  
21 that, and Riley nailed the midterm. After that, we ended up hanging out a lot, going to the  
22 student center between classes to grab lunch or hanging out by the fountain out in front  
23 of Irby Hall.

24 I never imagined my specific interests in U.S. history would intersect personally with  
25 Riley’s life. As I said, Little Rock’s story in the history of the Civil Rights Movement  
26 overshadows some of the other history. After the Supreme Court decided *Brown v. Board*  
27 *of Education*, banning segregation in public schools, school districts around the country  
28 struggled with complying with the decision. In 1957, nine Black students were chosen to  
29 attend the previously all-white Central High School in Little Rock. Governor Faubus got  
30 involved and activated the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the Black students from  
31 entering Central High. President Dwight Eisenhower responded by ordering the 101<sup>st</sup>  
32 Airborne Division to facilitate the desegregation of Central High. It was not the best  
33 moment in Arkansas history, and the photographs taken memorialized that shameful  
34 time.

35 What does this have to do with Riley? Members of Riley's family can be seen in those  
36 photos protesting the desegregation of Little Rock Central and yelling at the Black  
37 students as they entered the building. I could tell that the actions of Riley's family really  
38 bothered him, and he was eager to erase the image of his family from those photos. It  
39 was obvious that Riley was always going to care deeply about making sure everyone had  
40 access to good education. Riley loved seeing the difference that school could make in a  
41 young person's life and how it could pull the person from the depths of their past, and it  
42 didn't matter who the student was or what their background or socioeconomic class was  
43 to Riley. That was a vision we shared. You know, people can say a lot of things about  
44 Riley. There's no doubt Riley had a big personality. People might be able to accuse Riley  
45 of not being diplomatic, as he could dig in his heels when he got behind a cause, but they  
46 can never accuse Riley of not vigorously caring about the cause to which he dedicated  
47 his life. It was who Riley was, inside and out.

48 Not only that, Riley had my back during one of my lowest points in college. Riley and I  
49 took Intro to Philosophy together during my sophomore year. We had to draft a ten-page  
50 paper as part of our midterm. I did not have time to spend on the assignment, so I turned  
51 in a paper that I wrote during my freshman year that seemed close to the topic I was  
52 supposed to write on. But only a few hours after turning in the paper I got an email from  
53 the professor accusing me of plagiarism. Apparently, professors have software that  
54 checks for plagiarism, and the software matched the paper I turned in to the paper that I  
55 submitted in my freshman year. And the next day, the professor gave the entire class a  
56 long lecture about academic integrity. She didn't mention my name, but I swear the  
57 professor was staring at me the entire time. It was uncomfortable. After class, I let  
58 everyone who would listen know how unfair that entire situation was. I was ready to send  
59 a fiery email to the Dean, one that would have probably come off more angry than  
60 necessary. But Riley calmed me down. Riley convinced me to schedule an appointment  
61 with the professor before doing anything. I followed Riley's advice and scheduled the  
62 meeting. The professor explained to me that it would have been fine had I used the same  
63 research to write the paper, but the problem was that I turned in the same paper. I said  
64 that I was sorry, and the professor accepted my apology. She even allowed me to  
65 resubmit an original paper. But I would have never gone to my professor had Riley not  
66 persuaded me to do so.

67 The one thing that always bothered me, though, was Riley's friendship with Scout  
68 Cumberland. The same way Riley and I just clicked, Scout and I just didn't. It is hard for  
69 me to explain why, but I guess you could say that I just never really trusted Scout. It always  
70 seemed like there was a lot more going on under the surface than Scout wanted anyone  
71 to know about. One minute, Scout would be fine and laughing and being normal. The next,

72 out of nowhere Scout would just snap . If we were all at a party or in a study group, Scout's  
73 mood could just suddenly change. When that happened, it created a lot of tension for the  
74 rest of us. And it felt like, as close as Riley and Scout were, Riley was the person who  
75 could put Scout on edge easier than anyone. I pointed that out to Riley once, but Riley  
76 said Scout just had an intense personality and not to pay it any mind. But I didn't like it,  
77 and it was clear that Scout didn't like me much either.

78 Admittedly, both Scout and I were a bit jealous of how easy it seemed for Riley while in  
79 college. He was always the center of attention, well-liked by professors and other  
80 students. He was in a ton of clubs and seemed to excel in every single class without a lot  
81 of effort. I mean, how does one volunteer at the campus food pantry on Thursday, spend  
82 the weekend traveling to debate tournaments, and still do well enough on exams to  
83 graduate with honors? I recall Scout being really resentful, often mentioning that Scout  
84 had to find time to study between shifts at Mylo Coffee just to keep a respectable GPA.

85 But Scout did share Riley's passion for education, which I guess is what connected them.  
86 After graduation, Riley and Scout actually started their own education consulting firm. It  
87 always seemed to me like Riley was the real brains behind that. Scout had a lot of  
88 harebrained ideas and would get defensive whenever those ideas were the subject of  
89 criticism. To be fair, Riley was always quick to shut Scout's ideas down—but those ideas  
90 were often nonsense. Riley kept the business going, reining in Scout whenever necessary.  
91 Because I trusted Riley, though, I accepted an offer to go work for them not long after  
92 graduation.

93 I'm really proud of the work we did in the smaller communities in Arkansas. Arkansas is  
94 not a large state. Little Rock has about 200,000 people, and northwest Arkansas is one  
95 of the fastest growing areas in the nation. Beyond that, our state is full of small  
96 communities, and some of those students get few opportunities to interact with others  
97 outside of their schools. I did research on many of these small communities, Scout  
98 developed those resources into an amazing Arkansas history curriculum, and Riley found  
99 the resources to train teachers on how to use technology to connect and collaborate with  
100 other classrooms to bring the curriculum to schools across the state. The technology  
101 piece was the most difficult, but we found ways to get it done. We rolled out the initiative  
102 in February 2020, so teachers could implement it for the next school year.

103 The history rollout was our biggest win, and I wanted to celebrate. Despite the usual  
104 animosity, Scout and Riley were an effective team. I was excited about being on the  
105 ground floor of it all (and the steady paycheck didn't hurt, either). So, I bought them a gift  
106 to commemorate what I thought was going to be a successful partnership. For Riley, I  
107 found this really nice mini-Bowie knife. Of course, it would have to be a mini-Bowie knife.



108 An actual Bowie knife would be huge. I had never seen Riley so excited to receive  
109 anything. I recall him saying that it was one of the coolest gifts anyone had ever given  
110 him. And he carried that thing everywhere—he was like a kid, showing it off. He liked to  
111 keep it in a sheath on his belt. I had to warn him a couple of times to put it away while he  
112 was showing it off. Someone could still get hurt with that thing if Riley was not careful.  
113 Although it wasn't very big, the blade was extremely sharp. Still, it meant a lot to me to  
114 see how excited he was about that gift.

115 As for Scout, I found this carving of a bear, which looked like a smaller version of the  
116 carving of a bear outside of Wingo Hall at the University of Central Arkansas. It reminded  
117 me of our days back in college. I thought it was cool and thoughtful, but you know that  
118 look you give someone when you are trying to be nice after receiving a gift you don't like?  
119 Scout definitely had that look. I guess I shouldn't be upset. It is a better reaction than one  
120 of Scout's sudden mood swings.

121 On May 15, 2021, we took a company outing to Crater of Diamonds in Murfreesboro,  
122 where Scout found a ten-carat diamond. I honestly couldn't believe it. I remember that  
123 Riley was joking during the entire drive down there that anything that was found belonged  
124 to the company. No one took this seriously. Scout and I joked about what we would do  
125 with such a find. I mean, we didn't seriously expect to find anything valuable. But to our  
126 surprise, all of us were there for maybe 45 minutes before Scout found it. I was excited  
127 for Scout. I mean, I didn't know how much a rock like that was worth, but it had to have  
128 some value.

129 But that afternoon took a weird turn. For Riley, everything was about the company and  
130 furthering its goals—it was a life passion. And Riley just assumed this diamond was going  
131 to be used for that, and Scout—well, Scout really didn't like that idea and made that known  
132 loud and clear. Scout kept cool all day but all of a sudden, Scout just snapped, "the joke  
133 isn't funny anymore, Georgie V." At that point, the ride back to Little Rock went silent with  
134 both Riley and Scout not saying a peep. Riley's whole thing, though, was that we had been  
135 on a company outing, and that meant that the diamond didn't belong to Scout but to the  
136 company. If I'm being honest, I didn't entirely agree with Riley that the diamond was  
137 company property. I'm no expert in the law by any means, but it doesn't seem to me that  
138 something that Scout found would belong to the company just because it happened on a  
139 company outing. But I can say for sure that Riley felt the company's claim to the diamond  
140 was completely valid. Nothing was going to convince Riley that this diamond didn't  
141 belong to the company for the company to use to keep promoting education.

142 The next day I had lunch with Riley, and I remember Riley saying he was going to have to  
143 sue Scout. I was thinking at the time that this would not go well. I tried to counsel Riley

144 that suing might blow the whole situation up, but when Riley set his mind on something,  
145 it was hard to persuade him otherwise—he usually got his way and did whatever he could  
146 to make sure it worked out that way. That single-mindedness was what made Riley both  
147 great at what he did and, to some degree, his own worst enemy. Anyway, Riley found an  
148 attorney who filed the complaint against Scout. It was maybe a week later that Scout  
149 announced the partnership was over. It got to the point where the two of them couldn't  
150 have a conversation at all, and the ensuing division of the company's assets, including  
151 the forced sale of the diamond, was just chaotic. When it was finally over, part of me was  
152 relieved not to have to deal with Scout every day. There was no doubt that Scout was, by  
153 far, the most aggressive one during the entire process. Riley was stubborn, but Scout was  
154 angry and loud and unreasonable. The other part of me was upset about being out of a  
155 job now that Scout let the diamond override everything else. I attended the court hearing,  
156 and Scout was furious when the court ruled that the diamond belonged to the partnership.  
157 I remember it well—Scout actually promised to personally make sure that Riley got what  
158 was coming to him and that he would not let Riley rewrite history. I had no idea at the  
159 time just how serious Scout had been about that.

160 Ultimately, the dissolution of the company came at a good time for me. Just as that was  
161 happening, the long-time archivist at UCA retired. I applied for the job immediately and  
162 was thrilled to get it. I was back in the archives, using my degree more directly, and doing  
163 what I loved to do. Of course, Riley and I were still good friends, and we talked most days.  
164 I knew all about the work Riley was doing with the Little Rock School District and about  
165 the fact that Scout was involved in that as well. Riley was committed to the school district  
166 and determined not to let the conflict with Scout interfere. They even both joined the  
167 school board, which I worried about. But I knew Riley was committed to his work before  
168 anything else, and despite my reservations, I knew Scout also was passionate about  
169 education. I was just glad I didn't have to be present for their arguments anymore.

170 The last time the three of us were together was at a Labor Day barbecue I hosted in 2021.  
171 I didn't plan for the three of us to be together. I invited Riley. Scout found out about the  
172 barbecue somehow and called me for more information. I didn't have the guts to tell  
173 Scout that they were not invited. Maybe I was hoping Scout wouldn't cause a scene,  
174 especially after the diamond sale occurred. And I thought Scout and Riley could hang out  
175 in their own circles and have little interaction with each other. Things were fine to start.  
176 But at some point, Riley started telling a story about something that happened to him in  
177 college. And just like in college, Riley started to attract a lot of attention. Somehow, this  
178 set off Scout. Scout stopped talking to others and confronted Riley. Riley said that he was  
179 just trying to have a good time, like everyone else. Scout responded, "No one wants to  
180 listen to your foolishness." Unfortunately, it reminded me of when we were back at UCA.

181 Everyone would be having a good time, and Scout would just suddenly go off. At first,  
182 Riley gave Scout a gentle shove, but Scout responded with more force and they both  
183 started pushing each other. Thankfully, everyone at the party told them to cut it out, so  
184 they stopped before it escalated further. I'm just glad no one got hurt on my watch.

185 Before things got out of hand that night, Scout was talking about coming into possession  
186 of a gun. Scout said it was inherited from a recently deceased uncle, but the timing  
187 seemed suspicious to me. Scout seemed weirdly thrilled to have it and talked all about  
188 their plans for learning how to handle it like an expert. I thought that was surprising,  
189 because until that point, I recalled Scout wanted to have very little to do with guns and  
190 was a strong advocate for gun control. So, even though Scout had supposedly just  
191 inherited this gun, I thought it was strange that Scout had decided to really invest in  
192 learning how to use it. I don't know if Scout had the gun that evening; if Scout did, I never  
193 saw it even as Scout talked to people about it. I also don't know if Riley had his knife; I  
194 never saw it that night.

195 Soon I became a lot more worried. Just before Thanksgiving I bumped into Scout while I  
196 was out on a run on the Arkansas River Trail. I had never seen Scout while on a run before,  
197 but suddenly Scout was right in front of me. Scout looked startled to see me. I stopped  
198 and took my headphones out of my ears, and that was when I saw that Scout had a gun  
199 holstered on their right hip, and Scout's right hand was right beside it. I had this moment  
200 of instinctive fear. It only lasted a second. Maybe less. Scout saw my eyes on the gun and  
201 moved their hand, reaching toward me to shake hands. I shook Scout's hand and asked  
202 what Scout was doing out there. Scout said something about just going for a walk after  
203 a trip to the firing range and needing to get some clarity. We made awkward conversation  
204 for another minute or so, but when I mentioned Riley's name, Scout's hand settled on the  
205 gun on Scout's hip. Whatever Scout said was normal. Nothing out of the ordinary. But I  
206 remember that movement of Scout's hand, and ever since the shooting happened, I've  
207 replayed that again and again in my head. Scout offered to show me the gun, but I  
208 declined. After that day, I really started to worry that Scout was planning to hurt Riley.

209 Of course, I didn't see what happened the day that Scout shot Riley. I wasn't there, and I  
210 only heard about it when Officer Rayburn questioned me after the shooting. He said that  
211 he was looking for some background information on Scout and Riley. I never believed  
212 Scout shot Riley in self-defense. I remembered the way Scout's hand went to the gun  
213 when I just mentioned Riley's name. A person who reacted like that would be looking for  
214 any excuse. I know Riley, and Riley was not a violent person. Hard-headed and loud  
215 maybe, but not violent. Maybe some shoving like at the barbecue, but nothing more and  
216 only to extract himself from a situation. I remembered all those years that Scout pushed  
217 and pushed, and Riley was never the one to raise his voice first or start a fight. Riley didn't

218 believe in handling things that way. I remember going out to dinner with Riley once, and  
219 another patron wasn't looking where he was going and knocked right into Riley as Riley  
220 was getting up to go to the bathroom. The patron was drunk and started yelling at Riley,  
221 blaming him for being in the way. He even pushed Riley. I was ready to fight the man  
222 myself! But Riley kept cool the entire time. There was only one time I saw Riley lose his  
223 cool. It was two years ago at a sporting event. We had a few drinks, as did several others  
224 at the game. When one guy started making a scene, Riley asked him to settle down. The  
225 guy said, "Make me!" and then made what I would say was a threatening movement. Riley  
226 responded by hitting back. No one was arrested or anything. Riley did some damage to  
227 his hand, and we ended the evening in the emergency room. He had to undergo some  
228 surgery to fix his hand—guess he has a good left hook. As I recall, that was shortly after I  
229 joined the partnership.

230 Scout Cumberland, on the other hand, has always been quick to anger. Reactive.  
231 Aggressive. And I know how much Scout hated Riley for what happened with the  
232 diamond. When Scout got that gun, something in Scout changed. I don't know whether I  
233 believe the story about Scout inheriting it. It seems more like a cover for making sure that  
234 Scout could get revenge on Riley the moment the opportunity arose. And that's exactly  
235 what Scout did.

***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Drew Arden*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public  
State of Arkansas  
My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024

## Statement of Scout Cumberland

1 My name is Scout Cumberland. I am 27 years old. I was born and raised in Little Rock,  
2 Arkansas. I graduated from the University of Central Arkansas in 2018 with a degree in  
3 History and Education. Not only that, but I am a proud descendant of the founders of Stop  
4 This Outrageous Purge (STOP). Everyone celebrates the Little Rock Nine and their  
5 attendance at Little Rock Central in 1957, but that is not the end of the story. They call  
6 1958-59 “The Lost Year” because Governor Orval Faubus closed all public high schools  
7 in Little Rock to prevent desegregation. STOP was one of the organizations that helped  
8 recall the segregationist members of the school board. My family’s legacy serves as a  
9 constant reminder that it takes a lot of work to create a fair and just society, but there is  
10 still a lot of work to do. I’m a firm believer that if we give ordinary people equal opportunity,  
11 quality education, and a fair shot at the American Dream, they will do extraordinary things.  
12 (Of course, I did not come up with that. That is from President Bill Clinton in his 1994  
13 State of the Union Address.)

14 I met Riley Truman at freshman orientation at the University of Central Arkansas in 2014.  
15 As soon as we met, we became best friends. I could immediately tell that Riley was  
16 someone who would be going places, and I thought it would help me to hitch my wagon  
17 to his star. It literally helped one night when I got into a small shoving match during one  
18 of our team’s sporting events over another spectator getting drunk and causing a scene.  
19 I had enough of it and confronted the person—Riley stepped in and calmed me down  
20 before things escalated and security showed up.

21 Riley confided in me about his family’s political history. Before Riley explained about his  
22 family’s background, Riley was adamant that it was in no way a reflection of his beliefs.  
23 He recalled coming home after school in eighth grade and telling his parents about the  
24 Little Rock Nine and showing them some of the pictures in his textbook about the events  
25 of the desegregation of Little Rock Central. Riley’s parents became upset after seeing  
26 those pictures. His parents knew that members of their respective families had been in  
27 Little Rock around that time and sided with the segregationists, but this was the first time  
28 they saw pictures. Those family members were publicly photographed screaming at  
29 Black students entering Central High School. The photo is infamous in history books.  
30 When Riley was telling me this, Riley seemed visibly uncomfortable. Riley often said, “I  
31 hate that this is a part of my family. I am disgusted every time I see those photographs.”

32 Riley asked me if this family history changed the way I thought about him. I assured him  
33 that it had not. Even though our families were on polar opposite sides of history, that did  
34 not affect the way I saw Riley. At that time, I supported Riley’s efforts to distance himself  
35 from his history. One day, we talked about how the British royal family changed their name

36 to Windsor to distance themselves from their German roots during World War I. Riley  
37 didn't want to rebrand by changing his name but did want to change the legacy of his  
38 name and was determined to do whatever he needed to ensure he was successful. I also  
39 jokingly referred to Riley as "Georgie V" as a result of his setting out to change his family  
40 legacy. He didn't seem to like the nickname, and I'll admit that I used it anytime he needed  
41 to be put in his place.

42 Of course, I stayed in touch with Riley after graduation. In college, it seemed like we were  
43 a powerhouse of a team. Every time Riley and I were together, we talked about how we  
44 could see passionate young students grow into driven learners. In July 2019, Riley met  
45 me for lunch at 42 Bar and Table at the Clinton Presidential Center and said that it was  
46 finally time for the two of us to work together and do something great. He thought that  
47 with my ideas and his business savvy, we could create new learning resources that would  
48 motivate students.

49 There was only one thing that I was not excited about. Riley wanted to bring on board one  
50 of our old college friends, Drew Arden. Drew was a year behind us in college. Like Riley,  
51 Drew seemed to be one of those students for whom everything was easy. Unlike Riley, I  
52 don't know how much Drew worked for it. Someone told me that Drew made it through  
53 sophomore year by copying from other students' papers. I never knew for sure, but given  
54 how vocal Drew was when a professor filed an academic misconduct report against  
55 Drew, I believe it. I let Riley know that I had my reservations about Drew, but Riley  
56 persuaded me that he and I would be in charge, and I knew we would need some early  
57 help to succeed.

58 We called our firm Diamond State Educational Consulting. Getting things off the ground  
59 was hard work, and I think we grew closer as business partners, but more distant as  
60 friends. We had our first major victory in February 2020. We worked for months and  
61 succeeded in one of our history initiatives, developing a cool tech-savvy curriculum about  
62 Arkansas history. I remember Drew bought Riley and me gifts to celebrate. Riley was  
63 given a cool knife and I was given a random bear carving—Drew always favored Riley over  
64 me and wasn't shy about it. Riley loved that knife and carried it all the time, fastened to  
65 his left hip—he got pretty quick at drawing it for fun and waving it around the office.

66 With COVID causing a pivot to virtual learning, our online curriculum really took off. But  
67 even though we were doing okay financially, Riley and I weren't getting along. The  
68 beginning of the end happened in May 2021. To ease some of the tension due to the  
69 animosity between Riley and me, I decided we should have a company outing to the Crater  
70 of Diamonds. I was surprised when Riley agreed to the trip given his tight grip on all things  
71 financial, and he went so far as to make the plans for it. As the day approached, I was

72 really looking forward to it. I saw it as an opportunity for Riley and me to blow off some  
73 steam and maybe get our friendship back on better footing. On the drive to Murfreesboro,  
74 Drew and I were talking about what we could do if we found something valuable. Drew  
75 said something about not wanting to part with any diamonds. I know that I was thinking  
76 out loud about paying off some debts and maybe having some savings for once in my  
77 life. That's when Riley chimed in. "You know, both of you have a better shot of winning  
78 the lottery than finding a diamond down there." And yeah, he was right. Anytime someone  
79 finds something big down there, it makes the news. We got a good laugh when Riley said,  
80 "And you know, this is a company trip. This means that anything you find belongs to the  
81 company." Drew and I laughed for the rest of the drive. And Riley was laughing with us,  
82 too. I mean, we were having a good time.

83 But amazingly, we were at Crater of Diamonds for just a few minutes when I found a ten-  
84 carat diamond. I was shocked. I truly felt like I had won the lottery. I remember Drew  
85 calling it *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*, or "The Big Shiny Rock." The name just stuck. Honestly,  
86 finding this diamond was huge for me. I was in a lot of debt after college, and I knew  
87 selling the diamond would be life-changing for me.

88 However, on the drive back to Little Rock, Riley decided the diamond I found was the  
89 company's diamond. I brushed it off and ignored Riley's remarks about the diamond. After  
90 all, everyone knew Riley was joking about anything being found belonging to the  
91 company. Of course, he wasn't being serious. Despite my ignoring it, Riley just kept going  
92 on about it. Eventually, I told him the joke was no longer funny. I turned on the radio, and  
93 we didn't say anything for the rest of the drive back to Little Rock.

94 When I got home, I thought the discussion was over, and I started doing some research  
95 online to see if I could figure out how much the diamond was worth. I couldn't find  
96 anything reliable, though, but what I found suggested it could be worth as little as  
97 \$100,000 (which was nothing to blush at) and as much as \$200,000. I had planned to find  
98 an appraiser, but a few days after the trip, I was served with a summons and complaint. I  
99 was shocked that Riley was really suing me for the diamond. I'll admit I was angry. Riley  
100 had gotten everything he'd ever wanted, as always. This was the first time in my life I felt  
101 like I had won, and Riley was trying to take it from me.

102 At that point, Riley and I stopped talking. We couldn't be around each other without getting  
103 into a screaming match about who owned the diamond. For about a week after being  
104 served, I tried to continue the partnership, but it was clear that it was no longer  
105 sustainable. So, I told Riley that the partnership was over.

106 I answered the complaint on my own because I could not afford a lawyer, but I happened  
107 to be a week late. Listen, I had a lot going on. I had just lost my job and my best friend—  
108 or who I thought was my best friend. So, yes, I did not respond within thirty days of  
109 receiving the summons. I panicked completely when I heard that my lateness meant that  
110 Riley might win. Honestly, I was so scared Riley would win, just one more time, that I  
111 stopped caring to soften the blow when Riley would win again.

112 While all of this was going on, I was approached by Charlie Goodman about running one  
113 of the vacant Little Rock School Board seats. We talked for about an hour, and I started  
114 to see this as the new chapter I needed. When I said I wanted time to think about it, Charlie  
115 suggested I come meet other members of the Board and share some ideas at a dinner. It  
116 seemed like a good idea. But when I got to the dinner, I was shocked to discover that Riley  
117 was also there. I wanted to leave, but, out of respect for Charlie, I stayed and listened.  
118 Even during our worst arguments, Riley and I were equally committed to making sure that  
119 every child—EVERY CHILD—had access to the best education our schools could provide.

120 Next thing I knew, I was running for one of the open board spots. It was the first thing I  
121 really felt excited about since the partnership ended. It would have been a lot of work, but  
122 Charlie actually loaned me \$5,000 to help with the campaign. It took a lot of stress off  
123 me, and I was just able to focus on getting my name out there and talking to the voters.  
124 In July 2021, I was elected to the school board. Later that evening, I found out that Riley  
125 was also elected. Though I was nervous to see how Riley and I worked together after the  
126 partnership ended, I was eager to work on making Little Rock schools the best they could  
127 possibly be.

128 On August 3, 2021, we finally had a court hearing about the diamond. I thought I would  
129 get a chance to explain the situation, and the judge would clearly see that it was my  
130 diamond. But the judge only wanted to discuss why I was late in answering the complaint.  
131 I tried to keep discussing the diamond, and I guess the Judge became frustrated and  
132 found me in contempt of court over my insistence on bringing up the diamond. The whole  
133 mess became bigger than the diamond, though. It was the fact that Riley always got  
134 everything he wanted. Then he thought he deserved the diamond that *I found!* It wasn't  
135 fair. But apparently, the fact that I answered the lawsuit late meant that I didn't get to  
136 respond to his complaint at all. The court ruled that the diamond would have belonged to  
137 the partnership, but because I had ended the partnership, the court said that we would  
138 have to sell it and split the money. It just wasn't fair. I still wonder whether that so-called  
139 judge knew some of Riley's family members or something.

140 After our first school board meeting on August 19, I thought there was a chance Riley and  
141 I might be able to work together for the benefit of Little Rock students with no problem



142 and maybe even rekindle our friendship. We were initially confronted with the problem of  
143 excessive cell phone use in class. It was like the early days of the partnership again. I had  
144 the idea of putting secure charging stations in every school, and Riley made a few phone  
145 calls and worked his connections. Next thing you know, there are secure charging  
146 stations in every school. The teachers loved it because the phones were out of sight, and  
147 the students loved it because they knew their phones were safe.

148 Unfortunately, things went downhill from there. Riley would usually scoff at any idea I  
149 would propose for the district. For example, at one meeting, the board discussed where  
150 we should allocate funding in every department. I wanted to devote more funding to  
151 social studies classes. The teachers would be able to take the kids to museums, give  
152 them new textbooks, and ask historians to come speak at the school. Not only did I want  
153 to allocate enough funding to make this possible, but I was thoroughly impressed with  
154 the history teachers' plans and syllabi for the classes. Riley, on the other hand, wanted to  
155 minimize funding for history and instead put it into business classes. I have no issue with  
156 business classes, and if Riley had given a genuine reason as to why he had opposed the  
157 funding to social studies, I would have thought nothing of it. Instead, it seemed like he  
158 was only opposed to funding social studies because I was in support of it.

159 It infuriated me that Riley was willing to compromise the students' education just to spite  
160 me. So, I snapped, alright? After the meeting, I met Riley in the parking lot. I wanted to  
161 confront Riley about the meeting, but I didn't want it to be in a professional setting like  
162 the board meeting. I told Riley that his intentions were not pure and he wasn't fit to sit on  
163 the School Board. I told Riley how disappointed I was in him, and how much he'd changed  
164 since I first met him. Then, Riley began insulting me. He said I was weak, naive, and  
165 unintelligent. He told me I had never been a leader, and I definitely would never  
166 accomplish anything good in Little Rock. Riley began raising his voice at me, and it  
167 honestly scared me. We got pretty heated, and I admit that I also raised my voice a couple  
168 times, but I ended up driving away. I swear he smelled faintly of alcohol that night.

169 About two days later, I received a check in the mail. It was my half of the proceeds from  
170 the sale of *Le Gros Rocher Brilliant*. Turns out my online research must have been wrong  
171 somehow—the check was for only \$32,250. This was the first time I had thought about it  
172 since the hearing. Actually, that's incorrect. It was the first time I thought about it since  
173 having to pay that stupid contempt fine to the court. I don't know what that judge was  
174 thinking or why that judge expected anyone to be calm. I was reading the details of the  
175 sale, and I probably would have just cashed the check and moved on, except for one thing.  
176 The document said the diamond was sold to Rosalee Truman. Rosalee was Riley's  
177 GRANDMOTHER. I mean, after all of that, Riley's family ended up with my diamond. I was

178 devastated. And I still have no idea why the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* had to write an  
179 article about it. Truman getting another win that he didn't deserve . . . that's not news.

180 The next day, I inherited a gun from my great uncle. I had never been interested in guns,  
181 but my great uncle seemed to really want me to have it. I just could not understand why.  
182 (And if he wanted me to have something, why couldn't he just give me cash like a normal  
183 distant family member?) I have always been pretty vocal in my advocacy for gun control.  
184 I just saw a better world being one with fewer guns. But for whatever reason, I now owned  
185 a gun, and I didn't think that it would be right to sell this family heirloom. So, I went to the  
186 local gun range and made some friends who taught me how to use it safely. I started to  
187 carry it because I recognized that I needed to be comfortable holding a gun if I was going  
188 to be a responsible gun owner. I'm still very supportive of gun regulation, and I don't find  
189 that inconsistent with owning a gun so long as one knows how to own and use it safely.

190 As for my relationship with Riley, things were strained, of course. I was not surprised when  
191 Riley exploded at me at Drew Arden's barbecue. I arrived and caught up with some old  
192 friends. Everyone was having a good time until Riley started telling one of his obnoxious,  
193 self-serving stories. I would not have cared except that Riley seemed intent on  
194 monopolizing the whole party. So, I went up to Riley and told him to quiet down and that  
195 he didn't always need to be the center of attention. Next thing you know, Riley starts  
196 shoving me, and spilled some of his beer on me, too, so I started pushing back. But before  
197 it could escalate, I noticed he had his knife on him, so I just stopped and walked away. It  
198 wasn't worth getting into a fight or worse.

199 During the November 18, 2021 board meeting, I proposed an idea that I had during the  
200 partnership—supporting field trips to the historic sites of the Japanese internment camps  
201 in McGehee, Arkansas. I asked Charlie to sponsor the resolution, thinking that Charlie's  
202 clout might help it move forward and avoid a clash with Riley, but I drafted the resolution,  
203 and this idea was my baby. Riley opposed the field trip, but this wasn't just a passing  
204 disagreement. Riley seemed to make defeating this resolution his personal mission. Riley  
205 talked about funding, but there was ample funding for something this important to not  
206 just American history but Arkansas history. I became so angry that I confronted Riley after  
207 the meeting. I'm sure that I used some language that I probably should not repeat here.  
208 And yeah, I may have said something about Riley's family, but Riley and his high and  
209 mighty attitude impeding our educational work was just getting on my nerves. At every  
210 turn, Riley was insistent on things going his way—the partnership, my diamond, the board  
211 resolutions—it was always about him. I remember seeing Riley move as if he was going  
212 to attack me. But rather than do anything, Riley just insulted me: "Scout, you're so  
213 pathetic." Before I could respond, Riley got in his car and sped off.

214 A few days before Thanksgiving, I went to the gun range hoping I could get in some extra  
215 practice while blowing off some steam, but that didn't seem to help. I actually saw Drew  
216 while I was walking there. We had a little small talk, but nothing of note. Drew mentioned  
217 something about Riley, and all I could do was just put my hands on my hips and sigh.

218 At the December meeting, I had planned to just keep to myself, speaking only when  
219 necessary. Maybe being silent for so long finally got to me. After the public had shuffled  
220 out of the meeting room, I said under my breath, "We probably have to close this meeting  
221 in case some bad Arkansas history comes up. I know Riley wants to keep it quiet." Riley  
222 looked furious. After all he had said to me previously—the insults, threats, and constant  
223 bickering—I couldn't take it anymore. I went on for a couple minutes about the importance  
224 of working together and how the professional relationship had taken a toxic turn. I told  
225 Riley we would never be able to keep working together like this. Riley got up without  
226 saying a word and bee-lined toward the office door. En route, Riley grabbed my arm and  
227 said, "I've had quite enough of you."

228 But I wasn't finished talking, and yeah, I was angry. Riley was not going to walk out on me,  
229 and I wanted to make sure he heard everything I said. So, I followed. I said that I never  
230 held his family history against him, but that didn't stop him from being a horrible person  
231 putting himself before everyone. Riley turned to me and said, "You need to sit down. You'll  
232 be sorry if you keep following me." I told Riley that he could not make me sit down and  
233 that we needed to talk about this. At this point, we were both just in the hallway off the  
234 meeting room on either side of the doorway, and Riley stopped and turned around really  
235 fast. I saw the look on Riley's face. I've known Riley a long time, and I've never seen him  
236 look like that. His expression changed completely. He looked like he wanted to hurt me.  
237 He quickly turned around, and as he was moving toward me, I saw his hand move toward  
238 the handle of his knife.

239 I was scared for my life. There was not a lot of room to maneuver in that hallway,  
240 especially where I was. There was nothing else I could do. Before I knew it, I reached  
241 down for my gun and shot Riley. Actually, it was strange that I was even carrying it. I  
242 brought it in but planned to take it off to show Charlie some of its unique features that I  
243 learned from my pals at the gun club, but I never got around to that. I was so scared. I  
244 thought Riley was going to stab me. I never thought in my life that I would have to fire my  
245 gun at another person in order to protect myself. I don't remember saying anything after  
246 I had to shoot Riley—things were hazy—so if someone says I did, I can't really dispute it.

247 As security arrived, Addy laid into me. The entire time, Addy was calling me a murderer. I  
248 could not convince Addy that I was defending myself. Addy accused me of wanting Riley  
249 dead, but I have no idea where Addy got that from unless Addy had been spending time

250 with Riley and only ever hearing one side of the story. Eventually, Officer Rayburn  
251 intervened and took me aside for questioning. I told Officer Rayburn exactly what  
252 happened, and Officer Rayburn seemed to think that night that the shooting was in self-  
253 defense. I was shocked when I was placed under arrest a few weeks later.

254 I only shot Riley because Riley was coming at me with his knife. If I hadn't taken action to  
255 defend myself, I'd be the one in the ground now. That's exactly what I told Robin when  
256 they threatened to have me removed from the board if I did not resign.

***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Scout Cumberland*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public

State of Arkansas

My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024

## Statement of Dr. Charlie Goodman

1 My name is Charlie Goodman. I am 55 years old, and I am a lifelong Arkansan. Although  
2 I have lived in different suburbs of Little Rock—North Little Rock, Maumelle, and Bryant—  
3 something has always brought me back to the capital city. In fact, I can't understand why  
4 people decide to move away from Little Rock. I always say that Little Rock is a big city  
5 with a small-town feeling. I just can't imagine living anywhere else. I suppose that's  
6 because it is in my blood. Last year, my daughter got me a DNA kit for Christmas. After  
7 searching many records, we traced our lineage all the way back to the 1600s, where we  
8 found that we are related to Jean-Baptiste Bernard de la Harpe—the French explorer who  
9 is credited for the discovery of Little Rock. Of course, when he first founded it, it was just  
10 a rock formation which he called “La Petite Roche”—“the little rock.” But eventually, it  
11 became Arkansas's state capital.

12 I graduated from North Little Rock High School in 1987. Afterward, I attended the  
13 University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where I obtained my degree in biology. Upon  
14 graduation from college, I enrolled at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
15 with the intention of becoming a surgeon. I completed my surgical intern and residency  
16 requirements at various hospitals in Little Rock. I graduated as number one in my class  
17 and landed a job at Arkansas Children's Hospital, right here in Little Rock—my dream job.  
18 I began my career as a general surgeon, but I soon specialized in the surgical fields of  
19 neonatal, antenatal, and prenatal, which primarily deal with surgical techniques used to  
20 treat birth defects in fetuses who are still in the womb. Because this is a relatively new  
21 field of surgery, and one that takes an immense amount of skill and knowledge (not to  
22 toot my own horn), I am one of the few qualified surgeons in this field at Arkansas  
23 Children's Hospital. I love my job, and I love to give back to the community that has given  
24 me so much. Even from my early days as a surgeon, I spent my time serving on various  
25 boards of local nonprofits.

26 Then, out of the blue, I was asked to run for a position on the Little Rock School Board. At  
27 the time, I didn't understand why. After all, I'm a doctor, not a teacher. But I guess many  
28 in the education community knew me from my work organizing healthy-child checkups  
29 for families in rural parts of the state. So, in 2007, I ran for the school board, and when  
30 others found out that I was running, they dropped out of the race. I will admit that, at first,  
31 I didn't know how to best contribute to the board. But then, the board was discussing  
32 policies about hiring school nurses for when the students got sick in school. At the time,  
33 some board members thought that just about any nurse would be qualified to do the job.  
34 I emphasized two things. First, healthcare for children and young adults is very different  
35 from that of adults. If we cared about our students—and I certainly did—then we needed  
36 to keep that in mind. Second, just like school counselors, we should expect students to

37 tell nurses things that they wouldn't tell anyone else. Going deeper, we should expect  
38 nurses to discover things that students would keep to themselves. And you wanted  
39 someone who would be able to work with school personnel to ensure that the whole  
40 student was treated. I was not a teacher, and they listened to me. I appreciated that. So,  
41 whenever my term was up, I ran for re-election, and I was proud to remain on the board.

42 In 2021, we found ourselves needing two new board members. Many people in our  
43 community would have been good for the board, but Addy suggested that we talk to Riley  
44 Truman and Scout Cumberland and see if either of them were interested in running. I had  
45 never met either of them before, but Addy convinced Robin Weston and me that it would  
46 be worth talking to the two of them based on their work in their consulting partnership. If  
47 the two of them could make a living giving advice to other schools and school districts,  
48 Addy thought, then why not have them devoting that energy to the Little Rock School  
49 District. Addy was one of those people who did not talk much, but when Addy gave advice,  
50 it was always worth considering. Robin remembered Riley from their days teaching at  
51 Central High, so Robin agreed to reconnect with him, while I agreed to talk to Scout.  
52 Eventually, I thought it would be good for Scout to come to dinner with Addy, Robin, and  
53 me to discuss the school board. When we got to the restaurant that evening, Addy and  
54 Robin were already there with Riley.

55 I thought we had some pretty successful discussions at dinner, and everyone was looking  
56 forward to what was in store for the future of Little Rock. However, it was evident that  
57 there was tension between Riley and Scout. It was very obvious, and quite strange to me,  
58 that Riley and Scout never actually spoke to each other, and the two seemed to go out of  
59 their way to avoid eye contact with each other. As we were leaving dinner that night, we  
60 all stood up to shake hands before we left the restaurant, and I noticed that Riley and  
61 Scout didn't shake hands. It just so happened that Scout and I lingered in the parking lot  
62 and ended up talking for about an hour after the rest of our dinner guests had left. I  
63 learned quite a bit about Scout during our conversation.

64 First, I learned that Scout and Riley had actually been avoiding each other at dinner.  
65 Apparently, Riley and Scout were great friends during college, so much so that they  
66 decided to form a partnership together. However, their partnership ended abruptly when  
67 the two had a dispute over some diamond. Scout told me that Riley claimed the diamond  
68 belonged to the partnership even though Scout found it. That seemed a bit weird, but I'm  
69 a doctor, not a lawyer.

70 It was obvious that Scout was bitter about this situation. To me, it also seemed that Scout  
71 was hurt. Someone who Scout thought was their best friend had betrayed them. Scout  
72 said, "Yeah, I'm angry that Riley is fighting me over this diamond, but I'm more upset that

73 Riley doesn't value our friendship as much as I do. And worse, I fear that Riley is going to  
74 find a way to win like he always does, even when he shouldn't." I felt like I really bonded  
75 with Scout during this conversation. We also talked about some ideas that Scout had for  
76 the future of Little Rock. I thought Scout had some excellent ideas, and I continued to  
77 believe that Scout would be a great fit for the Little Rock School Board. I also thought I  
78 could be somewhat of a mentor to Scout—I saw a lot of potential.

79 Scout agreed to run, and I agreed to help Scout with the campaign. I helped Scout make  
80 signs and stickers and even spoke at one of Scout's campaign events. Scout told me that  
81 they were not really good at fundraising and felt even more uneasy asking people to give  
82 money to a political campaign. So, to take some stress off Scout, I loaned Scout \$5,000  
83 for use in the school board campaign. Scout made it clear that this was a loan, which  
84 would be paid back as soon as possible. As of today, the loan remains unpaid.  
85 Presumably, I'll never see that money if Scout ends up in prison.

86 Scout can be very passionate when talking about our community. I recall at one campaign  
87 event someone in the audience asking about whether teachers should be able to carry  
88 guns in schools. Before the person could finish their thought, Scout immediately went on  
89 a five-minute—I hate to say it, but—rant on why it was such a bad idea. I had to take Scout  
90 aside and let Scout know that they needed to be a bit more diplomatic when in an election.  
91 Scout seemed to understand. As I left the campaign event, I saw Scout talking to the  
92 person that had asked the question about guns in schools. I did not walk over to figure  
93 out what they were talking about, but both seemed to be smiling and having a good  
94 conversation.

95 I was ecstatic when the results of the election came back, and Scout had been elected to  
96 the school board. Riley was also elected to the board. Scout told me that Scout was a  
97 little nervous about serving with Riley because Scout didn't know if Riley would be able to  
98 put their past behind them. Scout said, "I'm willing to have a professional relationship  
99 with Riley because it is important for the success of Little Rock. I hope Riley feels the  
100 same way."

101 There was initially some hope for that. One of the first challenges when Scout and Riley  
102 joined the board was dealing with excessive cell phone usage in our high school  
103 classrooms. When some teachers wanted phones banned, parents complained. Just  
104 thinking out loud, Scout came up with the idea of having a safe place for students to store  
105 their phones when in class. Riley asked for a recess during the meeting, made some calls,  
106 and found a company that could deliver secure charging stations to every high school in  
107 the district. Even better, Riley was able to talk the company into giving the district a  
108 massive discount in exchange for some advertising space. Scout and Riley's

109 collaboration was the exact type of energy we wanted for the board. Unfortunately, that  
110 spirit did not continue.

111 Every time the board had a meeting, Riley would make snide comments directed toward  
112 Scout or he would scoff or roll his eyes at any idea Scout proposed—it didn't matter if the  
113 ideas were great or off the beaten path. Scout never let this keep them from suggesting  
114 ideas though; Scout usually just shrugged Riley's comments off. I thought there was  
115 some hope that Scout could continue to block out the distraction. Scout was often  
116 discussing history with Robin. One of Robin's areas of expertise is duels in Arkansas  
117 history. That's a fascinating subject, and Scout was dialed right into those historical  
118 accounts Robin provided. I was hopeful these interactions would help distract Scout from  
119 the conflict with Riley, and I thought it was working. In hindsight, Scout's interest in  
120 Robin's stories may have ultimately made Riley feel alienated. We all worked together, but  
121 Riley mostly socialized with Robin during our meetings. So, when Robin started spending  
122 time with Scout, it probably accounts for Riley's antics and button pushing on Scout.

123 There was one meeting, though, where Scout lost their temper a bit, and I can't really  
124 blame Scout. Scout had been putting up with Riley's attitude for a long time. I think it was  
125 the meeting where we were allocating some extra funding that we had received from the  
126 state. Scout and Riley got into a heated exchange about whether to devote more money  
127 to social studies classes or business classes. I don't remember whether we came to a  
128 final decision that evening. All I remember was Scout and Riley going back and forth. Both  
129 made good points, but what struck me was that neither was willing to concede anything.  
130 It was like arguing for the sake of arguing. At the end of the meeting, Riley stormed out  
131 of the room as quickly as he could. Scout jumped out of Scout's seat and immediately  
132 followed. I remember looking at Addy and Addy having this look on his face as if he did  
133 not know what happened.

134 I didn't actually see what happened between Scout and Riley after this meeting, but Scout  
135 told me later that they confronted Riley in the parking lot because they didn't want to  
136 make a scene during the board meeting. Scout said, "Riley started yelling at me and  
137 hurling insults, and I got scared. I was worried Riley was going to hit me. So, I just got in  
138 my car and drove away before things escalated." I told Scout that was the right thing—  
139 Scout is not one that believes in handling matters physically.

140 I continued to encourage Scout to ignore Riley, but when the board was discussing  
141 whether to fund a field trip to a Japanese internment museum in McGehee, Arkansas  
142 during our November 18 meeting, tensions rose between Riley and Scout. While it was  
143 Scout's idea, I actually introduced it to the board because I supported the idea, and I  
144 figured if I was the one who brought it up, then perhaps Riley wouldn't just thumb it down



145 as a matter of course, like he had all of Scout's other ideas. But while I was supportive of  
146 the idea, to say Scout was over supportive would be an understatement. I had never seen  
147 Scout so gung-ho about something. Scout had even invited some of the district's social  
148 studies teachers to the meeting to talk about how much they liked the idea. However,  
149 Riley strongly expressed his opinions against funding the field trip—more strongly than I  
150 have ever seen any board member oppose anything.

151 While Riley was speaking, I glanced at Scout just to see how Scout was reacting to Riley,  
152 and Scout seemed very uncomfortable. Scout was fidgeting in the seat, sweating, and  
153 looked like they would rather be anywhere than at this meeting. In the end, it was only me  
154 and Scout who voted in favor. Riley voted against it, and so did Robin. Addy abstained, so  
155 we lacked a majority, and the resolution failed. I really don't know why either Robin or  
156 Addy voted as they did for this sort of project. As soon as the meeting ended, Scout bolted  
157 for the door and left. I didn't even have a chance to talk to Scout. I went to the restroom,  
158 then left to go home. When I left the building, I could immediately hear Riley and Scout  
159 yelling at each other. Both were furious. I didn't pay much attention to the argument  
160 because it made me uncomfortable. I got in my car and hurried out of there as quickly as  
161 possible. I did text Scout after the meeting, though, to make sure that Scout was okay.  
162 Even if they had not gotten into that huge argument after the meeting, I needed to make  
163 sure that Scout could move forward after the resolution failed.

164 Things got out of hand at the December 2 meeting. Scout did not say much during this  
165 meeting. Scout just seemed tense and frustrated from the second Scout entered the  
166 room and sat down. Scout was supposed to show me some neat features of the gun they  
167 inherited, but I didn't bring it up because of how preoccupied Scout was—I figured I could  
168 wait for another day.

169 At that December 2 meeting, we took care of a few routine things, then Robin stated that  
170 we were moving into executive session. One of the elementary school teachers had filed  
171 a grievance against the principal, and because we thought this could potentially be a  
172 personnel issue, we did not want to discuss this in public. In any event, when the five of  
173 us were alone in the room, Scout mumbled something about Arkansas history. Whatever  
174 it was, it was enough to set Riley off, and the two were off to the races. Maybe a couple  
175 minutes into it, Riley stood up and appeared to be walking toward the offices. Riley  
176 immediately grabbed Scout's arm and shouted, "I've had quite enough of you." I was  
177 surprised to see that Scout followed Riley, but in hindsight it had occurred before where  
178 Riley left and Scout followed. I actually remember yelling "Let it go, Scout. It's not worth  
179 it." But Scout didn't listen, instead going on about them working together and some such.  
180 Then, everything happened so quickly. Riley and Scout both left the room but were just  
181 outside the doorway. There was some more yelling—I couldn't see from where I was

182 sitting. Then I heard two loud popping noises. Instinctively I ducked down under the table,  
183 so at that point I didn't see exactly what had happened.

184 When silence followed the noise, I got up from under the table, ran out of the room, and  
185 saw Scout standing over Riley's body. Riley was lying on the ground with his hands  
186 pressed to the left side of his chest. Blood was coming out from underneath Riley's  
187 hands. Once I realized that Riley had been shot, my instincts and years of medical practice  
188 kicked in. I couldn't tell you what anyone else in the room was doing because I needed to  
189 save Riley's life. I immediately moved his hands and found the wound. I had a cloth mask  
190 in my pocket. I pulled it out and stuffed it into the wound. Then I began to perform CPR.  
191 Ultimately, there was nothing I could do to save Riley. I stopped CPR before the EMTs  
192 arrived, as there was no heartbeat and hadn't been for several minutes. Once EMTs  
193 arrived, they officially pronounced Riley dead.

194 It wasn't long before I was answering Officer Rayburn's questions about what happened.  
195 I remember being asked about whether Riley had a knife. I did not recall seeing one at the  
196 time, but that doesn't mean there wasn't a knife there. I have seen Riley fidgeting with a  
197 knife in the past. I really was not paying attention to what was going on that night other  
198 than trying to save Riley's life.

199 After the paramedics removed Riley's body and Officer Rayburn allowed us to leave, I  
200 finally had a chance to find Scout. It took a while for me to find Scout, but when I finally  
201 did, Scout was leaning against their car in the parking lot. Scout looked visibly upset, and  
202 Scout was disheveled. I mean, Scout really looked out of it. Scout just kept muttering,  
203 "Riley had a knife. Riley was going to kill me."

204 I have known Scout for quite some time now, and I know that Scout would not have  
205 purposely killed Riley if they did not fear for their life. Scout always tried to get along with  
206 Riley and avoid violence at all costs. I feel bad for Scout because I know Scout feels  
207 terrible that this is how the relationship with Riley ended. But Scout had no other choice.

208 Robin called me the night after the incident with a proposal to encourage Scout to resign  
209 or else force Scout off the board. I said it was my view that we needed to let this resolve  
210 itself before we make any decisions. Robin seemed exasperated and said, "I just knew  
211 you would back Scout in this," and then disconnected the call before I could respond. I  
212 did not call Robin back. I wasn't supporting Scout, but this was a unique situation that  
213 needed to be resolved by the judicial process.

***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Charlie Goodman*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public

State of Arkansas

My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024

## Statement of Dr. Frankie Rose

1 My name is Frankie Rose. I was a forensic pathologist at the Arkansas State Crime  
2 Laboratory in the Medical Examiner's section for thirty years, until my departure in  
3 February 2022. Pathology is the study of disease and injuries in humans. I assisted in the  
4 autopsy of Riley Truman. Although the autopsy was conducted by my former colleague,  
5 Dr. Valerie Jenkins, and represents her conclusions, I was present and assisted in all  
6 aspects of the autopsy. After retiring from the Crime Lab, I was hired by the defense to  
7 provide expert review of the autopsy and its findings.

8 Let me back up a little and tell you about myself. I am 63 years old and a resident of North  
9 Little Rock, Arkansas. I was born and raised in a little town in Northeast Arkansas called  
10 Gosnell. It's near Blytheville, about an hour from Jonesboro in the bootheel. You know  
11 how Missouri and Arkansas fit together like the heel of a boot? That's why we call it the  
12 bootheel. I went to undergrad at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, where I was  
13 part of the Track and Field team. Did you know the University of Arkansas Track and Field  
14 team has 35 national championships? Woo Pig Sooi! I majored in biology. After  
15 graduation, I went to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, or UAMS, for  
16 medical school. I graduated from medical school in 1985. Originally, I wanted to be in  
17 emergency medicine, so I began my residency in the emergency department at UAMS. I  
18 switched over to pathology residency, which is a five-year program. I did that at UAMS as  
19 well. When I finished that residency, I did one year in a forensic pathology fellowship in  
20 Miami, Florida. Afterwards, I returned to Little Rock.

21 Before I retired, I had been a forensic pathologist for the crime lab for over 30 years and  
22 completed over 2500 autopsies myself, while assisting in another 1500. When doing an  
23 autopsy, we are asked to render an opinion as to the cause and manner of death. Those  
24 are two separate-but-related things. Manner of death is simple, as it is one of five things:  
25 homicide, suicide, natural, accident, or undetermined. We all die, and when we do, it will  
26 fall into one of those categories. Cause of death is the thing that directly caused the  
27 person to die. For cause of death, we examine the body, determine if there are any injuries  
28 or natural disease, and conduct toxicology testing to see if any drugs may have caused  
29 or contributed to the death. Basically, the autopsy is what is used to determine the cause  
30 of death. The manner of death is the autopsy findings, plus the investigative findings.

31 I have testified in my capacity as a forensic pathologist with the State Crime Lab in  
32 probably about one-third of the autopsies in which I was lead investigator. Not all  
33 autopsies result in court testimony; it just depends on the unique circumstances of any  
34 one autopsy. It is important to clarify that our work is independent—we do not represent

35 the prosecution or defense when testifying as a member of the crime lab. It is perhaps  
36 not surprising that gunshot deaths are the most common incident we see at the crime  
37 lab—many of which are accidental, such as hunting incidents, but certainly some are  
38 intentional.

39 As a result, I spent considerable time in my career researching—and ultimately  
40 publishing—an article in the *Journal of Forensic Science* called “Bullet Meets Body: A  
41 Study on Small Caliber Bullets and the Effects on the Human Body.” The article was peer  
42 reviewed and published in leading pathology trade journals. It even won me a top  
43 researcher award at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences annual meeting in  
44 2015. The article was a survey about how small caliber bullets, when fired at a human  
45 body at various ranges and in various circumstances, tells the story of the manner of  
46 death. It was, in effect, a case study of many cases I had worked on and researched over  
47 thirty years, which illuminated consistent patterns of impact. It identified trends and  
48 probabilities that others in the industry could review and use to help them reach  
49 conclusions in their cases for which there are factual similarities. Unfortunately, in this  
50 line of work, there are few absolutes, and no two cases are exactly alike. But we can  
51 determine, with a high degree of probability, the most likely manner of death—that is our  
52 core job, after all. That is not to say that every reader has bought into these conclusions.  
53 There have recently been a couple papers purporting to show some contrary opinions,  
54 but I have not researched those papers thoroughly to discern their shortcomings. And of  
55 course, Dr. Jenkins did not accept the conclusions I would have reached based on my  
56 research.

57 On December 4, 2021, I was working in the Crime Lab. I was assigned to assist Dr. Jenkins  
58 in an autopsy for a body identified as Riley Truman. The investigative notes we had at  
59 that time indicated he was the victim of a shooting. Our first task was to prepare the body  
60 for autopsy. This involves opening the body bag and photographing the body in the  
61 manner in which it was received (i.e., clothed), examining the physical evidence of note,  
62 and then removing the body bag and clothing and preserving them for any later  
63 investigation needs. We then take another round of photographs of the unclothed body,  
64 and take particular note of any scars, injuries, or other skin level anomalies so that we  
65 can go back and investigate each—essentially creating a catalog of items to investigate.  
66 The body is then cleaned. The body is now ready for investigation.

67 The cleaned body was placed on the autopsy table in the supine position (facing  
68 upwards), and an initial set of full-body X-rays were taken. Because we knew the individual  
69 had been the victim of a shooting, we started our work reviewing the corresponding  
70 wounds which likely resulted from a shooting. There were two we noted during our pre-

71 review. The first was on the left side of the individual's chest. The second was on the  
72 individual's head.

73 The chest injury included a piece of cloth that appeared to have been shoved into the  
74 wound. That indicated to us that someone had tried to slow the bleeding after the gunshot  
75 occurred. The back portion of the body did not have a similar wound, so we knew the  
76 bullet should be inside the body still. We performed a localized X-ray of the chest to  
77 determine the location of the bullet. The X-ray revealed the bullet was in fragments, the  
78 largest of which lodged in the "neck" of the fifth rib. Fragments also appeared to be on  
79 the top of the anterior section of the fourth rib and in the heart itself.

80 We retrieved fragments from the fourth rib and were able to trace the trajectory of the  
81 bullet based on internal damage to the tissue, including both the lung and the heart. Of  
82 course, the final resting place of any fragments on the neck of the fifth rib provided the  
83 final resting place of the bullet. The bullet caused damage that ran from the victim's chest  
84 slightly upward toward the neck of the fifth rib. Human ribs wrap from the back, around  
85 toward the sternum, and in so doing, they form in a downward sloping direction. So, the  
86 fourth rib on the back of the body sits higher than it does on the anterior part of the body.  
87 Thus, the damage from the top of the fourth rib that ended along the neck of the fifth rib  
88 would, if linear, have traveled in a slightly upward direction of about 3-5 degrees off level—  
89 so nearly level. The damage also showed a path from the left side of the chest slightly  
90 inward toward the center of the body, moving from the individual's left to right as it  
91 entered and traveled through the body.

92 There was also mild stippling on the skin around the wound entry and on the clothing.  
93 There are three different types of gunshot wounds. The first is a contact wound, meaning  
94 the barrel of the gun is pressed firmly up against the skin or a short distance away, no  
95 more than 12 inches at the most. There, you see the soot powder on the skin and burning  
96 the skin. You often see gunpowder burns in the wound and tearing of the skin around the  
97 wound entrance.

98 The second type of gunshot wounds are intermediate gunshot wounds where you see  
99 stippling, which is the burnt and unburnt grains of powder on the skin. The powder  
100 embeds in the skin or the clothing surrounding the wound. You can see all these little  
101 marks around the wound, like little puncture marks. That's the gunpowder as it embeds  
102 in the skin. It cannot be wiped off. It's like tattooing as it just stays there. Stippling occurs  
103 at around one yard (36 inches) away or less.

104 The third type of gunshot wound is a distant gunshot wound. You will not see stippling,  
105 burning, or soot on the skin or clothing. This occurs at a distance of one yard or greater.

106 Here, we found stippling on Truman’s right temple and on his clothing around the chest  
107 gunshot wound. We did not find gun powder in the wounds or tearing of the wounds. That  
108 indicates that the shooting occurred at a range of between 12 inches and 36 inches—that  
109 being the distance between the barrel of the gun and the point of impact. That was  
110 consistent with the investigative information we were provided.

111 It was difficult to determine at what angle the bullet entered the body. The fragments  
112 along with the deposit of fragments on the top of the fourth rib may indicate a change in  
113 trajectory—a ricochet—once the bullet entered the body. Ultimately, Dr. Jenkins was  
114 unwilling to conclude a unique trajectory for this reason, leaving that question  
115 undetermined. She believed the fragment on the fourth rib was most likely a ricochet  
116 moment, and thus could not reach a conclusion regarding a proper trajectory.

117 I disagreed. We discussed this at the time. I argued that in similar cases where the  
118 investigative notes and physical evidence supported a close proximity between the gun  
119 and the victim, the velocity of the bullet would usually be great and instead the most likely  
120 effect would be a shearing of the bone, if anything, but without a change in trajectory of  
121 the bullet. Thus, the tissue damage would reliably provide an angle of attack, as it were.  
122 It is worth noting that the bone of the fourth rib did not shear or chip. However, that is not  
123 dispositive because bone is very strong, especially if it’s healthy bone. Furthermore, we  
124 cannot say for certain exactly how far the gun was away from the wound entry, just that  
125 it was between one and three feet away. And within those ranges, the fact that the bone  
126 was not damaged suggests a distance on the greater end of that range. And what is more,  
127 the fact that the bullet fragmented may indicate a weakness in the bullet that made it  
128 unlikely, at such a close proximity, to cause bone damage when making a glancing blow—  
129 instead of part of the bone shearing off, part of the bullet may have broken as it passed  
130 the bone. As I said before, I was not the lead pathologist. So, we consulted with one  
131 another, but ultimately the conclusions reached by Dr. Jenkins were the final findings of  
132 the autopsy. The conclusion was not unreasonable based on the facts, but was not, in my  
133 view, the most likely conclusion based on the evidence available, and had I been the lead  
134 pathologist, I would have concluded differently.

135 The toxicology report showed mild intoxication by alcohol just under the legal limit for  
136 driving. This was noted in the report, but no conclusions were drawn from it since the  
137 individual was not driving or engaging in otherwise dangerous activities at the time of  
138 death. At the time I agreed.

139 The gunshot wound to the chest was the cause of death. To be sure, we investigated  
140 other markings, but based on our review of this trauma, it would have caused death by  
141 itself. The gunshot wound to the head was only a glancing blow—painful, but would not

142 have been fatal. The body had a few other injuries we reviewed as well. Ultimately, those  
143 were not fresh injuries so we concluded they did not impact the cause of death directly.  
144 For Dr. Jenkins, that was the end of the inquiry into those injuries, and they were noted in  
145 the report as unremarkable, but never examined in detail. I thought they should be  
146 identified for the investigators—let us provide the information we have and let the  
147 investigators do what they will with them.

148 We read the investigative notes from Officer Rayburn. It was reported that Truman was  
149 shot intentionally by another person. As such, we determined the death to be a homicide.  
150 This finding is summarized in the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory's official report, which  
151 is Exhibit 6. That is a short form that would be sent to the law enforcement office that  
152 submitted the body for the autopsy. I did not sign the report as I was not the pathologist  
153 of record on this case. It was reviewed by Dr. Anthony Tinsley, who is the chief medical  
154 examiner for the Crime Laboratory. I relied on Exhibit 6, in part, for my review of the case.  
155 And my essential findings were provided in writing at the request of the defense. As I  
156 explained there, the conclusions in the autopsy report are not the conclusions I would  
157 have reached. It is my conclusion to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty, based  
158 upon the evidence available, that Riley Truman was shot while making aggressive and  
159 likely threatening movements toward Scout Cumberland.

160 As I said before, I was a forensic pathologist at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory for  
161 thirty years. I left that place of employment on February 22, 2022. I was given the option  
162 to retire or be terminated. They said it was because I had made mistakes in a few of my  
163 autopsies. It is true that in two previous cases, I mixed up the bullets recovered from the  
164 victims. I testified in one of those cases, and as a result, I was cross examined pretty hard  
165 in court for the discrepancy and the case ended in mistrial. The error was corrected, and  
166 the case reached a verdict in the second trial. In another case, I marked the wrong box  
167 indicating an accident was a suicide as the manner of death. I also testified in that case,  
168 but I caught my error before trial and clarified the mistake on the stand. The jury reached  
169 a verdict in that case.

170 The mistakes were the result of being overworked and forms and labels being too small.  
171 During the month of December, when Truman's body arrived, we had performed 52  
172 autopsies. However, I did not make any mistakes in this case. In fact, Dr. Jenkins was the  
173 one that editorialized the evidence in this case, coloring how law enforcement may view  
174 the evidence in a restrictive way.

175 This was a politically fraught case, and the director of the crime lab did not want this case  
176 to drag out or become a circus. However, I think that I was asked to resign because when  
177 asked by the defense about the autopsy, I revealed my differing conclusions. Dr. Jenkins



178 found out that I talked to the defense without her and made a complaint. I was  
179 approached by my supervisor two days after the complaint was lodged and given the  
180 choice to retire or be terminated. After I retired, I was hired by the defense to be an expert  
181 witness.

182 The defense is paying me \$500 per hour to work on this case. To date, I have completed  
183 10 hours of work reviewing the findings and preparing to testify. Of course, this does not  
184 include the time I spent working on the autopsy while working for the Crime Lab. Still, this  
185 is more than four times what I made per hour working for the state. I will receive an  
186 additional \$10,000 for my time and travel expenses for my testimony at trial. I hope that  
187 this new stage in my career will be as fruitful and satisfying as the last.

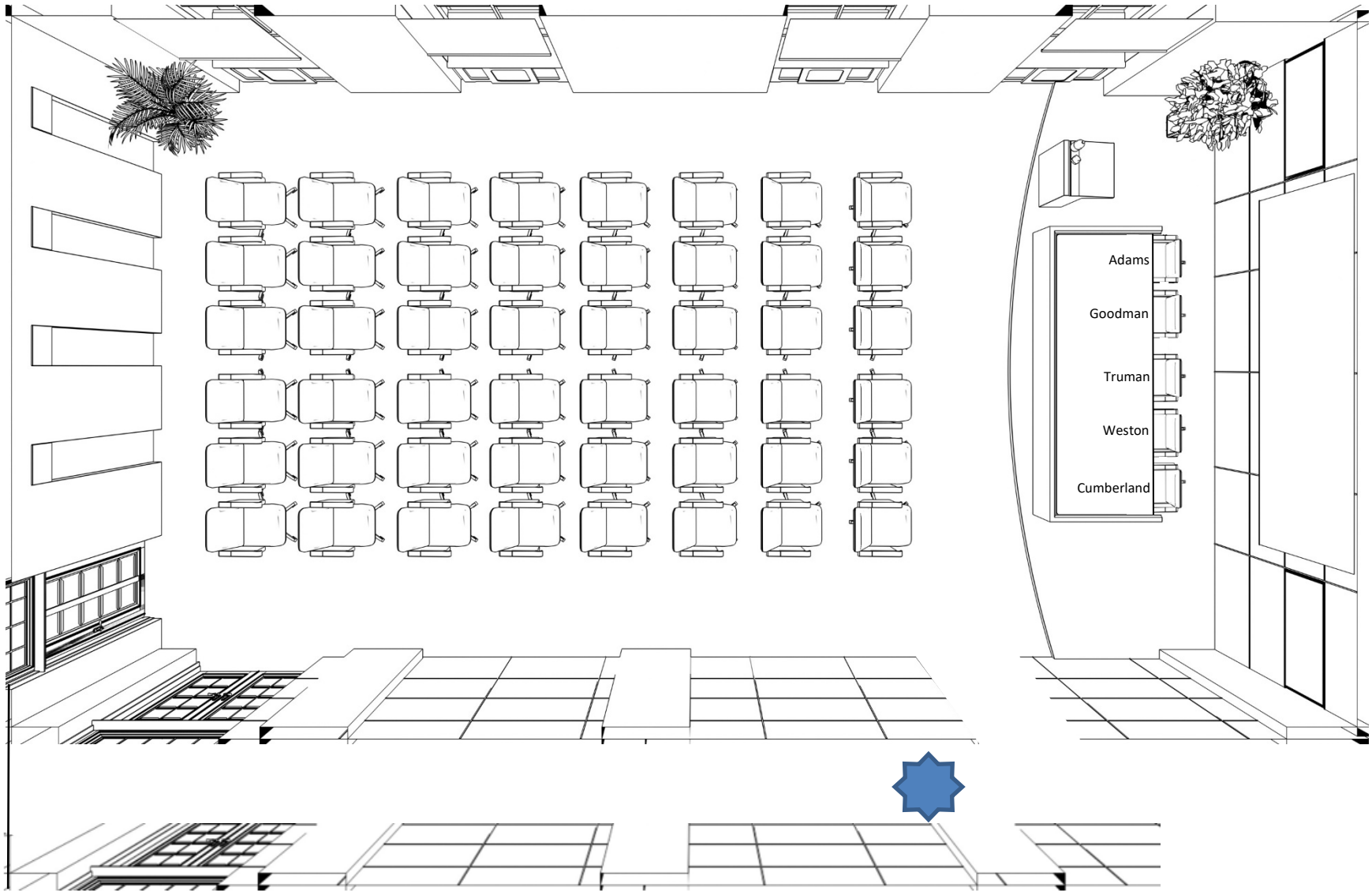
***I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.***

*Frankie Rose*

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me at 8:00 a.m. on the day of this round of the 2023 National High School Mock Trial Championship.

*Henry McDonald*

Henry McDonald, Notary Public  
State of Arkansas  
My Commission Expires: 05/21/2024





6<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
26<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION

**JACKSON GASAWAY**  
**CIRCUIT JUDGE**

PULASKI AND PERRY  
COUNTIES

PULASKI COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RM. 610  
401 W. MARKHAM STREET  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201

Friday, August 13, 2021

To the Parties:

Thank you for your well-written arguments on this matter. In the end, I have no choice but to order that the diamond be sold and the proceeds used to wind up the affairs of Diamond State Educational Consulting. The basis for the ruling is as follows.

On May 17, 2021, Truman filed a replevin complaint on behalf of Diamond State Educational Consulting against Cumberland for possession of a diamond known as *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*. The complaint alleged that Cumberland found the diamond while on a company-sponsored trip to Crater of Diamonds Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, and that Cumberland was acting in the course and scope of the partnership when the diamond was found. Therefore, the complaint alleged, the diamond was partnership property.

Court records show (and Cumberland does not dispute) that Cumberland was served with a copy of the complaint on May 19, 2021. Cumberland filed an answer *pro se* to the complaint on June 25, 2021, one week beyond the thirty days given to defendants to respond pursuant to Rule 12 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure. Soon after filing the answer, Truman filed a motion to strike the answer and for a default.

Cumberland requests that Truman's motion be denied and presented a sworn affidavit stating that Cumberland had trouble finding an attorney and eventually realized that they would have to defend the lawsuit *pro se*, thus resulting in a late response. Cumberland would have this court excuse the untimely response and allow this case to proceed on the merits anyway, but to allow this would "give sanction to a slipshod treatment of writs of summons by defendants." *B&F Engineering, Inc. v. Cotroneo*, 309 Ark. 175, 180, 830 S.W.2d 835, 838 (1992). While the court sympathizes with Cumberland having to go through this process without counsel, this court must hold *pro se* litigants to the same standards as licensed attorneys. See *Lucas v. Jones*, 2012 Ark. 365, 423 S.W.3d 580; *Crutchfield v. Tyson Foods, Inc.*, 2017 Ark. App. 121, 514 S.W.3d 499.

Cumberland also argues that a default is not proper because, in Cumberland's words, "no reasonable person could conclude that the partnership has any claim to this property." Admittedly, the court is skeptical of the partnership's claim to the diamond. The court is also reminded that "[d]efault judgments are not favorites of the law," *B&F Engineering*, 309 Ark. at 178, 830 S.W.2d at 837, and that our rules of civil procedure "reflect[] a preference for deciding cases on the merits rather than on technicalities." *Id.* At the same time, however, Cumberland has failed to provide an adequate basis for accepting an untimely answer. Had Cumberland attempted to file on time but was prevented from doing so due to some technicality, *see Perry v. Bale Chevrolet Co.*, 263 Ark. 552, 566 S.W.2d 150 (1978) (reversing a default judgment when the clerk of the court previously rejected a handwritten answer due to it not following the court's rules), then things might be different. But that isn't what happened here. The Arkansas Supreme Court affirmed the default judgment in *B&F Engineering* when the insurance company erroneously thought that an answer had already been filed. And it upheld another default judgment in *Layman v. Bone*, 333 Ark. 121, 967 S.W.2d 561 (1998), where the defendant told his attorney the wrong date in which he received service, resulting in the answer in that case being filed one day late. Because there is nothing in the record showing at least an attempt by Cumberland to file a timely answer, this court is left with no choice but to grant Truman's motion.

The Court GRANTS Truman's motion to strike Cumberland's answer and, pursuant to Rule 55(a) of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, a default judgment is entered against Cumberland. *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* is the property of the partnership.

During the hearing on the parties' motions, Cumberland indicated that they were in the process of ending the partnership. If the partnership is indeed ending and Cumberland and Truman are unable to agree to ownership of *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*, the diamond shall be sold at auction to the highest bidder, and the proceeds from the auction (after expenses) shall be split between the parties.

Finally, during the hearing on Truman's motion, Cumberland made numerous insulting and inappropriate comments toward Truman. Throughout the hearing, Cumberland had to be reminded at least three times to direct comments to the court, not to Truman or Truman's attorney. Along with that third reminder, I warned that another comment would result in Cumberland being held in contempt. While the court did not issue a ruling during the hearing, I remarked that I likely would not be ruling in Cumberland's favor. At that point, Cumberland turned to Truman and said, "One of these days, I will personally make sure you are getting what is coming to you." Threats like that are inappropriate anywhere, but especially in a court of law. Therefore, I am holding Cumberland in contempt, and Cumberland will therefore pay a \$1000 fine to the court. Payment is due within 30 days of the date of this letter.

The Court will enter an order consistent with this letter.

Sincerely,

*Jackson Gasaway*

Judge Jackson Gasaway  
26<sup>th</sup> Division  
Pulaski County Circuit Court



## Saga of Diamond Ends at Auction

By: S. Yancy | 9.2.2021



A dispute over ownership of one of the largest diamonds found in Arkansas recently ended when the diamond was sold at auction. *Le Gros Rocher Brillant*, a ten-carat diamond found at Crater of Diamonds State Park was sold by the Pulaski County Auction House for \$65,500.

The diamond was found by Scout Cumberland, former co-owner of Diamond State Educational Consulting, on a company outing. The name *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* translates to “the big shiny rock” and, according to former Diamond State employee Drew Arden, was a play on La Petite Roche, from which the city Little Rock gets its name. A portion of the “little rock” can be found in Riverfront Park, located in the city’s River Market District.

The diamond was found at Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, located about 100 miles southwest of Little Rock. It is the only place in the United States where one can find naturally occurring diamonds. Members of the public are allowed to search the crater for diamonds and keep anything they find. Finds, however, are rare. Diamonds such as *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* are extraordinary. At ten carats, it is one of the largest to be found. The largest is the 40.23-carat “Uncle Sam” diamond, discovered in 1924. The diamond has been cut twice, and a 12.42-carat, emerald-cut portion of the diamond currently sits of display at the Smithsonian Museum.

Riley Truman, the other co-owner of Diamond State, claimed ownership of *Le Gros Rocher Brillant* on behalf of the company. When Cumberland and Truman could not agree to ownership, Truman sued Cumberland on behalf of Diamond State. On Friday, August 13, 2021, the Pulaski County Circuit Court ruled that the diamond belonged to Diamond State. The court also ordered Cumberland to pay a \$1,000 fine for comments that Cumberland made during trial.

Because Cumberland and Truman could not settle on ownership of the diamond, it was sold at auction. The winning bidder, Rosalee Truman, is the grandmother of Riley Truman. When asked why she was interested, Mrs. Truman said, “This was such a great find, and I know that my grandson really wanted it.”

When asked for comment, Cumberland said, “Who cares. Riley wins again, and this newspaper is just hyping him up even more when he doesn’t deserve it. People like that eventually get what’s coming to them.”



Pulaski County Auction House

INVOICE

September 1, 2021

Bill from:  
Pulaski County Auction House  
55 Rich Ct.  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Lot Name: Le Gros Rocher Brilliant  
Lot Description: ten-carat diamond  
Appraised Value: \$62,000

Seller:  
Diamond State Educational Consulting  
Seller's Address: 10323 W. Emerald  
Ave., Little Rock, AR 72248

Buyer: Rosalee Truman  
Buyer's Address: 15 S. Riverdale Way,  
Little Rock, AR 72205

Purchase Price: \$65,500

Notes: Diamond State Educational Consulting has gone out of business. Proceeds of the sale, after administrative expenses, to be equally divided and remitted to Scout Cumberland and Riley Truman.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-04**

**A RESOLUTION TO FUND A FIELD TRIP TO THE WORLD WAR II JAPANESE INTERNMENT MUSEUM FOR ALL LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A UNITED STATES HISTORY COURSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, during World War II, approximately 110,000 people of Japanese descent, including American citizens, were wrongfully detained in “relocation centers” across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, two of those centers were located in Arkansas: the Jerome camp, located in sections of Chicot and Drew Counties, and the Rohwer camp, located in Desha County; and

**WHEREAS**, while little of the original camps remain today, the World War II Japanese American Internment Museum has been created in McGehee, Arkansas, to preserve and inform citizens about this important part of U.S. and Arkansas history; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important for students to have a complete view of history;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD:**

That all high school courses in United States history contain in their discussion of World War II a lecture on Japanese American Relocation Centers.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Little Rock School District fund a field trip to the World War II Japanese Internment Museum for high school students enrolled in a United States history course.

Action of Board: *Failed by a 2-2 vote*

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Proposed By: Charlie Goodman, Board Member



**Arkansas State Crime Laboratory**

P.O. Box 8500  
3 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72215

Medical Examiner Division

Case No.: 2021-351

Name: TRUMAN, Riley

Age: 27

Date of Exam: Dec. 4, 2021

Sex: Male

County: Pulaski

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Autopsy Report – Short Form

**SUMMARY:**

Cause of Death: Gunshot wound (GSW) to the chest.

Secondary Cause: None

Manner of Death: Homicide

**FINDINGS:**

Subject is a 27-year-old male, appearing in good physical health. Two notable immediate injuries. Subject pronounced dead at scene of incident—reportedly a shooting.

Superficial laceration to the anterior right temple, approximately five centimeters above the right eye and similarly five centimeters from the midline. Laceration is approximately four centimeters in length. No foreign debris observed or recovered. Laceration would not have been fatal. See attached diagram, Injury A.

Penetrating injury cause by foreign object observed approximately five centimeters directly below the subject's left nipple. Upon X-Ray and further examination, the foreign object appears to have been small and remains in the body in fragments. Object determined to be bullet based on police reporting that accompanied the body and confirmed with removal of objects. Damage caused by the object identified to the lung and heart. This injury was fatal and was the cause of death. See attached diagram, Injury B.

Blood Alcohol Content: .07

**CONCLUSIONS:**

Cause of death is the penetrating injury to the chest, Injury B. Manner of death is determined to be homicide.

As the bullet entered the body it most likely ricocheted off one of the subject's ribs and fragmented. While we know where the object entered the body and where its fragments ceased moving, it presents an unclear narrative as to how the object moved through the body. Because of the apparent ricochet and fragmenting, I cannot conclude from this anything scientifically meaningful about how the subject was standing as compared to the shooter or how the subject was interacting with the shooter at the time other than the distance between the two: Stippling places the two between 2 and 5 feet of each other most likely, and that is borne out by generally by the police reported details.

Additionally, the relative proximities of the two injuries does not rise to the level of scientific significance in this case. First, it cannot be determined which injury occurred first, the head wound or the chest wound. More importantly, however, is that the order in which the injuries occurred is itself most likely meaningless in this case. The fact that two injuries occurred to two different parts of the body does not necessitate unique movement by the shooter or the victim. Poor weapon control is the most common reason for hitting targets inconsistently when firing guns, and that is especially true if the shooter is a novice. The police reporting does not identify an eyewitness to the shooter's actions, and while the victim was standing, the reports show us little more that weighs on the locations of the injuries. Without more, it is impossible to conclude anything meaningful from the locations of the injuries. As a result, homicide, an intentional killing, is the only outcome I can reach at this time. In my professional opinion, the evidence is insufficient from which to draw further conclusions about the death.

The subject was not operating a vehicle or other machinery at the time. Toxicology unremarkable.

Other findings unremarkable.

Verification:

Valerie Jenkins

**Valerie Jenkins, M.D.**

Associate Medical Examiner – Pathologist of Record

Dec. 4, 2021

Date

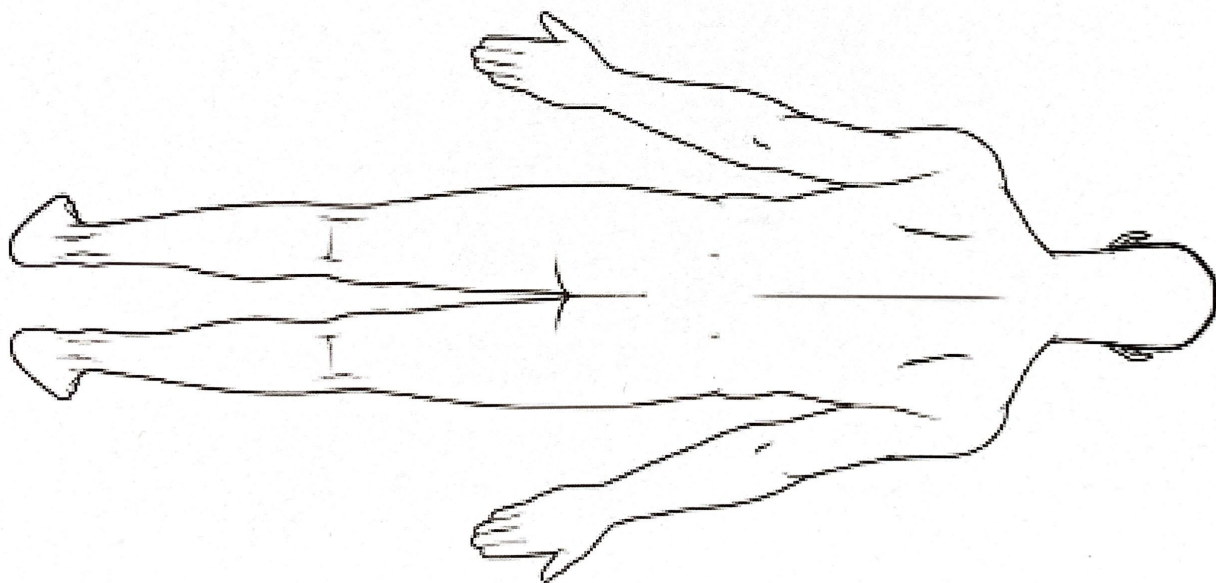
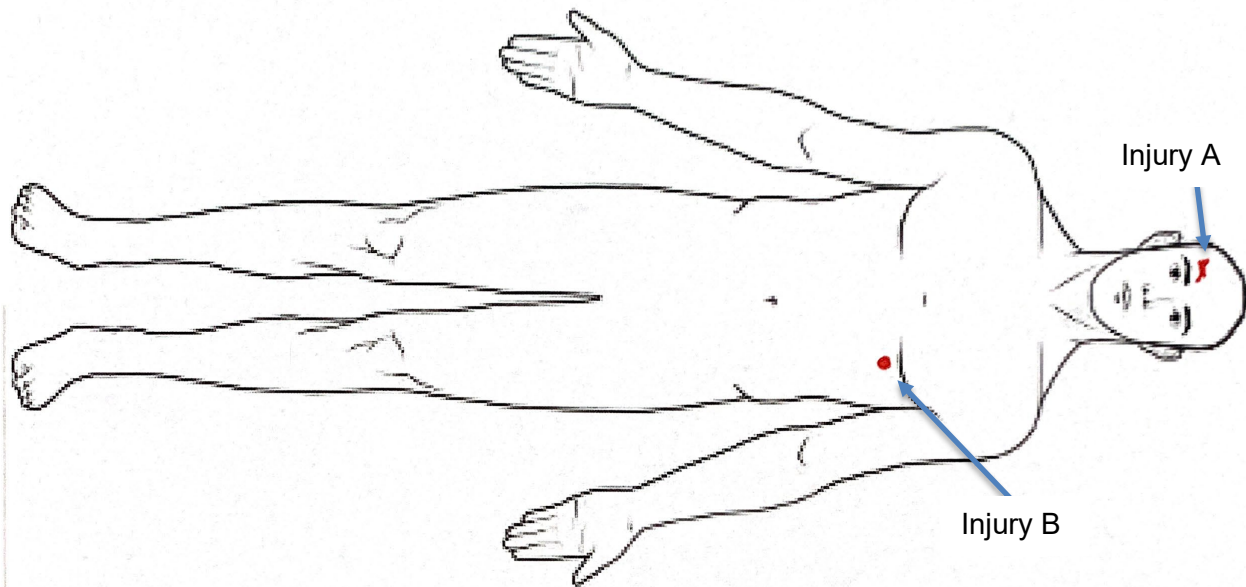
Anthony Tinsley

**Anthony Tinsley, M.D.**

Chief Medical Examiner – Reviewer

Dec. 11, 2022

Date



Created for and at the direction of: Scout Cumberland Defense Team  
On the Medical Findings during Autopsy of Riley Truman  
Completed: July 18, 2022 By: Dr. Frankie Rose

I, Dr. Frankie Rose, the undersigned, assisted Dr. Valerie Jenkins in the forensic medical examination of Riley Truman on December 4, 2021, during the course of my employment at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory. I was contacted by the defense team for Scout Cumberland to determine whether the medical findings of the forensic examination of Truman's body could support a claim of justification. I believe the findings could be consistent with a claim of justification and am detailing my findings in this report. Further, in reviewing the official report from the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory in order to prepare my findings, I discovered several shortcomings, which are also detailed in this report.

The official pathology findings are misleading for four reasons: (1) the trajectory of the bullets most likely indicate that Truman was facing the shooter; (2) there were other suspicious injuries; (3) Truman was legally intoxicated at the time of the shooting, and (4) the location of each injury indicates a rash movement rather than a purposeful shot.

First, as far as forensic pathology and the trajectory of the bullet, I can say that if Truman was standing at the time of the shooting, which witnesses seem to say he was, his body would have had to have been at a 25-35 degree angle to the shooter with the left side of the body slightly in front of the right side to account for the bullet trajectory. To put that in a frame of reference, had Truman been directly facing the shooter with both shoulders squared, I would have said that Truman was at 0 degrees to the shooter. Had Truman had his back to the shooter, I would say that he was 180 degrees to the shooter.

The trajectory of the bullet is consistent with a witness description of the shooting in which the individual was facing their shooter with their left foot further forward than the right—that accounts for the bullet moving from the individual's left to right as it passed through his body with the most likely reality that it entered cleanly without ricochet. The bullet trajectory appears to be consistent with a witness statement that Truman was advancing towards the shooter with the left arm. However, based solely on the ballistics, I cannot say with one hundred percent scientific certainty whether Truman was lunging to attack, or merely turning his body at that time. But I certainly believe based on all of the information available, both the science and the witness testimony, that lunging is the most likely situation based on the evidence available. Unless you have a video, you cannot say with one hundred percent certainty. People are moving around and situations like this are dynamic. The only thing I can say with scientific certainty is how the bullets traveled through the body. Everything else is gleaned from the circumstances.

The additional injuries I thought important to note during the autopsy, the importance of which was rejected by Dr. Jenkins, actually proved more important once I reviewed witness statements for this case. As I stated before, there was evidence of trauma to the individual's hand that was surgically repaired. What I didn't know then was how this injury illuminated Riley Truman as an individual who might, consistent with the statements of Scout Cumberland, constantly degrade. Arden reported the injury occurred in a bar altercation. If some degree of

intoxication took the aggression past mere words on the night the fight occurred, the fact that Riley was mildly intoxicated the evening of the shooting suggests a likely transition from aggression to physical conduct—in alignment with witness statements indicating he lunged and moved toward Scout Cumberland just before the shooting happened.

Finally, the location of each injury is important, especially when aligned with the bullet trajectory. The chest injury was on the victim’s left side, and the trajectory was upward and to the left slightly. The second injury to the head was a glancing blow on the right side of the victim’s head. If you draw a line, you begin to develop a timeline of the two injuries—the shooter’s hand rising with the gun firing once causing the fatal blow the chest continuing to move upward and to the left until the second shot which causes the glancing blow to the victim’s head. This demonstrates a rash movement while shooting—not a set and purposeful firing of the gun, at least in a very experienced shooter. The less competent the shooter, the more stress and lack of skill degrade our ability to discern what happened from any shot or shots.

In sum, these findings cause me to conclude that this was most likely a reactionary shooting, which is to say defensive.

Frankie Rose  
Frankie Rose, M.D.  
Forensic Pathologist – Retired

July 18, 2022  
Date







Exhibit 9: Truman's Knife

9-1-1 Call Transcript  
December 2, 2021  
Beginning at 19:51

Operator: 911. What is your emergency?

Weston: Yeah. Get someone down here, they shot him!

Operator: There was a shooting?

Weston: Yes.

Operator: Where did this happen?

Weston: We're at the school board offices . . . ummm . . . the address is 1537 North Mockingbird.

Operator: Okay we will dispatch law enforcement. Are there injuries?

Weston: Yes.

Operator: Okay I will also dispatch EMTs.

Operator: And what is your name?

Weston: Robin Weston

Operator: When did the shooting happen?

Weston: It just happened.

Operator: Just happened? As in an hour ago? Thirty-minutes ago?

Weston: Less than two minutes ago. [Muffled] Calm down. I'm trying to get some help.

Operator: Are you safe right now?

Weston: I think so.

Operator: Is the shooter still there?

Weston: Yes, it was Scout Cumberland, one of the Board members.

Operator: But you feel safe in this moment despite the shooter being present?

Weston: Yes, I think so—building security is here and Scout isn't threatening or anything.

Operator: Okay great. And you said someone was injured?

Weston: Yes, Riley Truman was shot.



Operator: And where is Riley now?

Weston: Laying on the floor, Charlie is giving CPR.

Operator: Who is Charlie?

Weston: Another board member; Charlie is a doctor.

Operator: Okay, EMTs will be there shortly to help.

Weston: [muffled] Charlie, EMTs are on the way.

Operator: There is a lot of shouting in the background, are you sure you are okay?

Weston: Yes, I think so. [muffled] Can you two be quiet I am on the phone with 911. One of the other board members is pretty shaken up and is being loud, but not threatening.

Operator: Okay. Help is on the way, stay on the line with me until they arrive, okay?

Weston: Okay. [muffled] Help is on the way, just hold tight.

Operator: Robin, will you tell me what happened, step by step?

Weston: Sure . . . okay, well we were in our meeting and nothing was out of the ordinary. We started an executive session and that's when things went downhill.

Operator: How so?

Weston: Well, out of nowhere, Scout just started saying rude things to Riley, and after a few minutes of just that, Riley got up and left the room, but Scout went after him. And once they were in the hallway, that's when it happened.

Operator: The shooting?

Weston: Yes.

Operator: Did you actually see the gun?

Weston: No, I could only see part of Riley standing. He stopped leaving, turned around to likely come back to the meeting room and that's when the shots happened.

Operator: Was anyone else outside the room with them?

Weston: No, not that I know of—those are our private office/work spaces and there should have been no one, and I haven't seen or heard anyone else was there at this point.

Operator: Okay, thank you. Do you have reason to know why the shooting might have occurred?

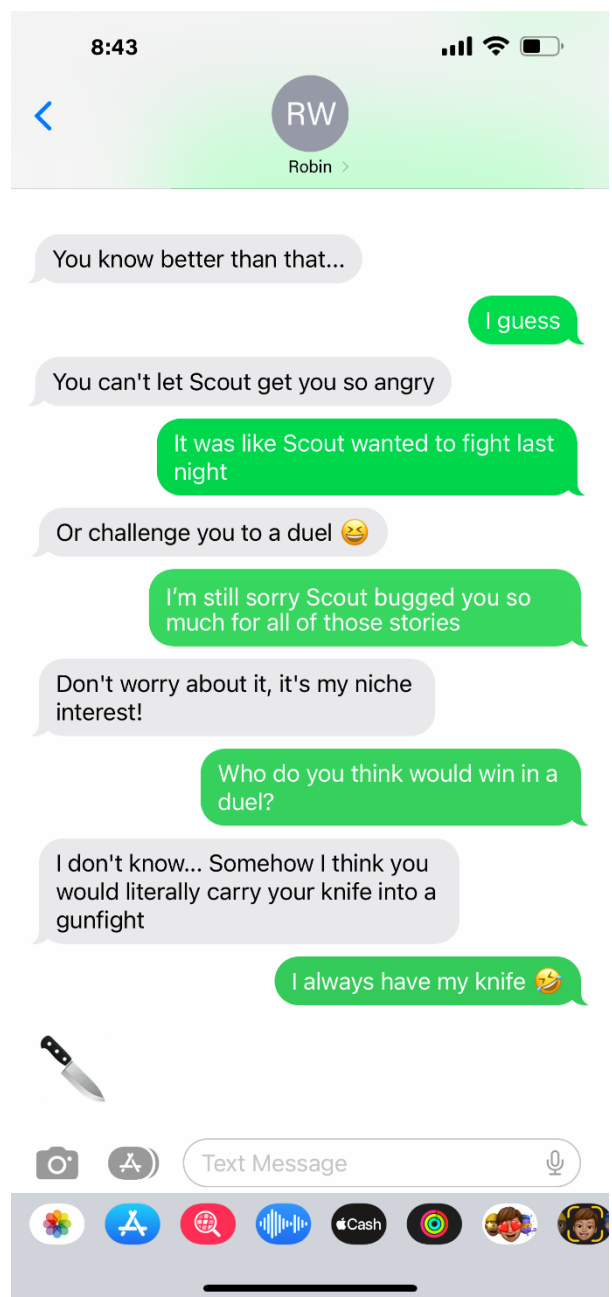
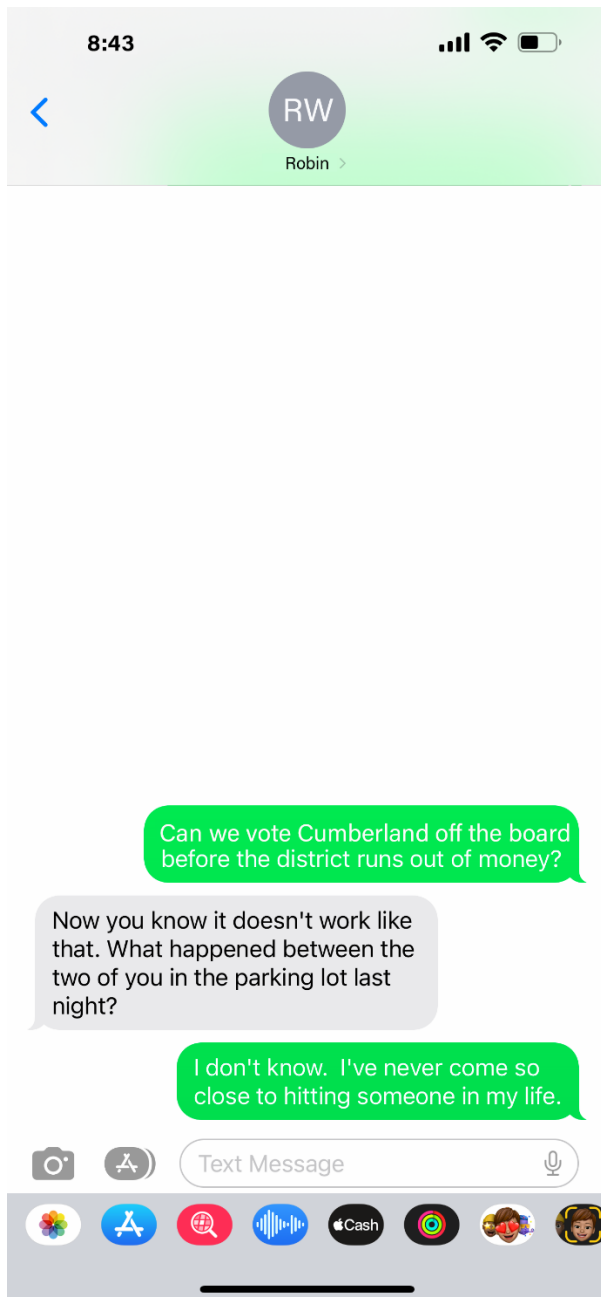
Weston: I'm sorry, can you say that again, I'm still just feeling flustered by this all.

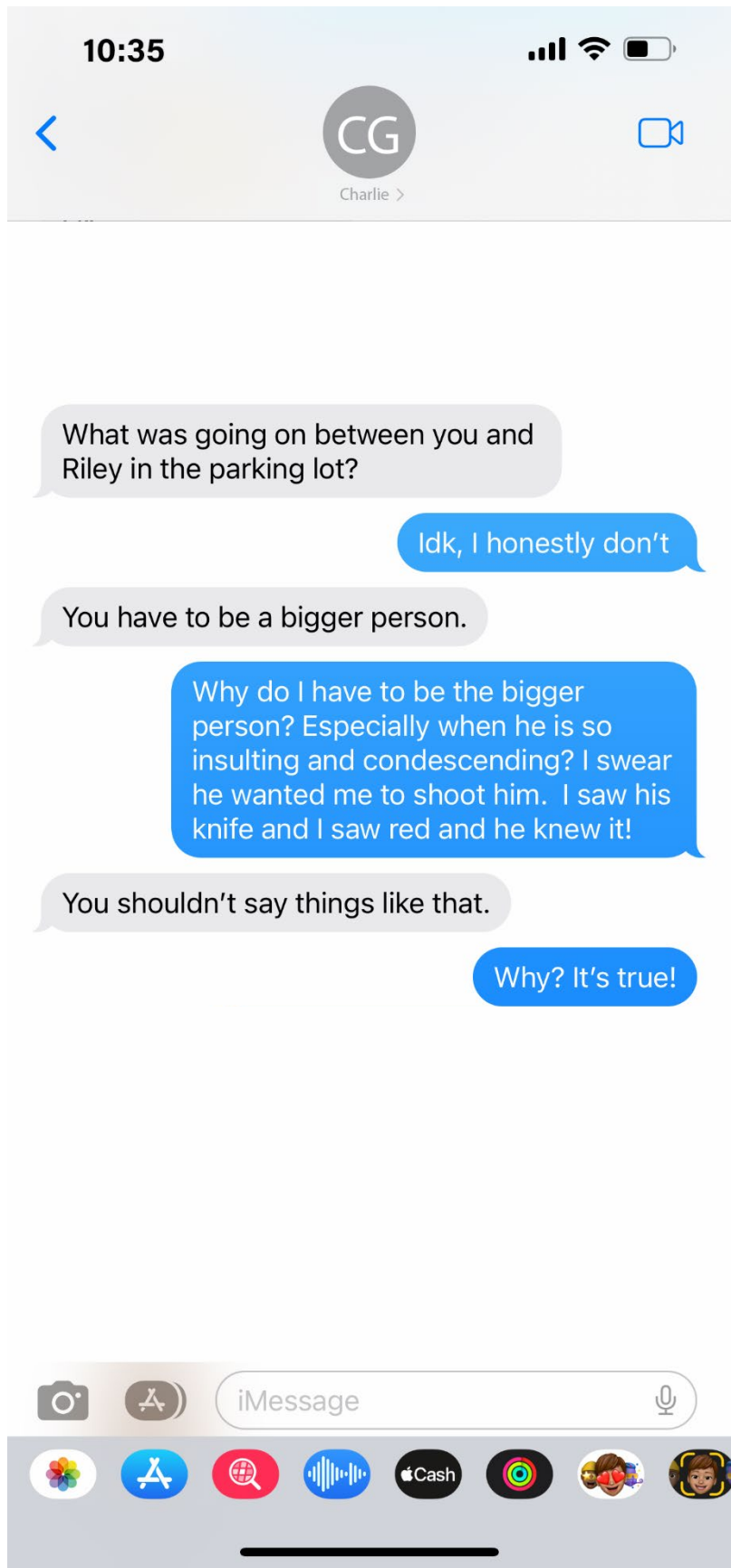
Operator: Sure, do you know why scout shot Riley?

Weston: Well, the two of them had lots of conflicts, it was no secret. Scout was always overbearing on Riley. Scout really seemed out to get Riley after their business ended. Riley and I spoke about it a few times. Riley had a vision that Scout never did. Riley was going places, but Scout was never going to . . .  
[muffled] oh goodness, the EMTs are here!

Operator: Okay, if the EMTs are there, and you feel safe, you can disconnect the call now.

\* \* \* line disconnects \* \* \*





Status  Active	Exception Clearance	Date	Reporting Officer	ORI/Agency
	Not Applicable		Rayburn, Alex	AR023
	Assigned Officer		Entered By	Approving Officer
			arayburn	
Assisting Officers				

**Complainant**

SSN/ID/TIN <b>redacted</b>	Title	Name <b>Goodman, Charlie</b>	DOB 12/23/1967	Age 53	Sex
		Home Phone (501) 555-3409	Work Phone	Other Phone	DL (#, ST) 908456791, AR
US Citizen Yes	Legal Alien	Doc Type	Immig Doc #	Nationality	
Home Address 15 W. Rock St., Little Rock, AR 72201				Employer	
Work Address				Occupation Doctor	

**Offenses**

Incident Location 1537 N. Mockingbird, Little Rock, AR			Zone		
Earliest Possible Date 12/02/2021	Time 19:45	Latest Possible Date 12/02/2021	Time 20:05		

#	Statute/Code	Description	Fel/Misd	Att/Comp	Loc	Bias	Wpn	CATypes
1	5-10-102A(2)	Homicide - MURDER - 1ST DEGREE / PURPOSE TO CAUSE DEATH, CAUSES DEATH	Felony	Completed	11	88	12	
2								

Method Of Entry n/a						# Prems 0
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<b>Location Types</b> 13 Hway/Road/Alley 14 Hotel/Motel 01 Air/Bus/Train Terminal 02 Bank/S&L 03 Bar/Night Club 04 Church/Synag/Temple 05 Commercial/Off Bldg 06 Construction Site 07 Convenience Store 08 Dept/Discount Store 09 Drug Str/Dr Off/Hosp 10 Field/Woods 11 Govt/Public Bldg 12 Grocery/Supermarket 15 Jail/Prison 16 Lake/Waterway 17 Liquor Store 18 Parking Lot/Garage 19 Rental Storage 20 Residence/Home Facility 21 Restaurant 22 Service/Gas Station 23 Specialty Store 24 Unknown/Other 25 Unknown/Other	37 Abandoned/Condemned Structure 38 Amusement Park 39 Arena/Stadium/Fair grounds/Coliseum 40 ATM Separate from Bank 41 Auto Dealership 42 Camp/Campground 43 Daycare Facility 44 Dock/Wharf/Freight/Modal Terminal 45 Farm Facility 46 Farm Facility 47 Gambling 48 Industrial Site 49 Military Installation 50 Park/Playground 51 Rest Area 52 School -College/University 53 School -Elementary/Secondary 54 Shelter -Mission/Homeless 55 Shopping Mall 56 Tribal Lands 57 Community Center 58 Cyberspace	<b>Bias Motivation Codes</b> ANTI- 11 White 12 Black or African American 13 American Indian or Alaska Native 14 Asian 15 Multi-races, Group 16 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 21 Jewish 22 Catholic 23 Protestant 24 Islamic (Muslim) 25 Other Religion 26 Multi-religious group 27 Atheist/Agnostic 31 Arab 32 Hispanic or Latino 33 Not Hispanic or Latino 41 Gay (male) 42 Lesbian 43 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender, Mixed Group (LGBT) 44 Heterosexual 45 Bisexual 51 Phys Disability 52 Mental Disability 61 Male 62 Female 71 Transgender 72 Gender Non-Conforming 88 None 99 Unknown
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Suspected Of Using	<b>Criminal Activity Types</b>	Weapon Type(s)	20 Knife/Cutting Instr	65 Fire/Incendiary Device
	B Buying/Receiving P Possessing/Concealing D Distributing/Selling E Exploiting Children C Cultivating/Manuf/Publishing O Operating/Promoting/Assisting T Transport/Import/Transmit U Using/Consuming A Simple/Gross Neglect F Organized Abuse I Intentional Abuse & Torment S Sexual Animal Abuse		11 Firearm 12 Handgun 13 Rifle 14 Shotgun 15 Other Firearm 30 Blunt Object 35 Motor Vehicle 40 Personal Weapons 50 Poison 60 Explosives 70 Drugs/Narc./Sleeping Pills 85 Asphyxiation 95 Unknown 99 None	

Victim #1		Event #s Related 1						
SSN/ID/TIN <b>redacted</b>	Title	Name <b>Truman, Riley</b>			DOB 06/15/1995	Age 26	Sex M	Resident Status
		Home Phone (501) 555-8243	Work Phone		Other Phone	DL (#, ST) 648157895, AR		
US Citizen Yes	Legal Alien	Doc Type		Immig Doc #	Nationality			
Home Address 7352 S. Market St., Little Rock, AR 72232					Employer			
Work Address					Occupation Educational Consultant			
Victim Type Individual	Injury Type Gunshot	Aggravated Assault/Homicide Circumstances			Relationship To Suspect Former Business Partner			
Justifiable Homicide Circumstances Victim in possession of knife				Taken to: (Hospital Name) n/a (victim pronounced dead at scene)				
Injury Description Two gunshots: head, chest								

<b>Suspect #1 - Arrestee #20-A00044</b>								
SSN/ID/TIN <b>redacted</b>	Title	Name <b>Cumberland, Scout</b>			DOB 09/01/1995	Age 26	Sex U	
		Home Phone (501) 555-1002	Work Phone		Other Phone	DL (#, ST) 648000000, AR		
US Citizen Yes	Legal Alien	Doc Type		Immig Doc #	Nationality			
Home Address 1957 Daisy Bates Gatson Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202					Employer			
Work Address					Occupation Unemployed			
Height -	Weight -	Eyes	Build	AKA				

Arresting Officer 528 - Rayburn, Alex	Arrest Date 12/14/2021	Time 12:17	Arrest Type	Warrant Number 2021310	Juv Disp	Disposition Date		
Multiple Clearance Indicator Arrest Cleared Incident			BAC	BAC Operator	Arrest Location Suspect's Home		Zone	
Weapons At Arrest 01 - Unarmed					Court Date	Court Name		Time

<b>Witness #1</b>								
SSN/ID/TIN	Title	Name			DOB	Age	Sex	
Race		Ethnicity	Home Phone	Work Phone	Other Phone	DL (#, ST)		
US Citizen	Legal Alien	Doc Type		Immig Doc #	Nationality			
Home Address					Employer			
Work Address					Occupation			

**Narrative & Statements**

**Narrative - Rayburn, Alex - 12/03/2021 (Initial)**

On 12/02/2021 at approximately 19:55, I received a call indicating that there had been a shooting at the Little Rock School Board school meeting. I arrived at the scene at approximately 20:06. Building security directed me to a meeting room where board members were present. Just before arriving to the room, I observed a white sheet on the floor. The sheet covered the body of the victim. Victim was dead on arrival, the result of two gunshot wounds. I took statements from suspect, Addy Adams, Charlie Goodman, and Robin Weston.

Suspect stated that they followed victim out of the meeting room after an argument. Suspect stated that victim reached for a knife and that suspect pulled out their gun and shot twice. Suspect said that they shot victim in self-defense. Suspect had a calm demeanor throughout the interview.

Adams demanded that I arrest suspect. Adams said that suspect yelled to victim, "I know that you aren't a racist or anything. But that has nothing to do with you being the biggest piece of [redacted] I know." Adams said that victim left the room and that suspect followed and continued to scream profanities. Adams said that he did not hear everything, but he heard suspect yell, "You can't handle anything that brings you down from your ivory tower." Adams also heard suspect yell, "Make me," followed seconds later by two gun shots. Chose not to continue the interview, as Adams was visible distraught.

Weston stated that they were sitting between suspect and victim when the argument began. Weston's account was similar to Adams' account, but Weston said that he observed victim make a movement with his left hand immediately before the shooting. Weston recounted that suspect owned a knife and often had it in his possession. Weston also recounted a confrontation between suspect and victim after a previous board meeting.

Goodman stated that he attempted CPR after the shooting but that nothing could be done. Goodman also recalled tension between suspect and victim.

No arrest at this time. Likely self-defense.

#### **12/15/2021 (addendum)**

Further interview with Drew Arden, former employee of suspect and victim. Arden stated that suspect and victim previously had a dispute over ownership of a diamond and that suspect and victim that they would "personally make sure that Riley got what was coming to him." Text messages recovered from phones from suspect and victim confirm continued hostility between the two. Asked Arden whether he had known victim to be violent. Arden said that victim was not violent and could only recall one incident involving a fight at a sporting event, resulting in injuries to victim's hand.

I followed up with Adams. Adams stated that, before the meeting, he saw suspect take the gun from the trunk of their car to their inside jacket pocket. I also received an autopsy report, concluding that the death was a homicide.

Suspect arrested on 12/14/2021.