

EXHIBIT

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would advise. Although Blaise had never been on probation or in trouble with the law she knew that Laura was my friend and Laura often stopped in our classrooms to visit with other students that were on probation. So all my students knew Laura.

8. After teaching my classes at the jail that day I stopped in the Juvenile Probation Office at the Courthouse in Pioche to visit Laura Johnson but she was not in, so I left a note that said I had stopped in and would she please call me at her convenience. I did not say what it was about.
9. The next time I was in Pioche to teach a class I again stopped after the class to see Laura. She was there at that time. I told her of Blaise's visit and asked her what she thought Blaise should do if anything. I told her we, Blaise and I, had talked about calling my brother-in-law, a Las Vegas Metro policeman for advice but she said that would not be a good idea that she would call a friend of hers and than she'd get back to us. At that time both Blaise and I felt we had done everything she needed to do. At no time did I ever say Blaise killed a man nor did I say she was hiding herself or her car. In fact Blaise's car was parked on the public street in front of her Dad's house as several neighbors have verified.
10. Panaca is a small rural town, where everyone knows everyone, and a couple of days after I had visited Laura Johnson's office I went up to the school bus barn to pick up the van when a friend walked up to me and told me one of my former students had just been arrested for a murder of a man in Las Vegas.
11. On July 26, 2001 Las Vegas Metro Police Detective Tom Thowsen with two other people interviewed me at my home in Panaca. The detective talked with me for a long time before he turned on his tape recorder. He tried to feed me answers as he tried to get me to say what he wanted me to say that Blaise told me and not what she actually said. Even after he turned on the tape recorder he repeatedly stopped it to interject and attempt to influence me about what to say, and then restart it. The detective did that a number of times during the recording. I told the detective several times during the interview that Blaise did not tell me she killed the man, and that she specifically said he was standing when she escaped from him. I also told them that from what I had been told I thought the man may not have been hurt as seriously as Blaise believed, and maybe he never ever sought medical assistance. Blaise often colored her adventures to get more attention but I believe Thowsen had made up his mind that Blaise was guilty of the murder he was investigating and he didn't want to hear the truth or anything that might cast a doubt. Since I could not remember the dates of when Blaise first came to talk to me or the date I finally met up with Laura, I told him all he had to do was check at the jail because I had to log in & out every time I taught there. To my knowledge he never checked. Later I told the DA and Blaise's attorney the same thing. Perhaps I was wrong that I didn't check for myself, but I believed Blaise would be cleared and the charges dropped.
12. After my interview with the Metro officers I had conversations with Laura Johnson about Blaise's case, and prior to the hearing Laura had a lot of doubt that Blaise committed the murder that she was being charged with. She even told me she had visited the scene of the murder in Las Vegas to see if it matched the place I had described that Blaise had told me about when she was attacked. Laura also told me that pressure was put on her to support the prosecution's case against Blaise. I got the impression that Laura was afraid of repercussions

in her job. By the next time I saw Laura and talked to her I realized they must have succeed because Laura's whole attitude had changed and I felt she was no longer my friend.

13. I believe Laura Johnson told me that Lincoln County Sheriff Deputy Kerry Lee did not think Blaise was guilty of the murder she was charged with committing at the time of her arrest. He had accompanied the Las Vegas Detectives to Blaise's parents home when she was arrested. Kerry Lee is now the Lincoln County Sheriff.
14. I was subpoenaed by the prosecution to testify at Blaise's preliminary hearing in 2001 and at both of her trials in 2002 and 2006. I felt like I was treated as a hostile witness in all cases. I would like to know why? I never lied. I believe my statements have stayed steady. I do not believe Blaise did or could commit murder. I tried to get police, the DA and even her attorneys to look into past records that would have been available to them to prove Blaise's innocence. If you review Laura's statements you will see that she had several inaccuracies and changes. Mine have stayed steady.
15. I have had no contact whatsoever with Blaise since her arrest on July 20, 2001 other than seeing her when I testified in 2001, 2002, and 2006.
16. Blaise told me about a very large man attempting to rape her in Las Vegas who was alive when she got away from him. She did not tell me about a man's murder or mutilation after he had died. I absolutely believe Blaise is innocent of the crimes she was convicted of committing.
17. I am executing this AFFIDAVIT voluntarily and of my own free will. No force has been used upon me, and no threats or promises made to me by anyone.


DIXIE A. TIENKEN

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 13th day of February 2010.


Notary Public

Kendre Thunstrom

