

# **APPENDIX E**

OFFICE OF  
SHELBY COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER  
REGIONAL FORENSIC CENTER  
1060 MADISON AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38104-2106

A81-351



J.T. FRANCISCO, M.D.  
MEDICAL EXAMINER  
901-448-6200

21 February 2000

Mr. John Campbell  
Asst. Attorney General  
201 Poplar Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Mr. Campbell:


I have reviewed the Report of Investigation by County Medical Examiner for Shelby Co. Tennessee, Case C81-1699 on Ronald D. Oliver and his following Autopsy Report A81-351, performed on August 6, 1981 by Dr. James Spencer Bell, M.D. I have also examined the twelve remaining Polaroid® photographs, chest x-ray and the histology slides (including those of Gunshot Wound "A"). As a result, I have come to the following conclusions:

1. Dr. Bell's description of the wounds placing the entrance wound at the left chest and the exit wound at the right back is correct.
2. The entrance wound is 30/100 of an inch in diameter, the exit wound is 64/100 by 21/100 of an inch in dimension.
3. The wounds could have been made by the Winchester-Western .45ACP Silverrip® 185 grain hollowpoint bullet.

Accounts referring to expert testimony for Mr. Workman's defense stated the exit wound is only one-quarter inch in dimension and therefore inconsistent with that expected from a bullet of this type. This claim is not substantiated for the following reasons.

1. The exit wound is larger than one-quarter of an inch, measuring 64/100 by 21/100 of an inch in dimension. Given the dynamics under which a bullet exits the body, this wound is of ample size to allow this bullet to exit.
2. Assumptions claiming this bullet design deforms easily, producing a much larger diameter projectile, fragments easily and is unlikely to exit are generalizations, that do not reflect the variety of results seen even under ideal conditions.
3. Hollowpoint bullets may fail to expand appreciably even under laboratory conditions. Autopsy experience shows the design fails even more frequently.

I also reviewed photographs depicting wounds over Mr. Workman's body, these injuries are consistent with dog bites, inconsistent with buckshot or birdshot wounds.

Warmest regards,  
  
G. C. Smith, M.D.