

002  
filed by  
Jays  
9/10/08

Case #: 08B103140

SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT  
STATE OF VERMONT  
ESSEX COUNTY, ss.

NOW COMES Det. SGT Walter F. Smith, affiant(s), being duly sworn and on oath, deposes and says he has probable cause to believe that Christopher Chase **FILED**  
08/10/1980 has committed the offense(s) of Murder, a violation of Title 13, Vermont Statutes Annotated Section 2301.

SEP 10 2008

ESSEX COURT  
BY [Signature]  
CLERK DEPUTY CLERK

The undersigned being duly sworn, deposes and says that I, Walter F. Smith am now and have been for the past 10 years and 6 months, a full time employee of the Vermont State Police, being presently assigned to the St. Johnsbury Barracks as a Detective Sergeant.

In the afternoon of 08/25/2008 I learned that the New York State Police had located Christopher Chase in the Rochester New York area. I was contacted by Investigator James Newell of the New York State Police and advised that they had taken the vehicle operated by Chase to a secure location while they applied for a search warrant. Investigator Newell advised that Chase was talking to them regarding the incident that occurred in Guildhall, VT.

On 08/25/2008 at approximately 1730 hours I had a conversation on the telephone with Investigator James Newell of the New York State Police. Investigator Newell was assisting the Vermont State Police with this investigation and was relaying information to me regarding an interview being conducted with Chase. Investigator Newell advised that Chase had been advised of his rights under Miranda and he, (Chase) agreed to waive them and talk about the incident. Investigator Newell advised that they obtain a written statement and that a recording was not used. Investigator Newell advised that at one point during the interview Chase disclosed to them that he had performed an act of necrophilia anally on the victim. Investigator Newell advised that Chase talked about

Subscribed and sworn to before me on  
this 17<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 2008

[Signature]  
(Affiant)

[Signature]  
(Notary Public) (Judicial Officer)

9/4/08  
(Date)

using a dildo and some lubricant. Investigator Newell advised that Chase explained that he didn't want any one to know that he had performed sexual acts on Sara Bragdon after she was dead and therefore would not include it in the written or typed statement. Investigator Newell advised that Chase talked about taking two chainsaws, a camcorder, digital camera and a nail gun from the Bragdon home when he left. Investigator Newell advised that Chase explained that he brought the items to a pawn shop. Investigator Newell advised that he had sent investigators to a pawn shop where the items were taken and that they had recovered the two chainsaws and the nail gun. Investigator Newell explained that the pawn shop didn't write down the serial numbers to the cameras and they were thrown into a box with many other ones and he had no way of knowing which cameras were the ones brought in by Chase. However, the investigators did recover some sort of receipt from the shop that has Chase's information with it. A more detailed account of this will be provided in a report being produced by Investigator Newell.

I spoke with LT Warren Whitney of the Vermont State Police Crime Search Team and he advised that while searching the area around Sara Bragdon's body they had recovered a dildo, some KY Jelly and some wipes.

On 8/25/2008 at approximately 1444 hours I met with Alfred Bragdon at the Vermont State Police Barracks located in the Town of St. Johnsbury, VT. During our conversation Bragdon advised that Chase had been seeing Sara for approximately six to seven weeks. Alfred advised that he did have a rifle that was kept in a case behind the bedroom door and also said that he had a 22 caliber rifle as well. Alfred advised that Sara didn't allow anyone but herself and Alfred to drive her vehicle. Alfred advised that Sara did not allow Chase to drive her vehicle.

On 08/25/2008 at approximately 1858 hours I received a fax from Investigator Newell. The fax consisted of a three page statement. The statement is typed and is signed by

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this 4<sup>th</sup> day of Sept, 2008

[Signature]  
(Notary Public) (Judicial Officer)

[Signature]  
(Affiant)

09/04/2008  
(Date)

Christopher Chase, DOB: 08/10/1980. The statement starts with Miranda warnings and a waiver is signed.

Chase stated, "I, Christopher Chase, reside at 144 Fellows Rd. in the Town of Guildhall, Vermont. I have lived there for about a month and I live there with Sara Bragdon and her daughter Kaysia. The house is owned by her father Alfred Bragdon. We met and started dating about a month and a half ago. We meet at the Genfoot factory in Littleton, New Hampshire.

On Friday August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 Sara Bragdon left for work at Genfoot at about twenty after six am. She dropped off Kaysia at her father's, Frank, house on her way to work. At around 9:00 am she called me while she was on break and said she didn't want to be at work anymore. She wanted me to call her work and make something up to get her out of work. I called Kim Lucas the front desk girl that works there and told her that Sara's stepmother was in the hospital and because I wasn't family they wouldn't tell me anything. Sara came home a little after ten in the morning after leaving work. Sara Bragdon and I had sexual intercourse in the rocking recliner that is in the living room when she got home. At around noon we went over to my mom's house. Sara wrote my mom a note so that she could pick up her paycheck at work because she forgot to when she left early that day. My mom went and picked up and brought it back. We cashed Sara's Paycheck at Simon's Market in Littleton, NH. We picked up some Jalapeno poppers and potatoes wedges and went back to my mom's house. We sat around and played yatzee and ate chicken. We left my mom's house and arrived back to our house at around 5:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. On the way back home I stopped and bought a five sack of marijuana. Once we got home, we knew we weren't going to have Kaysia for the night so we decided to have a few drinks. I was drinking a Rum drink that Sara had bought the day before and she was drinking a tequila baja rose. We both shared the marijuana and smoked it out of my metal bowl. We were hanging out smoking cigarettes and crinking, flirting and enjoying the evening. We decided to try and cook some food.

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(Affiant)

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(Notary Public) (Judicial Officer)

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(Date)

By around 9:00 P.M. I had had around four or five drinks of the rum and Sara had around three or four. We were watching wrestling on the television. We were sitting on the couch together and she was laying with her head in my lap. The house is hot because there is no air conditioning so this didn't last long. I went out to have a smoke and when I came back in Sara was laying on the couch and she was falling asleep. She was wearing a shirt and a pair of female boxers. I sat down on the rocking recliner and I watched the wrestling. I fell asleep in the rocking recliner. I fell asleep in just a set of boxers. I must have fallen asleep before ten P.M. because I didn't see the end of wrestling.

I awoke in the recliner at around 5:15 A.M. The television was still on. I sat up to get out of the recliner to go the bathroom. When I sat up I saw a 30/30 long rifle on the floor between myself and Sara and I saw a black box with gun ammunition in it, right there also. The distance between the recliner where I was and the couch that Sara was on was about three feet. When I sat up the gun was basically at my feet. I could see Sara on the couch, she was laying on the couch facedown, with a pillow over her head. She wasn't wearing any underwear and her butt was exposed, her right leg was off the couch off the side touching the floor. I looked closer at her and I could see that there was a hole with burn marks in the pillow that was covering her head. I didn't see any blood. I touched her leg that was hanging off the couch and I could feel that it was ice cold. I knew that she was dead. As soon as I realized Sara was dead, I started to throw up, I ran down to the bathroom and threw up just about everything that was in my system. I stayed in the bathroom for about fifteen minutes then came out to the dining room and sat there, shaking. After sitting in the dining room, I got my thoughts together.

I was trying to figure out what happened. I went around and checked the doors. All the doors were locked. I went and covered Sara with a blanket. I turned off the TV and picked up the long rifle and the black box of ammunition I laid those down by the door and went and took a shower. I knew the rifle was Alfred Bragdon's because I had seen

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(Affiant)

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it before. He kept it behind his bedroom door in a case. It was wood stock long rifle, it is a single shot rifle that is loaded from the top. After I took a shower I gathered together the digital camera, video camera, the 22 rifle, cell phone, cell phone charger, CD's and alcohol. I cleared out Sara's car, a 2004 ford Mustang color red, I left all her stuff and put it in the garage. I then loaded that digital camera, video camera, the 22 rifle, 30/30 rifle, ammunition, cell phone, cell phone charger, CD and alcohol into her car. I also took two chainsaws and a nail gun from the garage. I really didn't have a game plan but figured I could sell them if need be. I took Sara's car and went to get gas in Lancaster, and I tried to buy some marijuana, but my supplier didn't answer. I called my mom and stopped at her house around 9:00 A.M. I didn't tell her what happened, I told my mom that Sara was at the store. I parked at the other end of her apartment complex so she wouldn't see Sara's car.

I started driving and I was trying to figure a reason on how this happened. I was trying to figure out how I could have done this. I am not a stupid person and I can factor things. I don't know if I did this, but when you start adding things up it is the only thing that makes sense. All the doors were locked and Sara was right there in front of me when I fell asleep and the rifle was in front of me when I woke up. I want to kill myself because I think that I killed Sara Bragdon. I feel sorry for her daughter and her father. I know she didn't deserve it."

During the morning of 8/26/2008 I went to the Bragdon home where the incident had occurred. I checked the garage and found a couple car seats and other items that were consistent with the description provided by Chase in his statement. At my request the items were photographed by Corporal Gordon Lambert.

During my time at the Bragdon house, (Crime Scene) I could see that with Chase sitting in the chair and Sara sleeping on the couch, (as stated by Chase) Chase would have had to get up from the chair, walking up a step into the dining area; walk through

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Walter F. White  
(Affiant)

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(Notary Public) (Judicial Officer)

09/07/2008  
(Date)

the dining area, past a door to leave the house and into the bedroom. Then Chase would have had to take the gun case from behind the bedroom door, open the case and remove the rifle. Chase would have had to locate ammunition. Chase would have then had to walk out of the bedroom, back through the dining area, again passing a door to leave the home and step down into the living room. At some point in time during this Chase would have had to take time to load the rifle and then shoot Sara through a pillow and through her head. This was learned through information provided to me by investigators, evidence collected at the scene, my inspection of the crime scene and Chase's statements made to me and to New York State Police investigators.

On 8/26/2008 I asked Trooper Denis Girouard to contact Genfoot and to see if Sara had left work early on Friday as was stated by Chase. TPR Girouard advised that he did contact Genfoot and learned that on Friday a person had called and said that someone was in the hospital and that Sara had to leave. TPR Girouard recorded the phone conversation and also obtained internal e-mail regarding Sara leaving early.

I read a report written by LT. Warren Whitney of the Vermont State Police. LT. Whitney is the Supervisor of the Crime Scene Search Team that responded to the Bragdon residence in Guildhall, VT after Sara Bragdon was found dead. In his report LT. Whitney advises that Sara had been on her stomach, with her right leg extended over the edge of the couch, and her left foot wedged in the crease area of the back of the couch. There was a pillow covering Sara's head and that pillow was removed by a search team member. Prior to moving the pillow, it was noted that the pillow had an apparent defect in it, including a burned area around a fully puncturing hole. There was a black comforter that had been over Sara, from the shoulders down. When this was removed, a number of additional items were subsequently identified. These included several containers of KY lubricant, a dildo, baby wipes and multi colored underwear. The underwear appeared to have been cut off, and a pair of shears was located a short distance away. These items were all sketched and photographed prior to moving. Later

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 (Date)

in his report LT. Whitney advised that Sara was located in the living room, on the couch. Sara was clothed in a white tee shirt, bra, and no other clothing. Sara had several ear rings visible in the right ear. There was apparent blood at the right ear, and there was significant apparent disfigurement or defect on the right side of her forehead.

Detective Sergeant Robert Snetsinger is assigned to the Medical Examiners Office by the Vermont State Police. Det/Sgt Snetsinger responded to the scene with the search team. Det/Sgt Snetsinger produced a report detailing his involvement. In his report Det/Sgt Snetsinger advised that once the photographs of the body and evidence collection around the body were complete, he then conducted a visual examination of Sara. Det/Sgt Snetsinger advised that Sara appeared to be a heavy set female who was lying face down on the couch in the living room. Sara's right leg was hanging off the front of the couch with her knee on the floor and her arms were up around her head which was mostly face down. Det/Sgt Snetsinger observed that there appeared to be blood around Sara's head and face and possibly fractures of the skull. Det/Sgt Snetsinger advised that Sara wasn't wearing any pants or underwear and her rectum was open and actively leaking a somewhat clear fluid. In addition Sara's body showed other signs of decomposition including marbling on the skin, strong odor inside the residence and skin slippage of the hands.

Det/Sgt Snetsinger advised that he then placed a clean, white sheet on the floor and Sara was rolled from the couch onto the sheet lying on her back. Further examination showed additional skin slippage on the front of the torso and a large amount of trauma to the head. He noted that the head and facial features of the victim appeared to be deformed under the skin indicating possible multiple skull fractures and an irregular, but somewhat circular, defect was located at Sara's lower left cheek. This defect appeared to be possibly consistent with a gunshot wound. Further inspection showed no other obvious signs of injury or trauma to Sara's arms, legs or torso.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of SEPT 2008

Nathaniel L. Hill  
(Affiant)

[Signature]  
(Notary Public) (Judge/Clerk)

09/04/2008  
(Date)

On 08/28/2008 I received a facsimile, (fax) from the New York State Police. The fax was a list of evidence collected from Sara Bragdon's vehicle, which was recovered in New York at the same time Christopher Chase was taken into custody. Included in this list was a Winchester model 94 30-30 caliber rifle. There was a live 30-30 round removed from the rifle. The list shows a black "Remington" case containing fifteen, (15) Win. 30-30 live rounds of ammunition. There is also one other live 30-30 round recovered from inside the vehicle. Also recovered from inside the vehicle was an "ERMA-Werke" .22 Caliber rifle model EM 122. This list shows that a plastic case containing seventy one, (71) live .22 caliber rounds of ammunition recovered from the vehicle as well. The vehicle also contained a magazine, (clip) containing a live .22 caliber round of ammunition. The list also shows that a pornographic magazine titled, "Naughty Neighbors" was also recovered along with a compact disc titled, "Hot talking Naughty Neighbors". I also saw that an opened bottle of "Baja Rosa" liquor was collected from the vehicle.

There were various other items collected from Sara's vehicle as well and those items are listed on the evidence inventory forms.

Items collected at the crime scene and submitted to the Forensic Laboratory for examination include a 30-30 caliber cartridge casing, a bullet, multi colored underwear, a dildo and KY Jelly, baby wipes found on the floor and a container of baby wipes.

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 this 4<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 2008

Walter F. [Signature]  
 (Affiant)

[Signature]  
 (Notary Public) (Judicial Officer)

09/04/2008  
 (Date)