

Sitting on the fence: “Inconclusive” is not a dead end

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Cybergenetics

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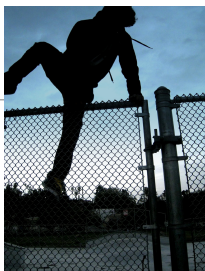
“Handprints in the morning dew”



State of Louisiana v. Hilton Wilson
and Reokenski Thomas

2

The crime

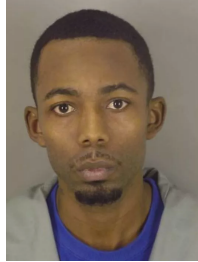


- July 22, 2013 in Ville Platte, LA
- Shots heard on East Washington Street
- Joseph & Derrick John

3

The crime

- That night, Joseph John dies in the hospital
- 3 months later, Derrick John makes identification
- Reokenski Thomas becomes a suspect



Reokenski Thomas

4

The investigation

- Shooting was precipitated by an earlier argument
- Shell casings and bullet in victim
- Footsteps on grass lead up to fence



5

The evidence: An example of great investigative work



Detective on scene swabbed two handprints that disturbed the morning dew

6

Exhibit 13: Swab from post running north and south – A

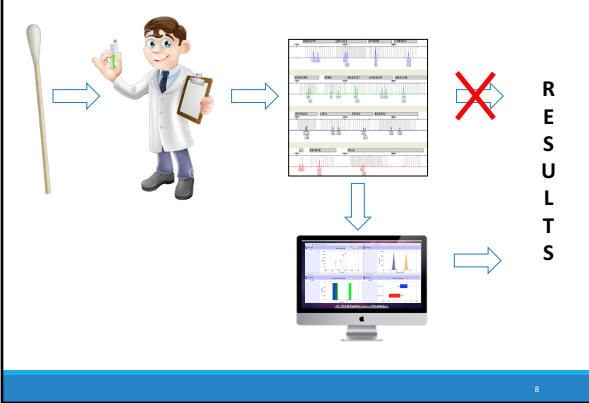
"Due to the limited nature of the profile, **no conclusions** regarding the inclusion or exclusion of any contributor can be made."

Exhibit 14: Swab from post running north and south – B

"...was consistent with being a mixture of DNA from **at least two individuals**. Due to the nature of the profile, no statistical analysis could be performed at this time. Therefore, **no conclusions** regarding Hilton Wilson and Reakenski Thomas can be made."

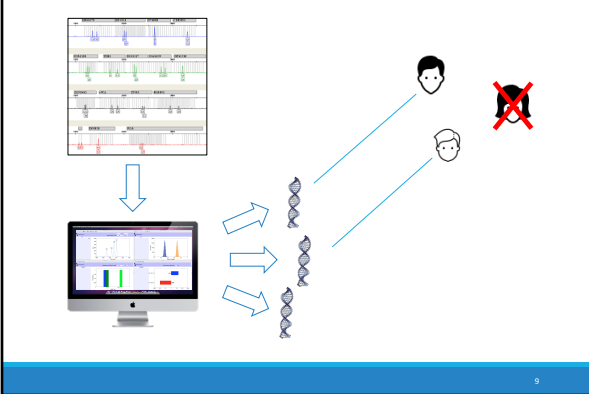
7

Solving DNA mixtures



8

Are the suspects in the evidence?




Match statistics

Exhibit	Description	19	20	21	27
		Hilton Wilson	Reokenski Thomas	Suspect C	Suspect D
13	post - A	70.9 thousand	335 thousand		
14	post - B	23.1 million	6.28 million		
13 & 14	posts - A & B	157 million	340 million		

DNA evidence in the courtroom

- Seven-day trial in Judge Chuck West's courtroom
- ADA Marcus Fontenot introduces DNA evidence
- On March 10, 2016, Dr. Mark Perlin testifies at the trial in Ville Platte, LA
- TrueAllele match statistics



Guilty verdicts handed down in Thomas-Wilson murder trial
Ville Platte Gazette

TrueAllele statistically matched the defendants' DNA to the DNA collected from the fence at the crime scene.

"After seven days of listening to eye witness and expert testimony, an Evangeline Parish Jury of 12 found Reokinski Thomas and Hilton Wilson guilty of **first degree murder** and **attempted first degree murder.**"
Ville Platte Today

The prosecutors polled the jury after trial – the DNA was **crucial** in obtaining the convictions

Keys to success

1. Evidence collection
2. Lab develops DNA
3. Lab sends data to Cybergentics
4. TrueAllele match statistics
5. Expert testimony
6. Justice is served

“DNA is key.”
- Investigator Marcus Aucoin

13

“It’s definitely worth every nickel. It’s going to make a huge difference in law enforcement. It’s worth whatever it costs.”

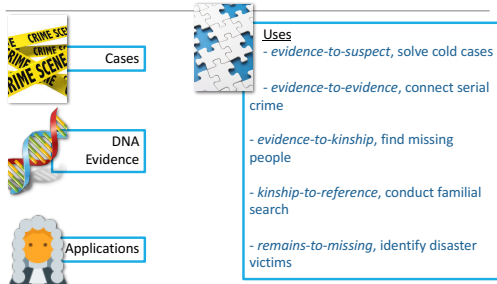
“Dr. Perlin’s testimony was very key. Probably wouldn’t have gotten a conviction without him.”



- Investigator Aucoin

14

TrueAllele® Experience



Over 500 case reports filed on DNA evidence

15



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Thank you!

For more information

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16
