

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF LAKE)

IN THE LAKE SUPERIOR COURT
CRIMINAL DIVISION I

STATE OF INDIANA

v.

ROWAN HYDE

Cause No. 45D01-1116-CR-1619

Defendant.

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury of the County of Lake upon their oath or affirmation do present that ROWAN HYDE on or about the 10th day of September, 2016 in Crown Point, Lake County, in the state of Indiana knowingly, intentionally, and deliberately, and by means of slashing the throat of Lou Contralto, murdered him, in violation of Indiana Code 35-42-1-1.

I swear, under penalty of perjury, as specified by IC 35-44-2-1, that the foregoing representations are true.

/s/ Foreperson

1 spotted by one of his old friends from Chicago at a casino, or another time Lou had his picture in
2 a local paper after winning \$5,000 in a lottery scratch-off. Exhibit 2 is a true and accurate
3 compilation of the dates of Lou's various relocations, and the reason for the moves. I have not
4 included the locations of the relocations for the security and protection of current or future
5 protected witnesses. I created this compilation based upon my personal knowledge of the
6 relocations at the time they occurred.

7 As time passed, it was less critical for me or the U.S. Marshal's Service to have as much
8 frequent contact with the Contraltos. As time progresses, the witness and family members have
9 an easier time assimilating into a new community and need less assistance from the U.S.
10 Marshal. Also, the witnesses understand better why adherence to the established guidelines is
11 for their protection. On the other hand, witnesses can become more complacent and can forget
12 about those most important guidelines. After the first year following the trials, I found it
13 unnecessary to contact Lou every week. Sometimes in the latter years it would be a few months
14 between follow-up communications. When I was reassigned to Brooklyn in 2010, my new job
15 responsibilities limited the time I had available to contact Lou. However, Lou and Ricci had my
16 direct dial telephone number and were told that if anything suspicious or of concern to them ever
17 occurred, they were to contact me and I would drop everything and see to their safety and
18 protection. I do not keep logs of the communications I have with my witnesses or their family
19 members. I have an excellent memory – nearly photographic. More important, it is risky to the
20 witness and family members to have written documentation that could possibly be intercepted
21 and then used by a hitman or Mafia member to harm or kill the witness and family member.

22 Neither Lou nor Ricci contacted me between 2013 and 2016 with any suspicions that
23 would lead me to believe that a hitman was an imminent threat. Otherwise, I would have
24 immediately relocated them to another community. In fact, I have no recollection of receiving
25 any calls, except for one call on July 4th, 2013 from Ricci. He/she was nervous about hearing a
26 gunshot. I immediately spoke to Officer Jerry Bilt, who investigated the matter at my request.
27 Officer Bilt determined that the sound heard by Ricci was a firecracker that had been set off.
28 There were no other calls, as far as I recall, except for Ricci's call on September 13, 2016 to
29 report that Lou was missing. If Ricci observed suspicious events in the days and weeks prior to
30 Lou's death, he/she may not have mentioned it to me for fear that yet another relocation would
31 be required. After this last relocation to Crown Point, Ricci was angry and adamant that he/she
32 was tired of moving. I was never made aware of possible secret meetings that Lou Contralto
33 may have had with former Tessitura cohorts. Regardless, if a hitman was closing in on Lou and
34 Ricci, there likely would have been some chatter from informants or undercover moles. There
35 were none.

36 When Lou and Ricci were relocated to Crown Point, Indiana, they assumed the identities
37 of Lou King and Jo King, respectively. I was against Lou using his real first name. I had begun
38 preparing the paperwork for his identity to be Lee King, but he was able to manipulate the
39 paperwork, and it went in as Lou King. Due to the number of years that had passed since the
40 trial, I was not overly concerned or I would have changed his name right back. I spoke with the
41 local authorities, specifically Officer Jerry Bilt, that the Kings were in the witness protection
42 program and that they may need protection. I asked Officer Bilt to keep an eye out for anything
43 suspicious. The government set up Lou in his own business in Crown Point. The business was
44 in the sale and installation of underground electric fences for homeowners to keep their pets

1 movements. Ricci stated he/she had raised these concerns to Marshal Teed a week or two prior
2 to Lou's death, but nothing had come of it. Certainly, I was never made aware of the suspicious
3 strangers lurking in the neighborhood. Otherwise, I would have investigated it immediately.

4 I then interviewed Rowan Hyde. Rowan freely spoke to me and did not lawyer up.
5 He/she also granted full access to his/her home. Rowan said that he/she had nothing to hide.
6 During my interrogation of Rowan, his/her account placed Lou Contralto at his/her home at
7 approximately 19:32 hours on September 10, 2016. Rowan stated that Contralto had barged into
8 the front foyer of his/her house. Lou had demanded taking Grendel to have the dog euthanized.
9 Rowan asserted that he/she intended to fight it, and thus would not release the dog unless there
10 was a court order. Lou lunged toward Grendel, who then went into full attack mode. Grendel bit
11 Lou several times on the hand and forearm. The bites marks observed on the hands and arm as
12 reflected in the autopsy report are consistent with Rowan's account. Rowan also described Lou
13 pulling out a switchblade and stabbing Grendel relentlessly. Grendel finally collapsed on the
14 foyer rug, and bled out. According to Rowan, Lou then left the house, holding pressure on some
15 of the puncture wounds caused by Grendel. Rowan assumed that Lou was returning to his/her
16 home. Rowan was consumed with grief of the death of Grendel and said he/she did not pay
17 much attention to Lou's departure from the house or even whether he/she was around over the
18 weekend. Rowan described Ricci Contralto's follow-up visit on Sunday evening, September
19 11th, inquiring as to the whereabouts of his/her father. Rowan said that when Ricci talked to
20 Rowan about Lou's absence, Rowan was equally puzzled.

21 At the scene, I used luminol to determine if there were bloodstains present. There were
22 some bloodstain spatters, but not what I would have expected for a homicide involving a slashed
23 throat. I had a test run on the blood stains to determine whether the bloodstains were human or
24 canine, given the account by Rowan of the stabbing of Grendel. The results of those tests
25 showed that most of the blood stains were canine. However, there were bloodstains located by
26 the front door that were human. Those bloodstains were low velocity blood stains which would
27 indicate that the stains were the result of having a puncture wound and the blood dripping by
28 virtue of gravity. I then tested the DNA of the bloodstains located by Hyde's front door. The
29 DNA was found to be that of Lou Contralto.

30 Rowan explained the absence of the front foyer rug. He/she explained that the rug was
31 saturated with blood from the stabbing of Grendel, so Rowan rolled Grendel in the rug and
32 brought the dog to Rowan's place of business, where he/she buried Grendel. That location is
33 approximately four miles from Rowan's residence. Hyde stated that he/she discarded the rug in
34 a nearby landfill. We were never able to locate the rug.

35 Rowan provided complete access to the business property, and gave me permission to
36 exhume Grendel. Grendel was buried on the property just as Hyde had described. The business
37 is located on West 125th Street, four miles west of Crown Point, about half way between Crown
38 Point and Cedar Lake. Cedar Lake is about 8 miles west of Crown Point, or a 15-minute drive
39 from Contralto's home. Grendel was wrapped in a blanket and the dog's body had multiple
40 stabbing wounds. The DNA testing of tissue and blood in the dog's canines was a match for Lou
41 Contralto.

Lake County Sheriff Department Criminal Investigations Division Detective Bureau		Supplemental Investigation Report	
Case # 09130115-16		Prepared by: J. Bilt	
Date of Initial Investigation 09/13/16			
Location of Incident/Street Address	City	County	
12150 Hidden Links Drive	Crown Point	Lake	
Ashore near lake	Cedar Lake		
Type of Incident/Crime/Description of events Homicide			
Victim – Lou Contralto a/k/a Lou King (deceased)			
Supplemental Investigation Report			
<p>09/14/1611:00 Corpse washed ashore; appears to be Lou Contralto (LC) aka Lou King. Field observations, body has begun some decomposition, Slashed throat. Cutthroat wound is elongated suggesting large knife used. Some deep wounds to right hand, and left forearm. No identification on body. \$650 cash located on decedent. Rope wrapped haphazardly around feet of LC appears to have been hastily tied. Haphazard; sloppy. Rope unraveled. Likely tied to cement block. Ropes did not keep body submerged. No obvious tire tracks at lake property. No discernable footprints. Unable to obtain any trace evidence, such as fibers from decedent's body and clothing due to water submersion of the body. Body bagged and delivered to Coroner.</p> <p>09/14/16 12:45 Informed Ricci Contralto (RC) aka Jo King that father is deceased and that body was dumped at Cedar Lake. RC states that the Tessitura mafia family killed LC. RC had observed suspicious strangers hanging around the neighborhood</p> <p>09/14/16 1:30 Interviewed Rowan Hyde (neighbor). On 9/10/16, LC barged into RH house threatens to kill pet. LC lunges toward canine, who attacks LC. Canine bites LC several times on the hand and forearm LC kills pet with multiple stabbings. LC received puncture wounds on hand. LC leaves and RH never sees LC again. RH uses area rug to roll up deceased pet, describes dragging it to put in back of vehicle. Buried canine on property near place of business. Discards rug at landfill because saturated with blood.</p> <p>09/14/16 3:15 RH grants access to house and car. Multiple knives located. Several large blades, may be consistent with wound. No trace blood evidence on knives. Use luminol to determine whether blood stains present, and if so pattern. Luminol reveals some small bloodstain spatters on walls in foyer and low velocity bloodstain droplets on floor by door. Large blood droplets at Rowan Hyde house – size 6 mm Bloodstain samples taken to determine if it is human or canine blood and to run DNA testing. Examine clothing owned by RH – none has trace evidence of blood from victim. No trace evidence located in vehicle.</p> <p>09/14/16 RH grants access to exhume body of pet located on property of Cutting Edge Company. Physical examination of canine. Initial observation – canine is wrapped in blanket and laid with care in makeshift grave. Canine had multiple stab wounds, appear to be from a small blade. Samples taken to confirm DNA of blood and tissue in dog's canines.</p>			

09/14/16 Obtain statement from neighbor across street at 12151 Hidden Links. C. Day is eyewitness to rolled rug being put in back of vehicle on night of LC's disappearance

09/22/16 – lab results returned. Confirmed human blood for bloodstain near RH front door; matches DNA of LC. Bloodstain spatter pattern on wall in foyer tests positive for DNA match. Blood and tissue in RH's pet's teeth also contains matching DNA for LC.

09/22/16 – Autopsy report – confirms death by knife wound to neck. Additional wounds noted on hand and arm. Blunt blow to head present but not cause of death. See autopsy report for further findings.

Exhibit 4

2 of 2

LAKE COUNTY AUTOPSY REPORT

Name: Contralto, Lou aka King, Lou	Date of Birth: 9/17/77
Height – 5/10 Weight 170	Sex: Male
Date of Death: 09/10/16 -09/11/16	Body Identified by: 09/14/16 decedent's son/daughter; DNA testing on 9/22/16
Case # 09130115-16	Investigative Agency: Lake County Sheriff's Department

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The autopsy is begun at 9:00 A.M. on September 14, 2016.

- 1) Incised cut throat injury of size 17x2 cm present over anterior part of neck in midline above the level of thyroid cartilage and cavity deep. Margins are sharp and clean cut.

Dissection discloses that the wound path is through the skin, the subcutaneous tissue, and the sternocleidomastoid muscle with hemorrhage along the wound path and transection of the left internal jugular vein, with dark red-purple hemorrhage in the adjacent subcutaneous tissue and fascia. The direction of the pathway is upward and slightly front to back for a distance of approximately 4 inches where it exits, post-auricular, in a 2 inch in length gaping stab/incised wound which has undulating or wavy borders, but not serrated.

- 2) Incised wound of size 0.4x0.1 cm present over right thumb palmer aspect of proximal aspect.

3.) The back of the right hand has multiple avulsed and oblique incisions and lacerations, mostly incisions, ranging from 1.5-3.2 cm long. All are superficial, linear incised wound involving only the skin.

4.) The left distal forearm has an incised wound of 3 x 5 cm surface area with abrasions and superficial incisions. Just proximal to that and more medial are two (2) parallel, linear, thin abrasions.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:

On dissection of neck skin, soft tissue, muscles including platysma and sternocleidomastoid on both sides were cut, larynx at third tracheal ring, esophagus, and deeply situated carotid sheath jugular veins and carotid arteries on both sides of neck were sharply cut. Dried dark red colored blood was seen in lumen of trachea.

Abdominal wall was intact and no free fluid in peritoneal cavity noted. Internal organs were intact and pale. Spine and spinal cord was intact with no injuries. Skull shows evidence of blunt trauma. No fractures, superficial only, and not cause of death. Brain and dura was intact, brain was soft and edematous. Thoracic wall was intact with no rib fracture, both lungs were intact, pale and edematous. Heart was normal in size and shape and no abnormality was detected.