

AFFIDAVIT OF FRANK E. MELTON

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF Hinds

I, FRANK E. MELTON, am at least eighteen (18) years old and I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth below.

1. My name is Frank Melton. I am the Mayor of Jackson, Mississippi.
2. On or about August 26, 2006, I was in the Jackson Police Department's Mobile Command Unit (MCU). With me were Michael Recio and Marcus Wright, the JPD officers assigned to mayoral security detail.
3. Michael Recio had his son, Devonta Recio, with him that night. I believe his son was fifteen (15) years old at the time.
4. We took a group of teenagers and young men to a Saints exhibition football game at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Jackson, Mississippi. That was the only event planned for that evening.
5. We attended the game, which was between the Saints and the Colts. We stayed for approximately half of the game.
6. At that time, we left the game on my orders to conduct safe neighborhood enforcement.
7. I had been concerned about drug activity at 1305 Ridgeway Street, Jackson, Mississippi. On the night of August 26, 2006, I ordered Recio to drive to the house on two (2) different occasions.
8. The first trip began at approximately 8:00 p.m., when I directed Officer Recio to drive the MCU to 1305 Ridgeway Street and to park it in front of the house.
9. After the first trip to 1305 Ridgeway, I directed Officer Recio to drive the MCU to the hospital because I had cut my hand when I knocked out shards of glass from the windows that were already broken in an attempt to keep the children in the neighborhood from cutting themselves. I then told Officer Recio to drive the MCU to my home.

- 10. A short time later, I directed Officer Recio to drive the MCU back to the home at 1305 Ridgeway Street because I received a call from someone who said that a female was being held at 1305 Ridgeway Street against her will.
- 11. At no time, did Officer Recio participate in any way in any activity aimed at the destruction of the house at 1305 Ridgeway Street. Nor did he participate in any way in official observation of the events in question. He was an observer of the events, just as were the neighbors at that location. He was with me that night at my direction because he was assigned to my protection detail.
- 12. During both trips to the home at 1305 Ridgeway Street, Michael Recio primarily stayed in the MCU. He stayed on the bus because he knew there was a gun on the bus and to watch over his teenage son. The only time he exited the MCU on the first trip was to talk to Evans Welch and on the second trip to get Welch to check on and process outstanding warrants. Officer Recio called JPD to conduct a background check on Evans Welch. After learning that Evans Welch had outstanding warrants, Officer Recio called from a transport unit to arrest Welch.
- 13. If separate trials were held and Recio's trial took place after mine. I would be willing to testify to these facts on behalf of Michael Recio no matter the results of my trial whether it be acquittal, conviction or a hung jury.
- 14. My defense is contrary to that of Michael Recio.

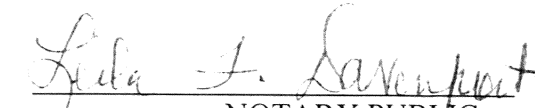
FURTHER, AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 3 day of ^{april 4th}~~March~~, 2009.



 FRANK E. MELTON

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me, this the 3rd day of ^{april}~~March~~, 2009.



 NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires:

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 21, 2010