

Statement of Tyler Voight at 414 S. 6th Street, Arson Unit, Marshall City Police Department, Room 17. January 4, 2006, 10:30 a.m.

Present: Detective Chester Wynne, Marshall City Police Department; Thompson County Assistant State's Attorney Lily Garcia; Jennifer Truesdale, Esq.; and Tyler Voight.

CW [Det. Chester Wynne]: For the record, this is a statement, the voluntary statement, of Tyler Voight concerning the arson at Treasure Homes, the New Years Eve arson and act of terrorism –

TV [Tyler Voight]: – day, technically. New Years Day --

CW: – We'll, get to that. I make these preliminary remarks first.

TV: Sorry.

CW: Just procedure. Concerning an arson at the Treasure Homes construction site, 5900 block of north Volini Drive, Marshall City. January 1, 2006. You have your attorney with you. Counsel, please identify yourself for the record.

JT [Jennifer Truesdale]: My name is Jennifer Truesdale [spells], Attorney. I'm here with Tyler Voight.

CW: There are no charges pending against you, Tyler. You can leave whenever you want. Of course you can have an attorney with you while you make the, your statement.

JT: Tyler wants to help you out, but wants to make sure that everyone understands that this is voluntary. If I sense that it is appropriate, I will counsel Tyler to stop making the statement.

TV: I'll tell you everything I know. I don't want any more trouble than I may be in.

CW: OK. Just say what you came here to say. We have a lot of people giving us leads on this. We will take your statement, too.

TV: The fire was done by River Moon. See, we had this New Year's Eve party, OK? And people were all like smoking pot and talking about what to do with Treasure Homes since project leaf lost the battle to stop the development. OK? So, in December, the Moon asked me about bombs, making a bomb, OK? Moon was so mad and high and I am, like, positive that Moon did it after we left the party.

CW: Please slow down a bit. You mean, River Moon of Project Leaf? Reporter, that's Project capitals L-E-A-F, with an exclamation mark.

TV: OK. That's right. Project Leaf. I'm part of that. But I was not trying to get anyone to make a bomb. I never agreed to anything like that. I don't want any part of it.

CW: You better start from the beginning. It will help if we get background.

TV: Well, OK. Start back in November, 2004 then. I was finishing up a research project on vehicle emissions in Marshall City. Wow, I better start back a little further. OK. I live over on Wayne in Marshall City. That's with my folks. I moved back like in 1999 to go full time to college at MCCC -- Marshall City Community College. Like, I was working before that, worked at a Big Pics video store like right after I graduated high school. I was promoted to day shift manager. So, OK. It's not cool living with the parents. But, you know, they could use my help around the house too. And, hey, it's free while I get through school. OK. So while I'm doing this paper

I realize the incredible increase in vehicle emissions in Marshall City in the 1990s. I see these massive vehicles on the road. So I check, but even though there's a small actual increase in the number of cars, it's the larger sized cars which is causing the air quality to decrease. In some areas, Marshall City is experiencing declined –

JT: Tyler. Can we focus?

TV: Right. Sorry. So, I am doing this paper and see this stuff, and I knew I wanted to get involved in air quality. So, like, I won the MCCC award for the 2005 Chemistry Paper Writing Contest -- \$100 – the research paper, the contest paper, won an award and I got an "A" in Chemistry because of that paper, even though only three students entered, my paper was the best. In June 2006, I graduate MCCC, get my Associate Degree, and I'm wait-listed at University of Thompson, Marshall City Campus. You know, UMT? Go Wolfpack?

JT: Tyler.

TV: Right. Anyway I don't want anything to mess-up my chances. So, don't lump me in with any violent stuff. I never told Moon I would have anything to do with burning or bombing, you know?

CR: What does this have to do with the fire on January 1, 2006, at the Treasure Homes site?

TV: I am getting to that. See, I joined Leaf to alert people that cars are ruining our air. But Leaf also stands for clean water and open spaces, open land, especially near the lake. I don't want to have to move to Montana to breathe or drink clean water. I mean, we got to work and live right here, and breathe, too. So, I saw a flyer in January or early February like a year ago on campus. It was to meet to do a rally at a Hummer dealership. It

was righteous, cosmic. The theme was love mother earth on Valentines Day. At the meeting, I met Teak River. You should talk to Teak; Teak will know a lot more than me about all this. Teak is an awesome advocate for mother earth. So, I go to the rally. Maybe I'm not supposed to say much about this, but I loved it. It was, like, seismic There was an energy about people, you know, banding together to help the environment. But it got like a riot. All of a sudden some people get out red paint and started throwing it like it was blood and other people were painting "Leaf" on the Hummers. That's L-E-A-F with an exclamation at the end. This guy from the dealership came out and sprayed water from a power wash hose at us. They got this strong soap, and it's hot water. The police came and we were all taken to the station. Like, there were over fifty of us. After a day, like an overnight, they let us go. Like, all night we were soaking wet. The judge says, you learned a lesson, and let us go with a warning. I never told my parents. They would go spastic. The Hummer dealer is filing a RICO lawsuit against Leaf because the Leaf people did this once before. Leaf doesn't have any money. I don't get it. You think a judge can tell us, tell them, to stop?

Lily Garcia [LG]: So that was, you were in, the Valentine's Day demonstration?

TR: Yeah. Changed me. I see that people pay attention to confrontation. I got real involved with Leaf. You know, meetings on campus and over at UMT. In September Teak invited me to a meeting at River Moon's place. The Moon and Courtney Stanwick's place – a big condo near the lake. Great view of the lake. That's where I met them. There was also the others in, I guess I'd say, the inner circle. Teak; Rachel Nedski, Bruno Diggs, me, Courtney and Moon. Someone else I never saw again. They were tight. Like, they knew each other maybe forever. This meeting was on fighting the condemnation of property – a private park – a kid's park next to a private elementary school. The city wanted it for its location. Build

townhouses on the lake shore. Easy to drive downtown. But it was the last green space in that neighborhood like along that part of the lake, and we know it's corrupt.

CW: Who is this Rachel you mentioned?

TV: Rachel Nedski. She works at a place with Moon. It's like some kind of vegetarian or vegan grocery store or something. Rachel was at the party on New Years Eve. She was at all the meetings. She is nice. Always smiling. Kind of dumb, and she talks weird, like she is from out of town. I saw her throwing paint on Valentines Day. She bragged about it. It was galactic. Anyway, I have not seen her since she left the party. Her squeeze is Bruno Diggs, or something like that. Hawaiian guy. Biker. Harley.

LG: You know how to get hold of her -- her address or phone number?

TV: No, I don't think she had any set place they stayed. They just cruised and crashed -- crashed and cruised. I don't really know. You could ask at the Happy Carrot, and I bet they would know.

LG: Happy Carrot?

TV: Yeah, the food store she and Moon work at -- worked at? I think Moon, well, never mind, like Moon may quit or something.

LG: Maybe that's enough background. What about River Moon and the New Year's fire?

TV: OK. So, Teak and I go to the condo apartment about eight. New Years Eve. See, I go with Teak because I was staying at Teak's house because I couldn't go home in the middle of, after like an all-night party. You know, my parents say they do not want me coming in at three a.m. and all. And

Teak lives close by, you know, down the street a bout four blocks, on Morse.

LG: Who was there? At the party.

TV: We were the last to arrive. So, it was me and Teak, Rachel, River Moon and Courtney. Bruno was there at first, but he left early, you know? He and Rachel talked like privately a lot together, then he left at maybe ten. They were always acting very, like, conspiratorial.

LG: Who is Courtney?

TV: Oh, Courtney Stanwick. You know. Like, the Stanwick - Stanwicks. Oil. Courtney is the Moon's roommate. I mean Moon is Courtney's roommate, like gets free rent in the spare room. Courtney is major money in Project Leaf. Courtney is OK but weird. A clean freak. You know what I mean? Drove Moon crazy. Hey, we had to take our shoes off when we went in the apartment. Touch something and Courtney would wipe it off with those cleaning pads. Phobic. Nice but weird phobic. Courtney's family money is from oil. Stanwick Oil. I got the feeling Courtney was slumming with us, but in style. Courtney won't drive a car, but drives a Harley motorcycle. So Courtney and Bruno talk biker stuff a little that night, and Courtney is saying a Harley can get 200 miles per gallon and Bruno is like trying to keep from laughing. Like, they are talking about how many RPMs. A real rebel – if you know what I mean. I am being sarcastic, you know. Then again, Courtney's money paid the bills for the rallies and lots of pamphlets, posters, and educational stuff. And, red paint. Red paint doesn't grow on trees.

LG: You're saying Courtney Stanwick of Stanwick Oil paid for the paint used on Valentines Day?

TV: I was there. I was with Courtney last year on February 12. We bought it at The Home Shop. Courtney kept saying it had to be water soluble so it could be cleaned off.

LG: Continue with the party.

TV: So, we're listening to music, drinking Moon's homebrew. People are smoking pot. Not Courtney. Courtney comes around, is pretty tight about drugging. Moon's homebrew. Maybe, OK. Pot, no.

LG: So you were taking drugs.

TRUESDALE: Voight didn't say that, Officer. Voight stated –

TV: Hey. What do you want me to say like I didn't inhale? You want my help, you stop being Nazi over me smoking someweed. I am trying to help you here.

LG: Settle down. OK, we are not interested in that. What happened then?

TV: Right. I don't know when, but we started going back over 2005. Moon was getting real upset about losing the fight on Treasure Homes. Like, Moon was getting wasted on the home brew. See, Moon really opposed that development. Moon says we went through all the legal channels, and still lost. Moon says, the law sucks, because the City Council was bought off. Moon says, how could they condemn land, and put up a strip mall on a playground next to a school. They bulldozed trees and bushes, hid the Peace Tree. Moon says we all started saying, we should never been nice. Screw the planning commission. Even City Council. We should have gone gorilla.

LG: Gorilla?

TV: Get more aggressive. Like, we got media after the Valentine Day rally. We got respect. We should have went that route instead. Moon goes seismic and says, "It's not too late. Fight for Mother Earth." Moon is a great speaker. It was, like, seismic. Moon says, "Watch the news!" Rachel leaves about then. She says, "Right on." What the hell is that supposed to be? Nobody says "Right on" any more. So I am talking with Moon, but, Moon sort of disses me and walks away, So, then, I see Moon and Rachel talking. Intense. They are in and out of Moon's room, but that's where people might go if Courtney was getting too dicey about smells and cleanliness. See there is a triangular like living room where you can sit down, and there's Courtney's room that nobody is allowed to go into, with or without shoes on, and there is Moon's room, really like a study or library Moon is staying in, but now a bedroom where Moon keeps stuff, like journals and – yeah, the siphon that Courtney was always talking about because it smelled.

LG: Siphon:

TV: Yes, to siphon gas from other people's cars. Moon steals gas from cars to put into the bikes so as to, not to pay for gas. Moon couldn't leave it. Took it, saved it. In the room.

LG: If it was used in connection with the arson, we will get it before anyone can get rid of it. We can get a warrant. When did you last see it there?

TV: Oh, it's been a few days. But Moon always kept it there, on the desk or maybe on the book stand.

LG: So you all celebrate New Years at some point?

TV: Not really. We are so into this Treasure Homes debate, we miss the New Year, midnight. I think we -- let's see, we miss midnight, and so it's like later -- we must have left like at 3 a.m. We, me and Teak, go straight to Teak's place and right away went to sleep, which is before the fire. My parents thought I was staying at the MCCC dorm. I use that as like an alibi if I want to stay someplace all night, you know? So, I was fine for the night. Rachel left just before us and maybe quite a while before us. I found out about the fire the next morning. Rachel called and said it was on TV. I remembered then that Moon was like earlier asking about bombs and accelerants in December.

LG: Bombs?

TV: Yea, I know some stuff. You know, I'm a chemistry student. Bombs are easier to make than you think. I started to tell Moon some basic things: ingredients; containers; detonators; and you know, the basics. But I don't know how to put them together. So Moon says, how else can you blow something up? I said, well, gasoline. Like, gas in a bottle with a rag. Put the gas in the bottle, plug the mouth with a rag, and light the rag. Then throw the bottle, fast. Molotov cocktail. Moon says, that's dangerous. I said, well just pour the gas, spill a trail, and light the gas. That's effective if no one's in a hurry. Moon could just use gas to blow or burn something up.

LG: When did you have this conversation?

TV: December 9, my birthday. The Leaf meeting at Courtney and Moon's condo, maybe 8 at night. Teak was there. Teak heard it.

LG: After you learned about the fire at the property, what did you do?

TV: Teak and I went to Courtney and Moon's house. My heart sunk when I saw Moon washing Peanut. I knew what happened.

LG: Peanut?

TV: The name of Moon's scooter. Moon rode it everywhere in all kinds of weather.

LG: Why would washing it mean anything?

TV: Moon never, and I mean never, washed The Peanut. Moon used to say, let the rain do it. Moon was washing it. See, at that December meeting, I told Moon about how residue on plastics can be tested for sorts of stuff. So if Moon thought there was burnt gas fumes or smoke on the scooter Moon would wash it off.

CW: Ordinarily, did Moon wash off the scooter regularly?

TV: Rare. Courtney was always complaining about how dirty the bike got.

CW: So, was Moon familiar with the Treasure Homes site?

TV: Moon was real familiar with the Treasure Homes site. Taking photos.

CW: Do you know where Rachel Nedski is?

TV: She is a total free spirit. Now she goes to Bruno's. He goes to Hawaii. Nice, huh?

CW: Have you ever been in trouble before?

TV: No way. Just taken to the police station on Valentines Day, you know, for protest. Nothing. But on this, I never agreed with anybody to set any fires.

CW: Well, did Moon ever come right out and say, "I am going to burn down Treasure Homes"?

TV: You want me to say that, I'll say that.

CW: Don't say it if it isn't true. Thank you for coming in. We will follow up on this.

I hereby swear this is an accurate transcription of the interview between the witness Tyler Voight and Detective Chester Wynn and others appearing in the transcript.

Date: January 4, 2006

_____/s/_____
Kelly Jones