



SBI CASE: 1994-01642 (494-4-26)  
 ACTIVITY: July 25, 1995  
 VICTIM: Viktor Ake Lennart Gunnarsson  
 DICTATED: July 31, 1995  
 RECEIVED: August 4, 1995  
 TYPED: August 8, 1995  
 COPIES: (1) Records; (2) SAD.S. Wilson; (3) SAC J.S. Momier, Jr.; (4) District Attorney J.T. Rusher

Brandon Shae Shelton, W/M/DOB: 10-01-73; Residence: Organ Church Rd. Rockwell, North Carolina, Telephone: 704-279-6468 Business: Unemployed; Suspect:

Interviewed at his residence between 3:25 and 4:55 p.m., on Wednesday, July 25, 1995, by Detective Sergeant P.M. Townsend, SA Daniel Castillo, SA D.A. Gale, and SA D.S. Wilson

Brandon knew Viktor Gunnarsson. He knew Viktor was sleeping with his wife. He hated Viktor for this. His wife Heather told him she was sleeping with Viktor.

Brandon was married to Heather May Shelton. They separated as a result of Brandon's drinking. Brandon was extremely jealous of Heather, and wanted to get even over the affair Heather and Viktor had.

Brandon had a mailbox that said "Vega" on it. He does not know why "Vega" was painted on his mailbox. He later saw a business card of Viktor's with the name, "Vega Exports" on it. Viktor told Brandon he made his money from selling drugs and prostitution.

Viktor always had a lot of money. Brandon saw Viktor with a wad of bills on one occasion. Viktor liked to flip through his wallet exposing his money. Brandon and Michael Blackwelder talked about robbing Viktor and taking his money after he caught Viktor and Heather together.

He came home from working at Ryan's Steakhouse one evening in November 1993, to find Viktor and another guy at his house with his wife. He knew something was going on by the way they were acting. Brandon was angry and suspicious that Viktor was there with his wife. He started cussing at Viktor and told him he was going to kill him. Brandon told Heather he was going to kill her because he knew she was having sex with Viktor. Viktor was drunk or high and had his shirt off. Heather's shirt was unbuttoned. After Viktor left, Brandon made Heather admit she was having an affair, and having sex with him. Heather promised Brandon if he left Viktor alone she would stop the affair. Brandon is extremely possessive and jealous of Heather. Brandon told Heather he would not hurt Viktor, but that was a lie. He was going to get Viktor the first chance he got. Brandon hated Viktor for what he did with Heather.

Brandon started hanging out at the mall, and shot pool with Viktor. He told Viktor everything was cool between them so he could get close to him. Brandon was a cocaine addict, but he has

been clean for five years. Brandon bought drugs from Viktor, and then resold the drugs to make money.

Michael Blackwelder was also friends with Viktor and Brandon. He knows that Michael Blackwelder and Viktor were bisexual. He caught Viktor and Michael Blackwelder in bed together when Blackwelder lived with Viktor. Michael Blackwelder still had a key to Viktor's apartment, and received his mail there.

Brandon is nervous because he is aware that the police have talked to Heather, and she has told them about the affair she had with Viktor. He also knows Heather told police that Brandon threatened to kill Viktor. Brandon knows that Heather told police that after Viktor's murder that he admitted to her he killed Viktor and threatened her.

He last saw Viktor Gunnarsson on December 3, 1993. He and Michael Blackwelder went to Viktor's apartment that afternoon. They were drinking but not drunk. Brandon and Michael Blackwelder were going to, "do Gunnarsson then," but Viktor's friend was there and did not want to hurt him. Viktor got a telephone call from a woman he said he was seeing, and told them he had a date that night. Brandon and Michael Blackwelder had borrowed a .22 pistol from his neighbor Jan Wagoner. He also borrowed a .38 caliber pistol from Wagoner. She referred to the gun as the "Judge". Brandon and Michael Blackwelder decided to come back later that night and get Viktor.

Brandon was asked, "Did you kill Viktor Gunnarsson?" He hung his head and said, "I had best not answer that question right now." He and Viktor did have a confrontation over the affair Viktor and Heather had. Brandon did admit he threatened to kill Viktor over the affair, and his wife.

Brandon has newspaper clippings about Viktor's murder. They are at his grandfather's house next door. Brandon started keeping newspaper articles about Viktor's murder after Gunnarsson was killed.

(Note: He allowed investigators to examine this scrapbook which was stored not at his grandfather's house, but under the couch in Brandon's living room. He had just stated previously the scrapbook and newspaper articles were at his grandfather's house next door).

Brandon was asked about any luggage he may have. Brandon stated he had a white briefcase. He consented to let investigators examine it. Inside the briefcase was a recent article in the Salisbury Post about Viktor Gunnarsson's car. No other items of relevance were found in the briefcase.

Brandon was asked, "Did you ever write a confession to Viktor's murder, or tell anyone the briefcase contained a confession and the gun used to kill Viktor?" Brandon wanted to talk to a lawyer before he answered the question.

Brandon was operating a 1984 Tempo vehicle. Blue in color, in December 1993. It threw a rod, which occurred after Viktor's murder.

Brandon's friends in December 1993 were Jonathon and Cindy William's, Brian Chris, Todd Harris, Billy Basinger, Robby Smith, Skippy (Damon Lamar Craft, Happy Lake Road).

He had been charged with felonious restraint, which resulted from holding a former girlfriend against her will. He later pled guilty to contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Viktor discussed with Brandon his having been charged with assassinating the Prime Minister. Viktor bragged and bragged about how he killed the Prime Minister and got away with it. Viktor said he ran up behind the Prime Minister and shot him. Viktor said he came to the United States to get away from the problems with the killing.

Brandon's father is in prison in North Carolina for breaking and entering.

Brandon had heard of Viktor before he caught him and his wife together. He heard Viktor was a "ladies man". Viktor must have been because he had sex with Brandon's wife.

Brandon admitted one night at his mobile home, when Robbie Smith and Frankie Blackwelder were present; he told them about catching Viktor with his wife. Robbie and Frankie asked him if he knew anything about Viktor's murder, and he responded, "Yeah I do, I killed him for having sex with my wife." That was all he said that night about the murder.

Another time in a Food Lion store, Robbie Smith saw Brandon and asked him about the murder. Brandon admitted that he told Robbie Smith, "Okay, I'll tell you, I killed Viktor Gunnarsson." Brandon said he was sober.

Brandon also admitted later in the interview that he admitted to Robbie Smith that he and Michael Blackwelder went to Viktor Gunnarsson's apartment on the night of the murder and Michael Blackwelder let them in with a key. Gunnarsson was in bed. They coaxed him out of bed on the pretense of going to a party and jumped him. Brandon told Robbie Smith they taped Viktor's hands behind his back, with tape found at the apartment. It was black electrical tape, and some light colored tape. Brandon said he told Robbie Smith they carried Viktor down and put him in the trunk of his (Viktor's) car. Brandon admitted he told Robbie Smith and others that he and Michael Blackwelder drove to the mountains and shot Viktor in the head with a .22 pistol in the woods, and then drove Gunnarsson's car back to the apartment and parked it.

He has been to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Boone, North Carolina many times and he knows the area very well. He knows where Deep Gap is. He and his father have been on the Blue ridge Parkway riding motorcycles many times.

Brandon has made statements he killed Viktor Gunnarsson.

Amy Rogers also heard Brandon say he killed Viktor. Brandon wanted to know if the police had talked to Amy Rogers.

Brandon would not admit to investigators that he and Michael Blackwelder killed Viktor, only that he admitted to others he did. Brandon was very nervous and said before he said anything else he wanted to talk to a lawyer.

(Note: Brandon never denied that he did not kill Gunnarsson when he was asked by investigators did he kill him, only that he wanted to talk to a lawyer before answering.)

Brandon allowed investigators to take carpet samples from his home and car.

He has lived in this mobile home since November 1994.

After Brandon separated from his wife, he lived with Connie Britt, white female, on Early Circle Drive off Lane Street.

Brandon was sober at the time he was interviewed. He said what he told investigators was the truth.

The interview concluded at 4:55 p.m.

DSW:bs