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A small pool of blood on the street among the items was also noted and later collected as evidence.

During the scene investigation, Det. RING was advised of the following information: That an assault and robbery involving a beating had taken place outside of the Eagle's Hall where a dance had been held and that the victim was Frank DAYTON.

While still at the crime scene, at approximately 0430 hours, Det. RING followed police radio traffic involving an assault that had occurred at the Alaskan Motor Inn. That assault had involved a handgun and patrolmen were chasing a suspect. That suspect was caught at 5th Avenue and Barnette Street, and identified as Eugene VENT. The victim at the Alaskan Motor Inn, who was the clerk, Mike BACCA, had responded to the scene at 5th Avenue and Barnette Street and positively identified Eugene VENT as the person who had threatened him with a handgun. Eugene VENT was placed under arrest and transported to the Fairbanks Police Department. Det. RING was then asked to interview him. As VENT was underage, Det. RING had VENT transported to the Fairbanks Youth Facility.

INTERVIEW: EUGENE VENT / 10.11.97

Eugene Vent was seventeen years old, soon to turn eighteen years of age. He was advised of his Rights per Miranda and he waived those Rights. He also waived the additional Right of having a parent present. During this interview, Eugene VENT made mention of leaving the area of the Elders Home by the Eagle's Hall, possibly the Golden Towers by the location description given by VENT, because "they" were getting in a fight. "It should be noted that that is the area where Frank DAYTON was assaulted and robbed."

When asked about the fight at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street, Eugene VENT originally stated that he got in a fight with Michael LUDENBACHER. When asked about the physical nature of that fight, Eugene VENT said, "The only physical thing about it is I beat his ass." When asked again about the victim at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street, Eugene VENT stated that he was "sorry ass drug dealer" and that he was only there for five minutes.

When asked about the Eagle's Hall fight and asked about Frank DAYTON (who Det. RING was under the impression was approximately 60 years of age), Eugene VENT responded that the only Frank DAYTON he knew was thirty-five years old.

Again talking about the intersection at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street, Eugene VENT said that he had only stopped at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street to make a drug deal. When asked who was at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street with him, Eugene VENT stated, "Michael WILLIAMS, Michael LUDENBACHER and Dana ANDON." *VENT had already told Det. RING that Michael WILLIAMS was in Wisconsin. When asked about the fight, Eugene VENT stated that WILLIAMS and LUDENBACHER were trying to "hook up" some "weed" (Marijuana). Eugene VENT also stated that there was no fight at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street. VENT stated he was there but he didn't beat anybody up. VENT then stated that WILLIAMS and LUDENBACHER might have beat him up.

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INTERVIEW: EUGENE VENT / 10.11.97

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VENT was shown a photograph of the victim and he stated that that was the person trying to sell "weed" to LUDENBACHER and WILLIAMS.

When asked about the details of the assault or fight, Eugene VENT stated that he heard it but didn't see it. He stated that his friends, WILLIAMS and LUDENBACHER, didn't like the "weed". He also stated, at this time, that they probably beat him up. When asked what they beat him up with, VENT responded, "All they had was their shoes." When asked, "Did the stomp him?", VENT stated, "They might have had a forty-ouncer." He then went on to state that obviously they had a little to drink, they could have had steel toe shoes, they could have had a forty-ouncer, but he got there after the fight was over. He stated that, when he saw the individual lying on the ground, he took off. He stated that he saw WILLIAMS and LUDENBACHER around the corner and, as VENT pointed to the picture, he asked them what happened to this person and they wouldn't tell him.

Det. RING was interrupted during the interview by a telephone call from the police station in which Det RING was advised that Kevin PEASE had also been involved in an assault with his mother that morning and that he was believed to be a friend of Eugene VENT.

Det. RING then resumed the interview and asked about Kevin PEASE. Eugene VENT stated that he knew Kevin PEASE but he didn't see him tonight and he repeated that statement to Det. RING. Eugene VENT denied having a handgun at the Alaskan Motor Inn and stated that Det. RING should talk to Harley SEMAKEN and that Harley SEMAKEN's telephone number could be pulled from Eugene VENT's pager.

INVESTIGATION:

Det. RING left the Fairbanks Youth Facility and telephone number 457-7429 was pulled from Eugene VENT's pager, and the number was traced back to 311 11th Avenue, Apartment #3, the residence of Shannon CHARLIE. Det. RING and other officers from the Fairbanks Police Department responded to 311 11th Avenue, Apartment #3, and contacted numerous people at that location. Of those people contacted, Det. RING first interviewed Harley SEMAKEN.

INTERVIEW: HARLEY SEMAKEN / 10.11.97

Harley SEMAKEN stated that, on the previous night, he had left his house at approximately 7:00 P.M. He stated he went out to eat with his mother at the Bakery Restaurant and that his mother dropped him off at Shannon CHARLIE's residence at approximately 8:00 P.M. He stated he next walked to the Eagle's Hall somewhere between 10:00 P.M. and midnight, and that he did observe Eugene VENT, George NOLLNER and Marvin ROBERTS all standing on the porch outside the Eagle's Hall. Harley SEMAKEN stated that he did not see Kevin PEASE. Harley SEMAKEN stated that Eugene VENT, Marvin ROBERTS and George NOLLNER had been drinking and were attempting to pick fights with him, although he is their friend. Harley SEMAKEN stated that he believed they were joking around and that they eventually backed down from their attempts to pick a fight with him.

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Harley SEMAKEN stated he then next went to a party at the Alaskan Motor Inn and that he paged Eugene VENT from the hotel. Harley SEMAKEN stated that, later in the morning, there was a disturbance in the room where he was at the Alaskan Motor Inn and that the clerk, in trying to remove people from the premises, sprayed him in the face with mace and that he then went to Shannon CHARLIE's where he became involved in a fist fight with Lewis EKLUND who is Shannon CHARLIE's boyfriend.

INTERVIEW: VERNON CHARLIE / 10.11.97

Vemon CHARLIE stated that he had gone to the wedding reception at the Eagle's Hall at approximately 10:00 P.M. Vemon CHARLIE stated that he did see Marvin ROBERTS at the Eagle's Hall at that time and that he had a drink in Marvin ROBERTS' car. Vemon CHARLIE stated that he stayed at the Eagle's Hall and in the downtown core area until he later met up with Arlo OLSON somewhere between 2:30 A.M. and 3:30 A.M., and that he and Arlo OLSON walked to the Alaskan Motor Inn where a party was going on. Vemon CHARLIE left the Alaskan Motor Inn and walked to Shannon CHARLIE's residence where he had been since.

INFORMATION:

During the course of these interviews and interviewing other individuals contacted at 311 11th Avenue, Apartment #3, it was determined that Michael WILLIAMS had left for Wisconsin during the summer and was currently living there with his family. No one knew anyone by the name of LUDENBACHER but it was determined that Eugene VENT did have a friend by the last name of LUDECKER, that person being James LUDECKER.

INTERVIEW: JAMES LUDECKER

James LUDECKER was contacted and he stated that he was working at his job at the University of Alaska - Fairbanks until approximately 10:30 P.M. when he walked down to the Mapco Express at Geist Road and was picked up by a friend, Lisa VOIGHT, who drove him to the Midtown Apartments where he spent the night playing Chess and watching TV.

INTERVIEW II: EUGENE VENT

1121 DATE AND TIME PREPARED 1131 REPORTING MEMBER

Det. RING then responded back to the Fairbanks Youth Facility and re-contacted Eugene VENT at approximately 1250 hours. VENT again agreed to talk to Det. RING and he acknowledged that Michael WILLIAMS and James LUDECKER or LUDENBACHER were not present during the fight or assault. When questioning VENT about the assault at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street, Det. RING asked VENT, "Why did you feel it necessary to hit this guy when you saw him?" VENT responded, "Cause I was drunk, I guess." Det. RING asked VENT what made him so angry and what the guy was doing, to which VENT responded, "Just walking along."

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INTERVIEW II: **EUGENE VENT**

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Eugene VENT then asked to call his mother, Ida VENT, on the telephone and he was allowed to do so. Det. RING also spoke with Ida VENT to apprise her of the situation. Eugene VENT then agreed to talk further with Det. RING.

Eugene VENT next said that he probably did beat him up but he didn't remember it right now, and he alluded to having black-outs. When asked what he remembered about the fight on the street corner, Eugene VENT responded that he just remembered being there and didn't beat the individual up. Eugene VENT then recanted, when asked, "What did you do to take part in this assault?", by responding, "Probably kicked him, probably hit him, too." When asked with his right hand or left hand, Eugene VENT responded, "Both."

When asked if he was in a car or walking, Eugene VENT responded, "Probably in a car." Det. RING asked VENT who was the first to see the guy on the street and VENT responded, "It probably was me." VENT also stated that he was just driving along, being stupid, and that it was out of anger. VENT stated the assault happened outside of the car and, when asked what the person was hit with, VENT responded, "Probably a bunch of hands and feet." When asked how many people participated in the assault, VENT initially responded three people. When asked if he was one of those three people, VENT responded, "Yeah." When asked how many times he hit the person, VENT stated just once, but that he kicked him a couple of times. When asked who the other two people were, VENT initially stated that he didn't remember. VENT also made the statement that he should take all of the blame.

When asked again for the reasons behind the assault, VENT responded anger, and that alcohol "riled me up". VENT stated that, after the assault, he left on foot. When asked specifically about Marvin, Eugene VENT responded, "Who?" When asked about NOLLNER, Eugene VENT again responded, "Who?", but then stated, "I left him at the Eagle's." When asked about Kevin, Eugene VENT responded that he did not know where Kevin was but that he might have been there and then added that Kevin probably was there. When asked who got out of the car during the assault, VENT responded, "Me and Kevin and some guy who knows Kevin," and that he did not know who was driving.

When asked who had pulled the victim's pants down and put something up him, VENT responded that he didn't know, that's probably why they did it, because he was "queer". He then stated that he didn't have anything to do with that part of the assault and didn't know who did. VENT then stated that "he" probably did it after he (VENT) left. When asked again who had sexually assaulted the person, Eugene VENT responded that it was probably Kevin or the driver or Kevin's friend. When asked where he was sitting in the vehicle, VENT stated that he was sitting in the back seat behind the front seat passenger and that Kevin PEASE was sitting up front. VENT initially described the car as a little car like an Escort, red in color.

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When asked again about the individual on 9th Avenue who was walking and what kind of things were said about him, VENT stated, "I think it happened because he was queer." When asked how he knew that, VENT stated that he guessed one of the people in the car knew. When asked what he might have against homosexuals, VENT responded, "I just don't like them."

Det. RING then asked VENT what happened when the people in the car got out and VENT responded, "We beat him up." When asked what he did himself, VENT responded, "Beat him up." When asked with what, VENT stated, "My shoes and knuckles, kicking him in the arms mostly." When asked about kicking the individual in the head, VENT admitted that he had done that once or twice. When asked about the sexual assault again, VENT stated that he didn't think anyone raped him, "he's just queet".

When asked about the individual down by the Eagle's Hall who was assaulted, VENT stated that he didn't remember. When asked if he had taken part in that assault, VENT stated, "I guess so. I told you I don't know. I was drunk." When asked if he had a fight with an individual down by the Eagle's Hall, VENT stated, "I don't know. I suppose I did."

Again returning to the incident at 9th Avenue and Barnette Street, Det. RING asked what the individuals were doing around the victim when he left. VENT stated they were standing around, hollering at him, and that they were drunk and "wound up".

Det. RING then drew Eugene VENT a rough sketch of the intersection and asked him to point to the area of the intersection where the individual was assaulted. Eugene VENT indicated the southwest corner where the victim had been found. Det. RING then left the Fairbanks Youth Facility.

CONTACT WITH GEORGE FRESE, AKA, GEORGE NOLLNER AT F.M.H.:

Sgt. KENDRICK and Det. RING had responded to the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital to view the victim in the Intensive Care Unit. While at the hospital, Det. RING was advised that a George FRESE had come to the hospital and told the hospital staff that he had broken his foot kicking someone. (Refer to Det. BROWN's supplement for a complete statement from the hospital staff.)

Det. RING then contacted George FRESE and his girlfriend, Crystal SISTO, in one of the Emergency Room examining rooms. George FRESE was observed to have a waffle-stomper type boot on his right foot-but his left boot was off and he was observed to have a deep bruise on his instep. FRESE stated that he had hurt his foot kicking someone in a fight but that he couldn't remember who he had kicked or where the fight had taken place other than downtown. Det. RING then obtained a tape recorder and continued the conversation with FRESE, advising him that he was not under arrest, and FRESE agreed to talk with Det. RING.

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CONTACT WITH GEORGE FRESE, AKA, GEORGE NOLLNER AT F.M.H.:

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After an x-ray examination determined that FRESE's foot was not broken, he agreed to respond to the Fairbanks Police Department to speak with detectives on this matter. Crystal SISTO had responded to their residence and returned with FRESE's left boot which he turned over to Det. RING. FRESE also stated that he is known by the name of George NOLLNER.

At the Fairbanks Police Department, George FRESE stated that he walked downtown but did not remember anything after that or how he got home. Sgt. KENDRICK then continued the interview with George FRESE with FRESE still stating that he didn't remember the events of the previous night. During that interview, Det. RING interjected that he was going to look for Marvin ROBERTS, that these googs were all riding in Marvin's car the previous night. The next words out of FRESE's mouth were, "I just kicked him a couple of times."

While Det. RING was monitoring the conversation, FRESE was asked who kicked him first and FRESE responded, "Kevin." FRESE also stated that all he remembered was that "we kicked his ass and I don't know why". When asked how he had kicked him, FRESE stated, "Just kicked him, I'm not sure how." When asked at what point he had hurt his foot, FRESE stated, "Fuckin' after I kicked him in the face." FRESE also stated that Kevin kicked the individual "a lot" and that Kevin started it. George FRESE also stated that he was sitting in the back of the car.

FRESE then asked to have a cigarette and, while having a cigarette, asked to be taken home. Det. RING rode with Sgt. KENDRICK and George FRESE. On the ride home, Sgt. KENDRICK stopped at the intersection of 9th Avenue and Barnette Street where FRESE indicated that, after the assault, Marvin had given him a ride from that point to Second Avenue. George FRESE stated that, from Second Avenue, he got a ride with his uncle, John DAVID, to the Midtown Apartments and then received a ride from there back to his residence.

INTERVIEW: MARVIN ROBERTS

Marvin ROBERTS was contacted and interviewed at the Fairbanks Police Department by Sgt. KENDRICK and Inv. GEIER, as well as Det. RING briefly. Marvin ROBERTS gave a description of his night's activities to Inv. GEIER and made no admissions other than that his car could have been at the assault scene but he wasn't.

INTERVIEW III: EUGENE VENT (10.11.97, 1900 HOURS at F. Y. F.)

Eugene VENT was re-advised of his Rights per Miranda and VENT indicated that he understood those Rights. Eugene VENT again agreed to speak with Det. RING without a parent being present. Det. RING advised Eugene VENT that George NOLLNER and Marvin ROBERTS had been been spoken with and photographs of George NOLLNER and Marvin ROBERTS were set in front of Eugene VENT. Det. RING advised Eugene VENT that it was believed Marvin was the driver of a little blue car, not a red car, and Eugene VENT answered that that was correct. VENT added that Marvin ROBERTS' car was a two-door blue car, not a red one as he had previously told Det. RING. Eugene VENT was asked if it was the truth, if Marvin ROBERTS and George NOLLER were both in the vehicle and he stated that it was

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Eugene VENT also agreed that he did not divulge this information earlier because they were friends of his. Eugene VENT again affirmed that Marvin ROBERTS was the driver of the vehicle but initially stated that he did not remember if Marvin ROBERTS got out of the car too.

Det. RING drew a diagram of the vehicle seating area while talking to Eugene VENT and VENT indicated that Marvin ROBERTS was the driver and that he believed Kevin PEASE was the front passenger and that George NOLLNER was sitting next to him in the back seat. In talking with Eugene VENT, he stated that it was possible that he was also dropped off on Second Avenue along with George NOLLNER by Marvin ROBERTS.

When asked specifically how many times he remembered kicking the individual himself, Eugene VENT responded, "Ten times." Eugene VENT stated that the kicks were to the body, to the arms and a couple of times to the head. When asked what shoes he was wearing, Eugene VENT stated, "The black Nikes." When asked what type of shoes George was wearing, Eugene VENT responded that he didn't know. When asked about Marvin's shoes, VENT stated he believed they were some sort of hiking boots. When asked about Kevin's shoes, VENT stated, "Regular tennis shoes."

When asked, on this occasion, whose idea it was to pull over, Eugene VENT responded he didn't know but that it wasn't his. Eugene VENT again denied seeing or participating in any sexual assault of the individual. He also denied taking anything from the individual who was assaulted. When asked about the other's participation in the assault, Eugene VENT, on this occasion, stated that he just remembered George and himself doing most of the assaulting. When Det. RING indicated the photographs of Marvin ROBERTS and Kevin PEASE, and asked if these two individuals were out of the car too, VENT stated, "I think they were outside the car, kicking and yelling." When asked who was doing the yelling, VENT responded that it was Kevin, that he was hollering and drunk. When asked for the identity of the person who had been assaulted, VENT stated that was the first time that he had ever seen him. When asked why he had been picked out for the assault, VENT stated, "I don't know. I guess he was just walking. I don't know. I don't really remember."

At the conclusion of this interview, Eugene VENT stated that he was sorry for what had happened and that he felt bad. He stated that he had not felt forced to talk about this in any way or coerced. Eugene VENT also indicated that he did not feel threatened in any way by the police and that he was glad that he had given the statement that he gave.

INVESTIGATION: 10.12.97

On this date, George FRESE, Kevin PEASE and Marvin ROBERTS were arrested for the murder of the victim now identified as fifteen year old John HARTMAN.

Det. RING responded, along with other officers, to this residence to take PEASE into custody. PEASE was upstairs at the residence upon entry and then came downstairs.

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