## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA AMERICUS DIVISION

HATTIE BRAZIER, widow of James Brazier, deceased, Plaintiff	1 1 1	Civil	Action
v.		No.	475
W. B. CHERRY, RANDOLPH McDONALD, Z. T. MATTHEWS, et. al.  Defendants	. ; 		

# AT: ALBANY, GEORGIA, November 24, 1962

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## <u>Original</u>

CLAUDE JOINER, JR.
REPORTING SERVICE
920 PERSONS BUILDING
MACON, GEORGIA

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HATTIE BRAZIER, widow of James Brazier, deceased, Plaintiff

Civil Action

No. 475

W. B. CHERRY, RANDOLPH McDONALD, ZACHARY T. MATTHEWS, THE FIDELITY CASUALTY COMPANY OF NEW YORK, Defendants

314 Post Office Bldg., ALBANY, GEORGIA

1:05 P. M.

NOVEMBER 24, 1962

Depositions of: DR. CHARLES M. WARD,
V. L. SINGLETARY,
MANSFIELD E. MATTHEWS,
ROBERT T. HANCOCK, and
HAROLD JONES

witnesses called by Plaintiff in above case for purpose of discovery under Rule 26, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, before Claude Joiner, Jr., Notary Public, Georgia, Bibb County, and Official Reporter for above Court, at place, hour and date above stated.

# Appearance s:

For Plaintiff:

MR. DONALD L. HOLLOWELL,
859½ Hunter St. N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia.

MR. C. B. KING,
221 S. Jackson St.
Albany, Georgia.

For <u>Defendants:</u>
BLOCH, HALL, GROOVER & HAWKINS,
710 Walnut Street, Macon, Ga.
MR. CHARLES J. BLOCH, of counsel.

# Stipulation:

Depositions taken by agreement of counsel for all parties

with all formalities being WAIVED. Reading and signing of 1 depositions expressly waived. All objections, except as to 2 form of question, RESERVED to the time of trial. 3 DR. CHARLES M. WARD witness called by Plaint iff for discovery, being first duly sworn, testified on DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HOLLOWELL: 8 You are a medical doctor? 0 That s correct. 10

How long have you been practicing, Doctor?

I graduated from Medical School in 1952. Α

From where? 0

Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia.

Do you want to give us a little run-down on your qualifications, Boctor, for the benefit of counsel?

A Well, I'm a licensed physician in the State of Georgia.

Where did you interne, sir?

I interned at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia.

For how long? Q

One year.

Did you serve a residency?

I had six months in the No residency training.

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School of Aviation medicine at Pensacola, Florida, and then a year with the Marine Corps at Miami, Florida, before going into prvvate practice.

- Q Are you a general practitioner, Doctor?
- A That s right.
- Q Where is your office?
- A At the present time it s at 106 Orange Street,
  Dawson, South Orange Street.
  - Q Are you a staff physician at any hospital?
- A i m the Chief of Staff at Terrell County
  Hospital, Dawson, Georgia.
- Q Doctor, on or about April 20, 1958, did you have the occasion to visit a Negro male about 31 years of age by the name of James Brazier?
- A I can't be exact about the date because on visits made away from the office or away from the hospital, we do not keep any written records. Now, I could refer back to the date that the call was charged, I think in that instance to the County, the call to see the prisoner was charged to the County but I don't remember the exact date; but that's approximately right.
- Q But you do have a recollection of having made a visit?
  - A Very well.
  - Q Charged to the County, of James Brazier?

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                Very well.
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                 And you know this was in the spring of 158, you
3
    don't recall the exact date as such?
4
                 I do not recall the exact date.
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                Your records would reflect this, is that correct:
6
    that is the record of the charge?
7
                That would be the only way that I would know
8
    what date.
                On that occasion do you recollect who put will in
10
    the call to you?
     A At the present time I would truly have to recall
11
   from memory, I think it was Mr. Cherry.
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                Mr. Cherry, as near as you can recollect?
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        A As near as I can recollect, he's the one that
14
    called me. The same property of a reverse
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                Would this record to which you made reference.
16
    Doctor, reflect from whom the call came?
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                It would not indicate from whom it came but, as
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    I recall, he is the one who called me to see him.
19
                Do you recollect where you were at the time?
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                Not at the time, no.
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                About what time of day was this?
          Q
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                It was in the early evening.
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                5:00, 6:00 o¹clock?
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Well, maybe that, maybe a little later; I don't

1 remember.

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Q But it was not dark, as a matter of fact?

A Near dark.

Q Where did you go to see James Brazier on this occasion?

A I went to the jail that's used jointly by the City of Dawson and Terrell County, in Dawson, Georgia.

Q Inside of the jail itself?

A I went to the jail; it was inside of the jail itself. He was in the office of the jail. The prisoner was brought to the office by someone. I did not go into the cell block itself at that time.

Q Was he in the office at the time that you came to see him or was he brought to the office?

A He was brought to the office.

Q After your arrival?

A After my arrival.

Q Do you remember who brought him?

A No, not right off hand, I don't; and I honestly don't recall who was present, who all was present when he was brought.

Q Do you remember whom you saw at the time that you first came into the office?

A No, that's what I said then. I have just a vague recollection of who was in the office. I don't remember exactl

as of that time?

1	who.
2	Q Did you see Mr. Cherry?
8	A I saw him while I was at the jail. I don <sup>1</sup> t
4	recall whether he was the first one that I saw.
5	Q You saw several persons while you were there?
6	A I saw several persons while I was there.
7	Q You saw the Sheriff while you were there?
8	A I think so and I think I saw the Deputy Sheriff
9	and Mr. Cherry. I think they were all three there, but I
0	couldn <sup>1</sup> t swear to the fact that they were all there.
L	Q Do you remember - Do you know Mr. McDonald,
2	Doctor?
3	A Quite well.
1	Q Do you recall whether he was there?
5	A Not right off-hand, ! don <sup>1</sup> t.
3	Q Your best recollection then, as I understand it,
7	you recollect seeing Mr. Cherry while you were there and the
3	Sheriff and the Sheriff's nephew, Deputy Mansfield Matthews;
9	you have recollection of seeing them?
)	A That's correct. I know that I saw Mr. Cherry and
L	I think that I saw the others, the Sheriff and I think I saw
2	Mr. Mansfield Matthews there too; and McDonald might have
3	been there but I forget; it's been four long busy years.

Do you recollect how the patient was dressed

A No, I could not swear as to what his clothing was at the time.

Q Well, do you recollect whether he was fully clothed at that time?

A No, I can't. There are certain things that stick in my mind, so far as the patient was concerned and so far as the physical examination was concerned, but not so far as his wearing apparel was concerned.

Q Would you be kind enough to indicate what these things are relative to his physical condition that you noted as of this time?

examination, is that correct?

Q Yes, that s correct?

A Well, he was - as is customary on seeing a prisoner at the jail, if the prisoner be white or colored, he is brought to the jail office, if possible, to be examined. And the prisoner was brought, as I say I don't recall who brought him from the cell block into the office, but he came under his own power. He walked in.

His gait was not steady and, trying to recall, I don't recall, I think he had on his trousers, I'm not sure but I don't think he had on his shirt.

At the time, I knew James and I spoke to him and from all indications he knew who I was. His speech at the

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time though was - well, incoherent, not as you would ordinarily expect.

Not what you had been used to experiencing in

your talking with him, is that correct?

A That's correct. But there was another thing in the general examination. One of the things, the odor of

the general examination. One of the things, the odor of alcohol was fairly strong; and on examination of the patient, I don't recall - as best I recall, he had a small bruise and laceration or abrasion in the right ffontal region of his scalp that was small enough to be considered inconsequential, so far as suturing is concerned; it didn't have to be sewed up. There was another, as best I recall, in the left occipital region of the scalp of the same sort, evidently from a blunt instrument of some sort, but again not large enough to warrant suturing. And above his left ear there was a hematoma or bruise above his left ear.

pupils, they did react to light and accommodation but sluggishly. I didn't think too much about that at the time. The pupils were equal in size at the time and I didn't think too much about it because, as I said just now, the odor of alcohol was pretty strong.

On further examination, nose and throat, nothing of any particular consequence. On examining his ears, that is looking at his left ear, there was evidence of some

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apparently some hemorrhage into or behind the tympanic membrane, the ear drum, which in some instances is evidence of a basal fracture of the skull; at other times just direct trauma to the ear itself; it can be from either.

And I checked his reflexes since that was present. His reflexes at the time were within normal limits.

And other than that, his physical examination was just routine. Everything was - most of the positive physical findings were located from here up (indicating).

After finding the possibility of hemorrhage into the middle ear or into the ear-drum itself on the left, I told the people present, and I think it was Mr. Cherry and the two Mr. Matthews, by all means, to put him in a cell by himself, to see that he could be roused hourly; and if at any time he could not be aroused, then they were to call me immediately. And it just so happened that we had another person in jail that required some attention some time between midnight and daylight, 2:00 or 3 o'clock in the morning, that I had to go to jail to see the other person; and I myself went in and looked at James then, and I could rouse him then. In other words, he was not comatose; he could be aroused. His speech was sgill not what I would expect it to be from him, a little incoherent, but I still didn't think too much about it, since he could be aroused. And I asked

the police if they had been checking on him routinely and they said that they had.

Q Do you recollect who it was that let you in on the second visit?

- A No. I don't.
- Q Do you recollect --
- A | | recollect who | | went to see.
- Q Who was that?
- A A white male from Terrell County, Mr. Sam Hattaway.
- Q Is he the alcoholic that --

A He's an alcoholic, he was there in jail; and I was called to see Mr. Hattaway some time about 2:00 or 3 o'clock in the morning.

Q At the time that you went in to see Mr. Hattaway and were let in, what do you have to refresh your recollection as to this time?

Well, it was about the only thing I had -- the time that I went in?

Q Yes?

A The fact that I never get to bed before around midnight and I had been to bed and been to sleep when I was called to see Mr. Hattaway. And, as I say, it was some time between midnight and daylight, because I'm usually up at daylight too.

Q At the time that you went to - strike that --

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When you went to see Mr. Hattaway, did you visit him prior to the time that you went back to Mr. Brazier's cell?

A I went to see Mr. Hattaway and as I came out, they had put James Brazier in a cell by himself.

Q Where was that, excuse me?

A I don't know the cell number but I know the location. In going in, it's on the east side of the jail; and, if I recall, it was either the first or second cell.

Q Let me show you PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT No. 1, which is a pretty roughly drawn diagram, Doctor; but if this is the courthouse --

A I know this quite well. This is the screen porch.

The Sheriff's office is here (indicating on diagram). . .

and this general -- well, you come up on the walk into the office right in here.

Q Do you see where it says "Sheriff's Office" and points and points right into here? Is this the general location?

A That's the general location of the office. Now, as I recall, Mr. Hattaway was in the big cell block, the bull-pen, and James was in either the first or the second cell here (indicating on diagram); I don't recall which one.

Q Now, whenyou say "here", if we were looking on this diagram from the courthouse toward the jail, then that would be in the left wing?

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A That's right.

Q In the left wing and the first one or two cells coming from the direction of the porch, is that right?

A That's right.

Q Is that right?

A As I understand it, he was in this group of cells over here when I went down to examine him and he was brought across to the office and, since I was concerned about his welfare, I told them to be sure and put him in a cell by himself, and he was put over here.

- Q So, you're saying initially --
- A Initially --
- Q -- he was on the right wing looking from the courthouse to the jail?
  - A Correct.
- Q And subsequently when you went back between 2:00 or 3 o'clock --
  - A Something like that.
  - Q -- he was in the left wing?

A He was where I had asked them to put him. Would you like for me tocontinue from that point as to the rest of the -- ?

A Oh yes, I believe you had already seen Mr. Hattaway before we got off there?

A Yes.

Q And you were in the process of explaining what you did as relates to James Brazier at that time?

A Well, I came from the bull-pen and started back out and I asked them how James had been and if they had been able to rouse him and they said -- and if they had tried to rouse him, and they assured me they had.

Q Now, who was "they"?

A Whoever the police were who were on duty, I don't recall.

Q Did you see the Sheriff at that time?

A I don't think that I did. It is quite possible but at 2:00 or 3 o'clock in the morning, you're not too concerned about who the coincidental people are.

- Q Did you awaken Brazier on this occasion?
- Q I believe you said you did?
- A I went into the cell and awakened him myself.
- Q Was he on the bed?
- A He was on the bed and, as well as I recall, it would have to be in the first cell because the bed was on the right side as you go in. As you go into the cell, I think in the first cells, the beds are on the right and the second cell, the beds are on the left.
- Q So then, you're saying that if you came from the Sheriff's office into the walkway which runs in front of the

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cells, you would then make a right turn to get into the cell in which Brazier was?

Yes.

And Brazier was on a bed on the right within the cell, is that correct?

As best I recall, that's correct. Α

Did you have him to stand on that occasion? Q

I had him sit on the side of the bed.

If one had been hit on the head in the locations which you have designated with a blunt instrument, such as to wause injuries of the type which you have indicated, would his speech likely be somewhat impaired?

It is quite possible but you're getting into a point now that I argued with the U. S. Navy about for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. When a man has been drinking and when he has had head injuries, I will not say whether his incoherent speech is due to alcohol or to head injury.

- I didn't ask you that question, Doctor?
- And I don't think anybody else could.
- I didn't ask that question; I merely asked --Q
- Do I think that it could have caused it?
- Yes sir? Q
- Quite possibly. Α
- You took no alcoholic test? Q
- At the time I don't think that any of the

laboratory tests for alcohol were valid in courts in the State of Georgia anyway; so far as blood alcohol is concerned, I made none.

- Q But all I am saying is that you made none?
- A I made none but the odor of alcohol was present.
- Q The odor of alcohol was present, which might have been from beer or from liquor or from any other --
  - A -- alcoholic beverage.
- Q Or any other alcoholic beverage, yes. All right

A Take one thing into consideration: I did examine the man's ears, nose and throat and in so doing, you have to be quite-close; so, there was no question as to where the odor of alcohol was -- from which the odor of alcohol was emanating.

Q Is it not true that normally when one has alcohol on his breath, if he sleeps, usually this is even accentuated upon awakening, particularly within a reasonable period from the time that it has been consumed; is that not true?

A It's quite possible. I wouldn't say that was a scientific fact but from past experience I would say it's quite possible.

- Q Was that the last time that you saw James Brazier?
  - A No.
- Q Now, let me ask you again about this particular

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visit: Do you recollect how many persons went with you to Mr. Hattaway's cell?

- A No, I don't.
- 0 Would it be more than three?

A | could not say because, as | said just now, the only -- the person that | was interested in at that partic ular time was Mr. Hattaway; and, as | left Mr. Hattaway's cell, the only person that | was interested in then was James Brazier; and as soon as | got through seeing James Brazier, the only thing | was interested in was trying to get some sleep because | knew we had to operate the next morning.

Q Do you know a Negro who acted as jailer there by the name of Gene Magwood?

A Quite well.

Q Did you see him during the course of either of your visits?

A Well, there again, I couldn't swear to the fact that I did or I didn't but I'm quite sure that Gene was there, because it was customary for him to be there.

Q Was it not true that with frequency he let you in the cells, when you were called to make a visit to some prisoner; is that not so?

A It has been done but he let me in only on instructions of either the City police or one of the persons, members of the Sheriff's office.

1	Q Now, I believe you indicated that you saw Brazier
2	on another occasion?
3	A l did.
4	Q When was that?
5	A The following morning.
6	Q Where was that?
7	A At the Terrell County Hospital.
8	Q About what time was that?
9	A Well, there again, I couldn't swear to it but I
10	would say it was somewhere around, let us say in the hour
11	between 8:30 and 9:30.
12	Q That would have been on a Monday, is that correct?
18	Do you recollect that your visit had been made on a Sunday
14	night, initially?
15	A   think that s correct. I couldn't swear to that.
16	Q Did you know where he was coming fnom as of the
17	time that you saw him on this Monday moning?
18	A At the time that I saw him, there again, having to
19	draw from memory over a period of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, if I remember
20	correctly, I saw him that time in the x-ray room at the
21	hospital. Now, it could have been in the emergency room but
22	somehow it sticks in my mind that it was in the x-ray room
23	at the hospital.
24	Q Do you know as a matter of fact that he was in the

gency room but e x-ray room at he was in the x-ray room at some time on that day?

A As I say, I don't know why it sticks in my mind that he was in the x-ray room.

Q But you did see him at the Terrell County Hospital?

A I saw him at the Terrell County Hospital, either in the x-ray room or the emergency room.

Q Did you direct any x-rays to be made?

A There again, I don't recall whether I did or not, because on examination of the patient again, it was quite obvious that he had some intracranial injury and I knew that the Terrell County Hospital was no place for him; that he needed to be in somebody's hands who had more knowledge than we did in treating intracranial injuries.

Q if you took x-rays, would there be a record of those x-rays in the hospital?

A There would be.

Q Would you be willing to make those available?

A Yes, if they're there but, as I say, I don't recall whether I ordered x-rays or not. It's quite -thinking back to the circumstances there, in trying to recall,
I think that when he was brought to the hospital that we were
either in the delivery room or the operating room. Dr. Walter
Martin, who is my associate, and I were both engaged in some
procedure in some other area in the hospital; and, if I
ordered x-rays, it was to -- and there again I say "if" because
I don't recall whether I did or not -- it was because I had

seen him the night before and I thought there was a possibility of a basal fracture of the skull; and from whatever information was given me wherever I was at the time, I thought that x-rays would be indicated to see if he did have a fracture.

Q Well, if I told you that Mrs. Brazier has a receipt indicating that she has paid for x-rays, would this help in any way to refresh your recollection?

A No. As I say, I think I saw him in the x-ray room and I think he was there because somebody had told me that he had been brought there, brought to the hospital, and I told them to get x-rays and I would look at them as soon as we had finished with the operation, delivery or whatever we were doing.

Q Did you have a radiologist for the hospital or just an x-ray technician or what did you have?

A We have an x-ray technician.

Q Is it the same person now as it was then, as near as you can recollect?

A There again, I don't recall. We;ve had since I've been in Dawson in eight years, we've had a series of three x-ray technicians.

- Q Doyou remember who the one was in April of '58?
- A No, I do not.
- Q Your records would establish this, would they not?
- A They would, the hospital records, at the time of

the x-ray.

Q Would you be willing to notify Mr. Bloch as to whether or not, when you get back in the next several days, whether or not you found records of the x-rays which were taken?

A Well, there's another thing that I was thinking about then. If we did get x-rays, and I assume that we did if Hattie paid for the x-rays, it's also quite possible that the x-rays were sent with him to Columbus. Now, there would be a record of the x-rays being made but the x-rays themselves would probably not be there, or would possibly not be there.

Q Would your records reflect that they were in fact transmitted to some place else with the patient?

A Probably not.

Q But you are willing to check up on it to see for us?

· A Yes.

Q Would you be kind enough at some time later to let Mr. Bloch know and then I can check with him and maybe sometime when we're down we could view them; we may have need to look at them?

A All right.

Now, do you recollect who brought Brazier to the hospital?

As best I recall, his wife brought him to the

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hospital in her car.

Q Do you recollect the lady who is sitting to my left rear here as being the person that you recognize as his wife?

A I do.

Q What, if any, differences did you observe in the condition of Brazier as of that time, as distinguished from when you had seen him between 2:00 and 3 o'clock?

The patient could not be 'roused then. He was comatose and he was not - let's say he was not even incoherent; you could get no response so far as speaking to him is concerned. His pupillary reflexes had changed considerably from the night before. Where they had been equal and reacted to light and accommodation sluggishly, as I recall, they were unequal. I don't remember which was larger than the other but at any rate one was larger than the other, which is one of your almost sure signs of increased intracranial pressure. And, as I said just now, my prime concern then was to get James Brazier to a neuro-surgeon; and I referred James Brazier to Columbus to Dr. Louis Hazouri, the service of Dr. Louis Hazouri. It so happened that Dr. Hazouri was out of town and Dr. John Durden, whom I do not know personally, was seeing his patients for him; and Dr. Durden was the --

Q He was the attending physician upon the arrival of Brazier?

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1	A	Upon the arrival of Brazier at Columbus, so far as
2	l know.	
3	Q	Did you get any written report back from the
4	Doctor?	
5	А	I'm quite sure that we did.
6	Q	Would they more than likely be in the file?
7	А	They would be in the file at my office.
8	Q	At your office, as distinguished from the hospital?
9	А	That's correct.
10	Q	Do you recollect how he was dressed when they
11	brought him	to the hospital, as distinguished from the last
12	time that y	ou saw him?
13	<b>A</b>	No
14	Q	Do you recollect whether or not there had been
15	any change	in the exterior condition of his head and scalp
16	between the	time that you had last seen him and the time that
<b>17</b>	he was at t	he hospital?
18	Α .	As best I recall, there were no changes in the
19	external ap	pearance, except possibly some swelling that would
20	have occurr	ed naturally.
21	Q	You mean naturally because of his condition?
22	А	Over a period of time.
23	20. Sept. Q 1. Se	Because of these blows that you testified about
24	eadler?	

Corfect.

Q Was there any difference that you observed in the exterior condition between the first visit in the evening and the visit during the early morning hours, 2:00 or 3 o'clock, I believe you said?

A The best I could discern, there was no difference in the exterior condition from the time that I saw him first in the early evening until the time that I saw him at 2:00 or 3 o'clock in the morning and the time that I saw him somewhere around 8:30 or 9:00 or 9:30 the next morning, except, as I say, the natural swelling that you would expect from a person who has had a blow on his head.

Q Had that swelling been rather prominent?

A The swelling above his left ear was prominent. The swelling on the anterior part of his head and on the posterior part was not too prominent. Those were the areas that he had small laceration or abrasion, and the swelling there was not too pronounced. It was fairly marked in the left temple region, the temple parietal region.

Q Did it manifest itself in any way other than this swelling; that is, was there any discoloration or any other indications of damage other than the swelling?

A None other than had been there from the first examination.

Q To the best of your knowledge, there was no one who treated Brazier as such that is greated the injuries of

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Brazier as such?

A Other than me or Dr. Durden.

Q Other than the two of you?

A Yes.

Q Was there any medication given him or any wounds dressed by you on any of the three occasions that you saw him?

A As best I recall, I might have put a band-aid on the one on the forehead but there again, I say it's just the best I can recall, right about his hair line in this area; and, as best I recall, I might have put a band-aid on that; but, as I told you to begin with, I did not think that the lacertaion or abrasion was large enough to warrant suturing; and that's not uncommon at all. Nor was the one in the posterior and those were the only two places that I could tell that the skin was broken.

Q Is it common for the ear, when there have been blows of the type that you have described which may have damaged the tympanic membrane, to bleed rather profusely over a period of several hours?

A The damage, as I recall, as I said just now, the tympanic membrane itself was intact. The blood that I saw was either in the substance of the tympanic membrane itself or behind it. And there again, I thought it quite possible that he could have had a basal fracture. That's the reason I instructed them to put him into a cell by himself and to be

sure and 'rouse him at least hourly; and if at any time they could not 'rouse him, to let me know, because it's not far to Columbus and that's the nearest neuro-surgeon, and we still had time to get him there. Well, let's say, it's not uncommon practice for a person that we know has a fractured skull to put them in the hospital and observe.

Q Did you see Mr. Reginald Arnold on that Sunday evening in the vicinity of the jail when you went to visit Brazier?

- A As best I recall, I did see Mr. Ragan Arnold.
- Q Ragan Arnold? How do you spell that?
- A R-a-g-a-n (spelling).

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- Q But his last name is Arnold, is that right?
- A A-r-n-o-l-d (spelling).
- Q Where did you see him?
- A The best I recall, it was on the steps or right in this general area here at the courthouse.
  - Q That would be the what, the west side generally?
  - A On the west side.
  - Q Of the courthouse?
  - A The west side of the courthouse.
  - Q Was this when you first came up?
  - A That was on the first visit.
  - Q Yes?
  - A That's correct.
  - Q Did you have occasion to talk with him?

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A I did. He and I are good friends. I've bought
quite a few automobiles from him since l've been in Dawson
and James worked for him. And if I - there again, having to
recall over a period of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, as best I recall, I told
him = which was after -   Im pretty sure it was after   had
examined James, and I told him what I had found and what I
planned to do, to be sure that he was observed and that there
was a possibility that we would have to send him to Columbus
to Dr. Hazouri, the neurosurgeon.

- Q Do you know the gentleman that just walked in?
- A Quite well.
- Q You know him as Sheriff Z. T. Matthews, is that correct?
  - A I know him as "Old Buddy".
- Q Have you had the occasion to discuss this case with him?
  - A Not recently.
- Q When is the last time you have any recollection of discussing it with him?
- A As best I recall, the last time I discussed it with him was somewhere about, oh I would say, in 1958.
- Q You mean during the course of that night or shortly thereafter?
- A Either that night or shortly thereafter, or possibly during the time that James was in Columbus and the

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     time of his death. I don't recall; I might have talked with
2
     him later because I was pestered with some FBI Agents quite
8
     frequently for -- I say quite frequently -- 2 or 3 times.
4
           Q
                 The FBI came and questioned you about his
5
     condition?
           Α
                 Yes.
7
                 And what your diagnosis and prognosis was as
          0
     related to James Brazier?
8
                 That's right, and all the circumstances surrounding
9
10
     it.
                 Would you remember the names of any of them?
11
          0
                The FBI Agents?
12
                Yes?
13
                 I know one of them quite well. His name was
14
    Ward.
15
               : Ward?
16
             And the other one was Burkett.
17
                 Did you have the occasion to be subpoensed to go
18
    to Columbus or to Macon?
19
          А
                 No.
20
                 In connection with this matter?
21
                       I might say one thing; you need not record
22
    this. I don't think: So far as James! external injuries were
23
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concerned, they did not compare with the one that I sustained

about a week ago, when I lifted, ripped part of my own scalp

24

8

A Was rather mild.

off in an automobile accident; and I reckon I was lucky.

Q Well, would there be any relationship, Doctor?

A No. I said he need not record that. But I will say this though, so far as the external injuries were concerned, though this had the appearance of external injury, their appearance would not in any way indicate the severity of the internal damage that he had. I've seen quite a few people with much worse lacerations, abrasions, contusions and hematomas on the head than James had that were like I, able to get up and walk around right then, and had no after-effects whatsoever.

Q You're not suggesting, however, that the severity of these injuries - strike that - Let me put it this way:
You're not suggesting that the consequential damage was in any way foreign to the nature of the injuries which he had?

A No, it is quite possible; but at the same time, from the rather inconsequential appearance of the external wounds, the internal damage was more --

Q Was far greater than the external; I see what you mean?

A Was all out of proportion to the external appearance.

Q Let me see if I understand that: If I understand what you're saying, you're saying that the external appearance of Brazier -

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Q	-	did	not	belie	the	severity	of	the	interna
damage?			,						

- A That's right.
- Q -- which was later discovered to have resulted from the injury?
  - A That's correct.
- Q Are you officially hired by the City or the County to make visitations to prisoners; in other words, are you the official City doctor?
  - A | I am the County Medical Examiner.
  - Q You're the County Medical Examiner?
- A Appointed by the -- you know, the County Medical Examiner is appointed by the State.
- Q In other words, you actually handle autopsies and all this sort of thing in case of coroner's hearings, inquests and this sort of thing, is that correct?
  - A Yes.
  - Q And at the same time you are --
- A My associate has been appointed by one of the grand juries years ago as the County physician, City and County physician; and, since he and I work very closely together, his patients are mine and mine are his, and vice versa. If there's a prisoner that they think requires or needs medical attention, we are called and whichever one of us is available goes.

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Q I see. Is this on a salary basis or is this on an individual basis, individual cost basis?

A Fee basis. The County Medical Examiner's job is on a fee basis also.

Q Did you make any inquiry on your first visitation of James Brazier, and I'm speaking of the time when you say you came in the evening to the office and he was then brought up to the office for the examination, on that occasion did you make any inquiry as to how he came about these injuries?

A I never ask such questions. I had rather not know.

Q Were you told by any of those who were present?

A I don't recall. If I was, it would be hearsay evidence.

Q Well, sometimes hearsay is admissible for certain purposes, Doctor?

A I think that I was told at one time or another.

Q I mean on that occasion?

A I don't recall as to whether it was on that occasion or later. I would be more than glad to give any information that I know to be a fact.

Q Well, normally, would it be reasonably important to know somewhat of the history of the activity which produced the traumatic effect?

A Well, since I was - as I say, I could have been

and, there again, I can't be positive about this statement that I'm sure that I was told that he had been hit; but I don't recall who told me or any of the circumstances about that.

Q Do you recollect what you were told that he was hit with?

A No.

Q Do you recollect being told the circumstances under which he was hit?

A There again, I don't know whether I was told before or after, but I was told some of the circumstances.

Q Do you recollect who told you of those circum-

A No, I do not.

Q Doctor, I believe that s all unless Mr. Bloch may have some questions.

#### CROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. CHAS. J. BLOCH:

Q Just one or two questions, Doctor: At the time you examined James Brazier at the jail on this Sunday afternoon or evening, you are of the opinion that the slurred speech and the reflexes and the unsteady gait were possibly attributable to acute alcoholism, is that correct?

A That's correct.

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Q	And at	that time	the odor	of alcohol,	you're
positive,	was very	strong on	your pat	ient's breat	h?

A Correct.

Q Have you any knowledge of Brazier having had brain surgery prior to this occasion?

A No sir, right off-hand. I might have been told sometime before or after but I don't recall.

O That's all.

#### REDIRECT EXAMINATION

#### BY MR. HOLLOWELL:

Q Are you saying, Doctor, that now -- strike that -You are not testifying, are you Doctor, that the cause for
the unsteady gait or the cause for the sothfulness in
speech, the lack of coherentness, was from acute alcoholism,
are you?

A The statement was put to me that it was possibly due to acute alcoholism.

Q Yes, I just wanted to clear up for the record that you were not so testifying?

A I am not so testifying and I would not then or ever say that it was due to head injury or to alcoholism.

That was the reason that I asked that he be put in a cell, so he could be observed, because I wasn't sure which it was and I wanted to be sure that he was watched.

Q Nothing further.

#### RECROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR. BLOCHA:

Q But you are sure that the odor of alcohol was very strong on his breath?

A I'm positive.

MR. HOLLOWELL: All of these depositions, of course, are with the usual stipulation, is that correct?

MR. BLOCH: Huh?

MR. HOLLOWELL: I say on all of these depositions, there's the usual waivers except as to the form of the question?

MR. BLOCH: With the understanding, the usual waiver, not to be necessarily used as evidence.

THE REPORTER: He said at the beginning of the depositions that they're for discovery purposes, which means, of course, they can't be used unless the Judge so directs.

MR. HOLLOWELL: Except for impeachment purposes.

## MR. V. L. SINGLETARY

witness called by Plaintiff for discovery being first duly sworn, testified on

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

### BY MR. HOLLOWELL:

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- Q Mr. Singletary, where do you live, sir?
- A Dawson, Georgia.
- Q What is your address, sir?
- A Cinderella Lane.
- Q Sir?
- A Cinderella Lane.
- Q Do you have a house number?
- A No.
- Q I believe in April of 1958 you were the Mayor of the City of Dawson, is that not right, sir?
  - A ! have served as Mayor of the City of Dawson, yes.
  - Q Were you Mayor at that time?
  - A Yes, I guess so.
- Q As the Mayor, was one of your duties that of sitting as the judge of the City Court?
  - A Yes.
- Q Is that the only City Court you have? What is this, a Recorder's court? Was this a Recorder's court or a court equivalent to a Recorder's court?
  - A Well, it's just City court; now, I wouldn't know.
  - Q Are you a lawyer, sir?
  - A No.

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                 As a part of your job as Mayor, you sat as the
2
     Judge of the City Court, is that correct?
3
                 That's right.
4
                 Does Dawson have a City Code?
          Q
5
                 Have what?
          Α
                A City code?
6
           Q
7
                I would imagine so.
                 Did they have one as of the time that you were
8
          Q
     the Mayor of the City?
9
                Well, if they had one, yes, they had it at that
10
     time.
11
     Q I'm not sure that I understand your answer, Mr.
12
    Singletary: Is it your testimony that you don't know whether
13
     they did in fact have one or not?
14
                 That's right, that's right.
15
                 Did you know James Brazier?
16
                 No.
17
                 Have you ever had a person in your court by the
18
    name of James Brazier?
19
                 Yes.
20
                 Doyou recollect having a person to appear before
21
    you whose name was James Brazier on Monday, the 21st of April,
22
     1958?
23
    A James Brazier appeared in court.
24
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Before you?

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Α	One Monday morning,	I don't know what date it was.
Q	I see. This was in	the year of 158 and in the

month of April, but you don't remember what the exact date was, is that correct?

A No.

Q Do you know the wife of James Brazier?

A No.

Q Have you ever seen this lady who is sitting to my right rear?

A Perhaps I have: I don't remember.

Q On the occasion when the - strike that and let me ask this question: Was this James Brazier that appeared before you at the time indicated a Negro?

A Yes.

Q Would you suggest that he was in the vicinity of 30 years of age?

wouldn't know.

Q Do you recollect who brought him to couft on that morning?

A No.

Q Who customarily brought prisoners from the City to court?

A Well, whatever policeman happened to be on duty at that time.

Q . The prisoners were not necessarily brought to court

by the particular policeman who had made the arrest?

A No.

Q But rather by a policeman who happened to have been on duty as of the time that the court met, is this correct?

A That's right.

Q In your adjudication of the cases, what did you use as a basis for determining the guilt or innocence from the standpoint of the City's charge?

A Well, we used statement from the defendant, along with the testimony from the arresting officer, or any other witness that happened to be called.

Q Did you have some basic standards for determining what fines were, which standards had been set up by the City?

A Not that I know of, no.

Q On the morning that James Brazier was brought before you, do you remember who brought him to the stand?

A No.

Q That is, before the bench?

A No, 1 don't.

Q Do you remember how he was dressed?

A No.

Q If I indicated to you that he was without shirt and shoes as of that time, would that help to refresh your recollection?

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                  No.
2
            Q
                  Do you remember what his charge was?
3
                  There was no charge.
4
                  There was no charge against him?
            Q
5
                  There was no charge made against him.
            Α
6
            Q
                  No charge made against him insofar as you
7
     recollect?
8
                  That's right.
                  Do you keep or did you keep a calendar?
9
10
                  The City clerk had one. I did not.
                 When he was brought before you, was he able to
11
     answer to his name?
12
                  The best I remember, he was.
13
                  Do you remember what questions you directed
14
     to him?
15
                  None at all.
16
                  You didn't direct any to him at all?
17
                  No.
18
                  He did appear before you?
           Q
19
                  Yes.
20
                 What, if anything, did you say, inasmuch as you
21
     say there was no charge made against him -- strike that -
22
     I believe you said that there was no charge made against
23
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him and he did appear before you: Did you ask him, or

what did you say to him?

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A As	1	remember	it.	1	didn¹t	say	anything	to	him
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- Q What directions did you give?
- A | | directed that that case be passed.
- Q Why did you direct that it be passed?
- A Because he seemingly was not in condition to stand trial.
- Q What condition did you note that gave rise to your arriving at this decision?

A Well, he seemed to have been in some sort of a scuffle or fight. I've had a lot of people in court that had been in fights and so forth.

Q Well, when you say "he seemd to be, seemed to have been", what made you or what did you observe about him which gave rise to your conclusion that he seemed to have been in some scuffle?

A Well, as I remember it, his face was swollen to some extent, around his eyes mostly.

- Q What about around his eyes?
- A Was swollen.
- Q What else do you remember about his condition?

A That is about all I remember about him. I remember that we passed the case and there was no questions asked and no charges put forth in court.

Q Did you give any direction as to what should be done with him?

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- Q Isn't it true that you told them to take the man to the doctor?
  - A I may have.
- Q This condition which you observed, I believe you said that his physical condition --
  - A Yes.
- Q -- which you explained as causing him to look as though he had been in a scuffle or a fight, was what caused you to pass the case?
  - A That s right.
- Q And you don't know directly at this time whether you directed that he be taken to the doctor but you say that you might have so stated; is that correct?
  - A | might have so stated; | don't remember.
- Q Did you make any investigation as to how he did arrive at the condition he was at the time that you saw him?
  - A No.
- Q After you had strike that Was there any information volunteered to you as to how he came about to be in that condition?
  - A No.
- Q Did you ask any of the police officers how he happened to be in that condition?
  - A I may have asked but I don't remember.

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Did you subsequently cause any investigation to
      Q
be made concerning his condition?
            No.
            Did you subsequently gain any information as to
how he came about to have this condition?
      Α
            Not directly, no.
            What do you mean, not directly?
      Q
            Well, you can always hear talk on the street.
      Α
            Did you discuss it with the police officers?
      Q
            No.
            You never have discussed it with the police
officers?
      A٠
            No.
            Did you ever discuss it with the Sheriff?
            No.
            You mean as the Mayor of the City you didn't
manifest enough interest to make any interrogation at all
of this prisoner?
            I left that with the City Attorney; no, I did not.
            Who was the City Attorney?
            Colonel Jones, R. R. Jones.
            Was he present that morning?
      Q
            Yes.
      Α
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Does he normally prosecute the cases for the City?

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Q
                 In your court?
1
2
           Α
                 Yes.
                 Did he make any recommendations as to that
8
     particular case?
4
5
           Α
                 No.
                 Did he make any investigation that you know of?
6
                 Notthat | know of.
7
           Α
                 As to this case?
8
           Q
                 Not that I know of.
9
           Α
                 Did you direct him to make any investigation?
10
           Q
                 No.
11
                 Well, what was it that you left to him?
           Q
12
                 Well, that was part of his job, as I understood
13
     it; it wasn't mine.
14
                 What was part of his job?
15
                 Any investigation that had to be made on it.
16
                  Did you understand that as the chief executive
17
     officer of the City of Dawson that you had a right to demand
18
     that certain investigation be made concerning the treatment of
19
     prisoners in the jail?
20
                 No, I didn!t.
21
                  Do I understand you to say that you did not
           Q
22
     understand that this was within the scope of your authority?
23
                  Yes, that's right.
24
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Have you singe gained knowledge of the fact that

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1
     it was within your authority?
2
                  No, I haven't gained any knowledge to that effect.
3
                  What years were you the Mayor?
           Q
                  I wouldn't know.
           Α
4
                  You don't know when you were the Mayor of Dawson?
           Q
5
                  No. I don It.
6
           A
                  Do you know when you went out of office?
7
           Q
                  No, it was several years ago.
8
           Α
           Q
                  Well, it was after 158?
9
                 Well, if this was in 158, yes, it was after 158.
10
                  Was it after '59?
           Q
11
                  I wouldn't know.
12
                  Do you run for the office of Mayor?
13
                  I did then, yes.
           Α ...
14
                  How many times have you run?
           Q
15
                  Once.
           Α
16
           Q
                  When was that?
17
                  I don't remember.
           Α
18
                  Let me see if I understand: You were the Mayor
           Q
19
     of Dawson but you don't remember when you ran?
20
                  I don't remember what year it was, no.
           Α
21
                  And you don't remember when you went out of office?
           Q
22
           Α
                  No.
23
```

Although you only ran one time?

That is right.

Q

Α

24

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1
           Q
                  Is the office of Mayor a full time job?
\mathbf{2}
            Α
                  No.
8
           Q
                  Are you paid on a fee basis?
4
                  No.
            Α
5
                  You're paid on a salary basis?
           Q
                  Yeah, I guess so.
6
           Α
7
           Q
                  You mean, you way you guess so; don'tyou know, sir?
                  Well, I know they pay on a yearly basis.
8
           Α
                  Annually, what was the annual salary?
9
           Q
10
           Α
                  $500:
                $ 5000
           Q
11
                  Yes.
           A.
12
                  So, this was sort of supplementary to your
18
     normal work?
14
           Α
                  That's right.
15
                  What kind of work do you do, sir?
16
                  Automobile dealer.
17
                 What kind of automobiles?
           Q
18
                  Chrysler.
           A
19
                 What's the name of your agency?
           Q
20
                Just V. L. Singletary.
21
                  How long have you had such an agency?
           Q
22
                  Since 1946.
23
                  Did it ever come to your attention that James
24
     Brazier did in fact die shortly after he appeared before you
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1
      in court?
           Α
                 I heard that he did, yes.
3
           Q
                 But even then, you made no investigation?
4
           Α
                 No.
5
           Q.
                 And didn't feel it was important or necessary to
6
     make one?
7
                 I didn't make an investigation.
8
                 I say, you didn't feel it important or necessary
           Q
9
     to direct that one be made?
10
                 No.
11
                 When was the next time that you saw Brazier after
12
     he appeared before you in court on the particular Monday
13
    morning in question?
                 I didn't.
14
                 H Is there any other information surrounding
15
     his having been injured or his having been put in jail, or
16
     his having died, that you know of which you have not stated
17
     to us?
18
                 No.
19
                 This is everything that you know about the case
           Q
20
     of James Brazier ??
21
                 That's right.
22
                 MR. HOLLOWELL: Mr. Bloch, he's with you.
23
                                  I have no questions.
                 MR. BLOCH:
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MR. HOLLOWELL:

Thank you, sir.

### MR. MANSFIELD EDWIN MATTHEWS

witness called by Plaintiff for purpose of discovery, being first duly sworn, testified on

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. HOLLOWELL:

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Q Mr. Matthews, were you sworn when you were here before?

- A Yes, I was sworn a while ago in here.
- Q Would you state your full name?
- A Mansfield Edwin Matthews.
- Q You are the Deputy Sheriff of Terrell County, is that right, sir?
  - A. That's right.
  - Q How long have you been such?
  - A Since February 15, 1952.
  - Q Were you appointed to that office?
  - A That<sup>1</sup>s right.
  - Q Who appointed you?
  - A The Sheriff, Z. T. Matthews.
  - Q Is that he sitting there to your left, sir?
  - A That's right.
  - Q That's your Uncle?
  - A That's right.
- Q You havke been continuously the Deputy Sheriff of Terrell County ever since your initial appointment, is that right, Mr. Matthews?
  - A That is right.

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1
                  I think they generally call you "Mr. Mansfield"
           Q
     or "Mr. Manse", sometimes?
\mathbf{2}
3
                  Most of them call me "Manse", yes.
4
                  Are you the only Deputy Sheriff that they have?
           Q
                  At this time, I'm not; I was up until about a
5
           Α
6
     year ago.
7
           Q
                  I see, they have a Mr. Dunaway, don't they?
                 That's right.
8
           Α
                  He's your junior?
9
           Q
                 That's right.
10
           Q .
                  Now, as the Deputy Sheriff, of course, you
11
     perform any and all duties that are assigned to you by the
12
     Sheriff?
13
                  That's right.
14
                 And, of course, in his absence, act in his stead,
15
     is that correct?
16
                  That's right.
17
                  You were then and are now, and when I say "then",
           Q
18
     back in April of '58, you were then and are now the senior
19
     Deputy Sheriff of Terrell County?
20
                  Yes.
21
                 As a matter of fact, you handle 'most all of the
22
     routine matters for the Sheriff's office, do you not, or did
23
     back as of that time?
24
                 Well, yes, I did; most of it, yes.
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		Mansfield Matthews 48
	Q	The Sheriff is more of the administrator and you
perfo	rm gen	erally all of the functions of the office?
	Α	That's right.
	Q	Now, I believe back as of that time the City
and tl	ne Cou	nty had its jail together?
	Α	Well, the City was using the County's jail.
	Q	That was the only jail?
	Α	It belongs to the County but the City has been
using	it ev	er since live been in the Sheriff's office.
	Q	You used the cells interchangeably?
	Α	That's right.
	Q	Sometimes County and City prisoners are all
there	toget	her?
, ,	Α	Yes.
	Q	But they are fed by the County personnel?
	Α	The Sheriff, yes.
	<b>0</b>	The Sheriff's office - well, the Sheriff is the

custodian of the jail; it s the actual responsibility of the Sheriff?

Yes.

To supervise and maintain the jail, is that Q correct?

Yes.

Calling your attention to the 20th of April, 1958, you had the occasion to see James Brazier, did you not, on

the Sunday when he was incarcerated?

- A No, I didn't see him.
- Q You did not see him on that day?
- A No.

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0 Were you on duty that day?

A Well, I was in a way. I wasn't -- we don't stay at the office all the time on Sundays.

Q Where do you live, sir?

A | lived, at that time | lived on lvy Street out beyond the hospital.

- Q This is quite some distance from the jail?
- A Yes.
- Q If a callshould come in for you, they would call you out there, is that correct?
  - A That's right.
- Q Who normally would call you, one of the City policemen?

A Well, not necessarily; no, I would get calls at the house; if they called our office and there was nobody there, they would call me at the house, whoever wanted me.

Q I see. I mean sometimes they made calls direct and sometimes they maybe referred through the City police or sometimes you may happen to be in the office; it could happen in all three ways, is that correct?

A That's right.

24

Q Or sometimes something would come in to the Sheriff and the Sheriff could call you at home and say "take care of this" is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Now, I believe you also had a Sheriff's office located in the courthouse and then there was sort of a Sheriff's jail office, shall we say, which was there off of the screen porch at the jail; is that correct?

A Yes.

Q When you were around where did you normally hang out more often than not, around at the courthouse?

A I was over at the courthouse unless I had some business at the jail.

Q Some budiness at the jail?

A Yes.

Q Well, of course, normally insofar as the handling of prisoners and the feeding and the cleaning up of the jail, this was all taken care of by Magwood under your jurisdiction or under your supervision, is that correct?

A Well, it wasn't to say under my supervision. It was under the supervision of the Sheriff.

Q Under the Sheriff's supervision?

A That's right.

Q And you are his alter ego; that is, you are his chief deputy?

A Yes

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Q		And you carried the keys to the jail?
Α		Well, I could get them. I didn't tote them but
l could	get	them at any time.
Q		And the Sheriff had the keys?
А		Yes.
Q		And the police officers had keys?
A		Yes.
Q		And Magwood had keys; was anybody else - is
that cor	rect	t?
Α		That¹s right.
Q		Did anybody else carry keys?
A		No, I don't can't recall anybody else carrying
keys.		·
Q		Do you recall where you were between the hours
of 7:00	and	9:00 on that Sunday, the 20th, the Sunday when
Brazier	was	locked up in the City-County jail?
А		No, I cen¹t recall just where I was at that time.
Q		You did come to the jail during the course of the
evening	and	night?
Α		Not that I remember, no.
Q		Didn't you have the occasion to come down to the
jail at	a]]1	?

Q You're not specifically that you didn't but that

Not as I can remember; I don't think so; not that

25

I can remember.

1--- **1** -- **1** 

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1
     to your best recollection you didn't, is that correct?
2
           Α
                 Well, that's been some time ago and I just don't --
3
                 You don't really remember?
           0
4
                 I dont remember that I did or didn't actualy.
5
                 When is the first time that you specifically
           Q
6
     recollect seeing Brazier after he had been locked up?
7
                 I never did see him.
8
                 So far as you can remember?
           Q
9
                 Well, I know I didn't see him.
           Α
10
                 You know you didn't see him as such?
           0
11
                 Yes.
                 You know you didn't see him but you don't recol-
12
          Q.
     lect specifically whether or not you did come to the jail
13
    during the night, because you just don't remember?
14
                 That's right.
15
       Q When did you first learn about the fact that
16
     Brazier had been in jail on this occasion?
17
                 Oh. I don't know; it was some few days later.
18
     I don't know just exactly the date.
19
                 You didn't learn about it the next day?
20
                 No.
           Α
21
                 As far as you know?
           0
22
                 No.
23
                 Had he already died when you learned about it, or
24
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do you know?

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Α	TI	nat¹s	when	1	heard	it;	I	mean	that 's	when	į
					•						
learned	about	it,	thi	nk	•						

Q How are you paid?

A Well, I'm paid by the Sheriff. I don't have just a regular salary. Both of us, we operate on a fee basis.

Q How often do you visit the jail during the course of a normal day?

A Well, some days I don't go to the jail. There will be maybe several days that I won't go to the jail.

- Q But you'll be on call, is that it?
- A That's right.
- Q Or sometimes if you re out running down a prisoner or something, you might even be out of the County?
  - A That's right.
- Q When you are there, of course, you are amenable to whatever functions that the Sheriff sets up for you to do, is that correct?
  - A That's right.
- Q You don't have to handle the jail because Gene acted as the jailer; so you didn't have to do that, is that right?

A Well, Gene was the janitor there and, of course, he carried the keys; and, of course, he carried all the prisoners their food.

Q And he supervised the cleaning up of the jail and

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this sort of thing?

A Well, he would to a certain extent. I think the Sheriff would really be the supervisor.

Q Well, what I mean is, the Sheriff would tell him, of course, what to do?

A That s right.

Q And then he would see that the Sheriff's orders were carried out?

A Yes.

Q Did he transport prisoners back and forth sometimes from the Camp out to the jail and vice versa?

A Who was that, Gene?

Q Yes?

A No.

Q ... Did you usually do this?

A You mean the County Camp?

Q Yes?

A We hardly ever had any occasion to transport a prisoner from our jail but to the County Camp.

Q Oh really?

A That's right.

Q I see. Suppose a man was given 6 months public works sentence during your regular term, wouldn't you normally take him out there, or would they come in and get him?

A The warden would come and get him.

1	
1	Q Oh, the warden would come and get him, is that
2	right?
3	A That's right.
4	Q Do you hage any dogs?
5	A Not now, no.
6	Q Did you have some back there, four years ago?
7	A I might have had one. I had some bird dogs ba
8	2 or 3 years ago.
9	Q Were they up there with the Sheriff's dogs or
10	kept them at your home?
11	A I kept them at my house.
12	Q Do you go with the Sheriff some times when the
13	Sheriff would go fishing and hunting?
14	A   don <sup>1</sup> t think he and   have ever been fishing
15	hunting together because both of us couldn <sup>1</sup> t get off at th
16	same time.
17	Q Oh, 1 see. Is Gene a pretty good dog man?
18	A He was right good, yes.
19	Q Did he do pretty well when you would go huntir
20	and he <sup>1</sup> d handle the dogs for you when you would go out?
21	A Not hunting, no.
22	Q I believe you had some birds there too, right
23	back there at the jail, did you? What kind of birds did th
24	have or just bird dogs?

The Sheriff had some quail over there.

ne bird dogs back iff<sup>I</sup>s dogs or you been fishing or t get off at the ould go hunting, f birds did they

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Q I believe they also had a radio set-up in the Sheriff's office there, did they not?

A Yes.

Q Do they still have that, Mr. Matthews?

A That's right.

Q Back in 158, this was handled alternately by a person who was hired by the City and County, is that correct?

A Yes, the City had an operator that operated the radio at night.

Q I see, and you folks operated it in the daytime?

A That's right.

Q That is the County folks; and they would take messages back and forth for both the City and County, since It was sort of a joint venture, is that correct?

A .... That's right. ..

Q The City doesn't keep any prisoners over there, now, do they?

A · In our jail?

Q In your jail, in the County jail?

A Yes.

Q ... They still keep some prisoners there?

A Yes.

Q Well, don't they also have a City jail now?

A No, they haven't got one that I know of. They wsed to have a guard-house up there back of the Fire Department

23

24

but they're not using it and haven't used it in some time. Let me see, live only been through Dawson only a few times; you don't have in the center of town one of these little houses where the police usually stay, like on the corner of the main intersection; you don't have any such as that in Dawson, do you? No. Actually, the City police and the Sheriff¹s Q. office, they transacted their business generally out of the one office there at the courthouse, up until the time that they put in their office down there over the fire station, is that correct? Yes, that's right. Yes. From the same office? Q Yes.

There was only one Sheriff's office in the city hall, I mean, I'm sorry, in the courthouse; isn't that correct? The City never did have any separate office in the courthouse, did they? No. no: they were -- the fact that the radio was inthere, of course, was the reason that they more or less operated around --Sometimes they would go on calls with you, would Q they not?

A There have been occasions when I was going out by myself and I would ask one of them to go with me.

Q And vice versa, I suppose?

A Well, that has happened.

Q Now, Mr. Mansfield - 11m sorry, I hear some of the folks say "Mr. Mansfield" all the time and I get the idea that "Mansfield" is your last name, when actually it's your first name --

A That's all right.

Q Mr. Matthews, were you ever interrogated by any of the FBI personnel in connection with the Brazier case?

A No.

- - Q- Were you ever present when there was any interrogation going on?

A No.

Q Did you ever make any independent investigation pertaining to the incarceration, the injury and the death of James Brazier?

A No.

Q Were you ever directed to make any investigation by your superior?

A No.

Q Or any other person relative to this particular case?

A No.

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	Q	۱s	there	any	thin	g at	alĮ	that	you	kno	ow abou	ıt
James	Brazie	er¹s	arres	st,	his	inju	ry oı	r his	deat	th,	which	you
have i	not tes	stif	ied to	as	of	this	time	2،				

A No.

Q Have you had the occasion to discuss the case with any of the police officers?

A No, I never have discussed it with them.

Q Have you had the occasion to discuss it with the Sheriff?

A Well, I don't know that we have discussed it.

It could have been - it could have been mentioned. I don't know; I can't say that we discussed it.

Q Didn't Mr. Cherry and the other officers and Mr. Matthews here, your Uncle, discuss with you the nature of the questions that had been asked them on a previous occasion when their depositions were respectively taken?

A No, they never have; they haven't discussed it with me.

Q You didknow James Brazier, did you not?

A Yes, I knew him.

Q You had seen him around there in town over a period of years?

A That's right.

Q And you knew that he worked over there with Mr. Ragan Arnold?

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1
           Α
                  That's right.
2
                  Do you know his wife?
           Q
8
                  Yes.
           Α
4
                  And probably know his father too, don't you?
           Q
5
                  Yes, I know his daddy.
           Α
                  And most of his family?
6
           Q
                  I knew his daddy and I knew James and I know his
7
     daddy and I knew his wife when I saw her.
8
                  Are you a native of Terrell County?
9
           Q
                  That's right.
10
                  I appreciate it, sir; Mr. Bloch may have some
11
           Q
     questions?
12
                  MR. BLOCH:
                                  No questions.
13
                  Mr. Hollowell: You may be excused, sir; I hope
14
     we didn't keep you too long?
15
                  That's all right.
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witness called by Plaintiff for purpose of discovery, being first duly sworn, testified on

#### DIRECT EXAMINATION

### BY MR. HOLLOWELL:

- Q Mr. Hancock, you were sworn when you first came up, weren't you?
  - A That's right.
  - Q Where do you live, Mr. Hancock?
  - A In live in Bronwood, Georgia.
  - Q Where?
  - A Bronwood, Terrell County.
  - Q Do you have a street address?
  - A No.
  - Q You live out in the rural?
- A: Well, the streets are not named up there as far as 1 know.
  - Q Do you have a job there?
  - A No. I work with the Revenue Department.
  - Q / I see, what is your function there?
  - A Well, primarily whiskey, illegal whiskey.
  - Q Pretty good business now?
  - A Not too good now; it's slow.
- Q You were formerly with the City Police Department at Dawson, is that right?
  - A Right.
  - Q How long were you there?

l	
1	A Two years.
2	Q What years were you there?
3	A 157 and 158.
4	Q Doyou recollect when you started in 157, the month
5	at least?
6	A January 1, 157.
7	Q And you finished out the year of 158?
8	A Yes, I quit. I resigned in January of 159, the
9	day that the Governor was inaugurated in 159.
10	Q Oh yes, that's when Mr. Vandiver took office?
11	A That's right.
12	Q And that's when you went over
13	A Tothe Revenue Department.
14	Q to the Revenue Department. You must have been
15	a pretty good politician?
16	A l don't know.
17	Q You were a night employee or a day employee
18	during 158?
19	A   was well,   done some of both of them.
20	Q   see. Who was your partner?
21	A Mr. Cherry was part of the time and different
22	others; different ones. I worked split shift some and relief
23	shift some and night shift some.
24	Q Doyou have a recollection of the time back in

April of 158 when James Brazier was arrested?

I heard about it, yes. Α

2

Were you on duty at the time that he was arrested?

3

4

No, I was off that - I was off from Sunday, from Saturday night at midnight until Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

5

I was working split shift.

6

From Saturday night midnight?

7

That's right.

8

Until Monday afternoon?

9

At 5 o'clock.

10

At 5 o'clock; now, how many policemen did you have

at that time?

12

11

There was six.

13

14

Who was your partner as of that particular time; that iz, when you went off duty Saturday, who were you going

shift. I came to work at 1:00 Saturday afternoon and worked

to midnight; and I don't remember exactly who it was. That's

off duty with?

been a long time ago.

15

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24

Might it have been Mr. Jones? I just don't know. I don't remember, for I usually

walked the streets on Saturday afternoon and night. I'd just come up there at 1 o'clock and go on.

Well, when I came to work, I was working split

But at any rate, you know specifically that you were not on duty on Sunday, the 20th of April, 158, at all?

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1
                  I don't know exactly what date it was but I know it
\mathbf{2}
    was on Sunday and I was off Monday until 5 o'clock.
3
                  I see; so, you were not on duty at all on the
4
    particular Sunday when James Brazier was arrested?
5
           Α
                 No.
6
                 You had gone off duty at 1 o'clock?
           0
7
                 No, 12 o'clock Saturday night.
           А
8
           Q
                 At 12 o'clock Saturday night?
9
                 That's right.
           Α
10
                 Did you have the occasion to see Brazier in jail
11
    at all?
12
                 I did not.
           Α
13
                 When did you have the occasion to visit the jail
14
    between Saturday at midnight and Monday morning?
15
                 I did not. I was at home the whole time.
16
                 You had no ccasion to visit the jail whatsoever?
17
                 No.
18
                 Did you have the occasion to see James Brazier
           Q
    at any time thereafter?
19
20
                 I did not.
                 Did you have the occasion to be a part of an
21
          Q
    investigation group that investigated this matter?
22
                 I did not.
23
                 Nor did you investigate it personally?
24
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I never did; didn't have anything to do with it.

I you to save my soul.

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Q	Do you know when he died?
A	No, I don't; couldn't tel

- Q Were you interrogated by the FB1?
- A I was not.
- Q Did you go to the grand-jury hearing?
- A I did not.
- Q Do you know who on the Police Department was investigated by the FBI?
  - A No, I don't, no.
- Q Do you know who actually went to the grand-jury hearing?
  - A | do not.
- Q Let's see, during this time the City policemen had their office there with the Sheriff's Department in the courthouse there?
  - A Merely for the use of the radio.
- Q Yes; I mean you operated out of there; you had no other office as such?
  - A That 1s right.
- Q And you got your calls back and forth, the County police and City police right there in that office?
- A We got them through the radio, with separate phones and all.
- Q Phones, radio and so forth. Now, let's see, you had a key, did you not, for getting into the jail?

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Α	No. I	didn't:	l didn't	have a	kev.
	,,,,	a, a,, c,	1 0 0 0 0	1. <b>a</b> • • •	110,

Q Well, your partner did?

A Yes. Well, if I needed it to get in there, I always borrowed a key from somebody.

Q And you could always borrow a key to get in, couldn't you; and also, Gene could also let you in; he had a key?

A Yes.

#### CROSS EXAMINATION

#### BY MR. BLOCH:

Q How long were you a police officer in Dawson prior to your resignation on the 1st of January, 159?

A Two years. I went to work January 1, 157.

Q 157; did you ever have occasion during that time to arrest James Brazier?

A Not as I remember. I don't recall of any.

O That's all.

#### REDIRECT EXAMINATION

#### BY MR. HOLLOWELL:

Q Let me ask you one other question: Is there anything at all that you know about the arrest of James Brazier or his injury or his death that you have not told us about?

A I know nothing about it at all. I didn't know anything about it at the time and I don't know anything now; and never tried to --

25

20

21

22

23

```
You did know James Brazier?
           Q
1
                  I had seen him, yes.
2
                  I mean you knew him to recognize him, if you did
           Q
3
     see him?
4
                  Yeah.
           Α
5
                  Your answer was "yes"?
           0
6
                  Yes. I knew him, yes.
           Α
7
                  All right, did you have it -- No, I believe
8
     no further questions, thanks you.
9
10
11
                      MR. HAROLD JONES
12
                 witness called by Plaintiff for
                 purpose of discovery, being first
13
                 duly sworn, testified on
                     DIRECT EXAMINATION
14
     BY MR. HOLLOWELL:
15
                  Mr. Jones, where do you live, sir?
16
                  I live 5\frac{1}{2} miles north of Dawson.
17
                  Is there any specific community name which is
            Q
18
     given to the area where you live?
19
20
                  Yes, Yeomans Community.
            Q
                  Sir?
21
                  Yeomans Community.
22
                  Y-e-o-m-a-n (spelling)?
23
            Q
24
```

Yeomans Community?

1		Α	That's right.
2		Q	How long have you lived there, Mr. Jones?
3		Α .	Well, I'm 47 years old; that's how long.
4		Q	Are you still on the Police Department in Dawson?
5		A	No.
6		Q	You were there, weren't you?
7		Α	Yes.
8		Q	When did you go on, over there?
9		Α .	l went on regular in '55, I believe.
10		Q ·	You had been what, sort of an assistant or deputy?
11		Α	I had been working about - I worked three years
12	there	on va	cations and odd times when they needed me.
13		Q	And when did your employment cease?
1		Α	Well, the 15th of this month was a year ago.
14			
14 15		Q	November 15, 161?
		Q A	November 15, 161? Yes.
15			
15 16		Α	Yes.
15 16 17		A Q	Yes. Then, you were there in April of 158?
15 16 17 18	night	A Q A Q	Yes. Then, you were there in April of 158? Yes.
15 16 17 18 19	night	A Q A Q	Yes. Then, you were there in April of 158? Yes. Do you recollect whether you were on a day or a
15 16 17 18 19	night	A Q A Q shift	Yes. Then, you were there in April of 158? Yes. Do you recollect whether you were on a day or a at that time?
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	night	A Q A Q shift A	Yes. Then, you were there in April of '58? Yes. Do you recollect whether you were on a day or a at that time? I was on day shift.

The Chief, Howard Lee.

```
1
           Q
                 What time did you go on, Mr. Jones?
2
                 I would go on at 5 o'clock and get off at 5:00.
           Α
3
           Q
                 5 o'clock in the morning?
4
           Α
                 That's right.
5
                 You would come in from Yeomans?
           Q
6
                 That's right.
           Α
7
           Q
                 Did you know James Brazier?
8
           Α
                 Yes.
9
                 Did you know his dad?
10
           A٠
                 Yes.
                 You say you've been around for 47 years; on the
11
     day that - on Monday morning, the 21st of April, 158, did
12
     you and Mr. Lee come on at the same time?
13
          Α
14
                 No.
           0
                 Who came on first?
15
                 Shi Chapman.
           Α
16
                 What time did he come on?
           0.
17
                 He come on at 5 o'clock.
           Α
18
                 And then, who else came on? Did you come on next?
           Q
19
                 Mr. Lee. I didn't come on, on Monday. I was off
           Α
20
     Monday.
21
                 Oh I see; so, Shi Chapman came on by himself?
           Q
22
                 Yeah, he came on at 5 o'clock and Mr. Lee would
23
     get there at 6:00.
24
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I believe Mr. Chapman is deceased now?

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1
           Α
                  Yes, that's right.
2
                 About what age man was he?
           Q
3
                  I would say he was about 55 or 16 along then.
           Α
4
                 And how old was Mr. Lee, the Chief?
           Q
5
                 About the same age, wasn't he, Sheriff?
6
                 SHERIFF Z. T. MATTHEWS: Be about that.
7
                 Mr. Hollowell: So, actually on that particular
           Q
8
     morning you did not come in at all?
9
                 That's right.
10
                 And you had gone off on Sunday morning or Sunday
           Q
11
     evening at what time?
                 5:00.
12
13
                 Who relieved you? --
                 Mr. Cherry and McDonald.
14
                 As of the time that you went off on Sunday, the
15
    20th of April, 158, had James Brazier been arrested?
16
                 No.
17
                 Did you see him at any time while you were in jail,
18
   while he was in jail?
19
                 Never did.
20
                 Did you have the occasion to see him after he was
21
     in jailon that occasion?
22
                 No.
23
                 Did you come to court on that Monday morning?
           Q
24
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No, I didn't come. If you didn't have a case in

Α

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                  No, if I needed the key to go in the jail, I
21
    ould get it - I had a key to the safe to unlock them.
22
                  I see, you had a key to the safe to unlock it?
23
                  To get the key to the jail.
24
```

court, you didn't have to be there and I didn't have a case,			
so I wasn't there.			
	Q	As a matter of fact, I believe you said you were	
off that Monday?			
	Α	Yes, I was off.	
	Q	Mr. Chapman then would normally have that function?	
	Α	That's right.	
	Q	And he would be the one who would take the	
priso	ners,	along with Mr. Lee, over to the jail, is that	
corre	ct?	-	
	Α	No.	
	Q	Not the jail, I'm sorry, but to the court?	
	Α	That's right.	
	Q	Court met on Monday morning before Mayor Single-	
tary, is that correct?			
	Α .	That¹s right.	
	Q ·	You carried a key to the jail, did you not?	
	Α	No, no.	
	Q	Well, I mean if you needed one, you would what,	
get one from your partner or from the Chief?			

And then Gene carried the keys; he was always

there and you could get a key from him?

A Yes.

Q Or he would let you in?

A Yes.

Q To the best of your recollection, he took care of the feeding of the prisoners and supervised the cleaning up of the jail and the routine functions like that around there, of course at the direction of the Sheriff?

A That's right.

Q And, of course, he would do whatever functions that you might ask him to do around the jail; he would do them too, would he not?

A That's right.

Q And this was true insofar as Deputy Sheriff
Matthews and the other officers of the City Police Department
were concerned? Did you shake your head "Yes"?

A Yes.

Q He pefformed whatever functions that they set out for him to perform, Magwood?

A That's right.

Q Actually, he was there when you came and was there when you left, wasn't he?

A That's right.

Q Now, you were a City patrolman, a City policeman, or were you the Assistant Chief?

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	Α	At that time I was just police, straight police
	Q	Was there such a thing as the Assistant Chief?
	A	Yeah, but - I think McDonald was supposed to be
t he	Assista	nt Chief then. I believe I'm right.
	0	Was he your senior? Had he been there when you

Q Was he your senior? Had he been there when you came there?

A Yes.

Q As a matter of fact, he had been there longer than Mr. Cherry, hadn¹t he?

A Yes.

Q So, he was the senior. Now, as the Assistant Chief, did he perform generally the functions of the Chief when the Chief was away? He was the senior and, therefore, performed in the Chief's absence for the Chief, is that correct?

A That's right.

Q Were you under bond, to your knowledge?

A No.

Q Is there anything going to the injury or death, or jailing of James Brazier that you have any knowledge about, either directly or indirectly, that you have not indicated to us here at this time?

A No, uh-uh.

Q That uh-uh meant "No" is that right?

A That's right.

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You weren't interrogated, were you, by the FBI?
           Q
2
                 No.not about that.
3
                 Not about that particular matter?
           Q
4
                 No.
5
                 And you didn't go to Macon to the grand-jury
           0
6
     hearing, did you?
7
                 No.
8
                 Have you had the occasion to discuss this case
           0
9
    with Mr. Cherry in the last few weeks?
10
                 No.
11
           0
                 How about with the Sheriff?
12
                 No.
13
                 With Mr. McDonald?
                      The only thing I discussed with Cherry was,
14
    he called me, I don't know, about 11:30 today, and said we
15
    was supposed to be down here this evening at 1 o'clock; and
16
     that is all that was said.
17
                      CROSS EXAMINATION - BY MR. BLOCH:
           0
                 Did you say that you knew James Brazier?
18
                 Yes sir.
19
                 Did you ever have occasion to arrest him?
20
           Q
                 No sir.
21
                 That's all.
           0
22
                  REDIRECT EXAMINATION - BY MR. HOLLOWELL:
23
                 Mr. Witness, did you ever have the occasion to
           Q
24
    make any individual investigation of the Brazier matter?
25
```

A No.

Q Did you ever have to make one at or under the direction rather of any person, say the Chief of Police, the Sheriff, the FBI, or anybody else?

A No.

Q In other words, you have never had any occasion whatsoever to investigate the matter relating to his injury, jailing or death, is that correct?

A That's right.

Q I want to thank you very much for coming.

(Signatures of Witnesses WAIVED)

Depositions concluded: 3:10 PM 11-24-62

(L. S.

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRACT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA AMERICUS DIVISION

HATTIE BRAZIER, widow of James Brazier, deceased,

Plaintiff

V

Civil Action

No. 475

W. B. CHERRY, RANDOLPH McDONALD, ZACHARY T. MATTHEWS, THE FIDELITY CASUALTY COMPANY OF NEW YORK,

Defendants

GEORGIA BIBB COUNTY:

I, Claude Joiner, Jr., the Notary Public and Court
Reporter named herein, CERTIFY that in such capacities I
reported in shorthand the depositions of DR. CHARLES M. WARD,
V. L. SINGLETARY, MANSFIELD E. MATTHEWS, ROBERT T. HANCOCK
and HAROLD JONES, witnesses called by Plaintiff in above case
for purpose of discovery under Rule 26, Federal Rules of
Civil Procedure, and on the foregoing pages numbered 2 to 75,
both inclusive, have transcribed a true and correct record
thereof.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not counsel for or related to any party to the above civil action and have no interest in the event thereof.

WITNESS my official hand and seal as Notary Public, at Macon, Georgia, this the 3rd day of December, 1962.

Budefine J

P. O. Box 94 — Macon, O. Notary Public, Bibb County, Georgia My Commission Expires Aug. 27, 1955

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA AMERICUS DIVISION

Hattie Brazier,

Plaintiff.

W. B. Cherry, et. al. Défendants Civil Action No. 475

Depositions of DR. CHARLES M. WARD, V. L. SINGLETARY, MANSFIELD E. MATTHEWS, ROBERT T. HANCOCK and HAROLD JONES, called by Plaintiff in above case for purpose of discovery, before the undersigned, at Room 314 Post Office Building, Albany, Georgia, beginning at 1:05 P. M., November, 24, 1962:

OFFICIAL REPORTER, U. S. COURT

MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

USDC

Georgia

received in sealed y of December, 1962. Macon, Georgia

Middle District of Georgia S. District Court BOX 94, MACON.

HONORABLE JOHN P. COWART, Clerk,

U. S. COURTS

