

On Friday, February 4, 2011 Trentin Ross voluntarily came to the LCSO to discuss the homicide which is being investigated concerning Deshon Thomas, a suspect, who is Mr. Ross's roommate. Trentin spoke to Sgt. Ganey and I in two separate interviews with the first one pre-Miranda Warning and after hearing his version of the events on Wednesday and Thursday Trentin was given another interview which was post-Miranda Warning.

Both interviews were digitally recorded and the original DVD-R's were placed into LCSO evidence. Also, Trentin rode with Sgt. Ganey and myself and showed us the places he traveled leading up to and just after the homicides.

The following is an overview of the interviews with Trentin Ross:

Trentin Maurice Ross B/M DOB: 8/16/1989  
1555 Delaney Drive Apt 309  
Tallahassee, FL 32309  
Witness

On Wednesday afternoon (1/26/11), Trentin Ross advised while riding with Brittney Little, and Deshon Thomas in Riley Ewell's vehicle they went to "TY" Tyrone Jones residence at 3250 Nekoma Lane. At the residence, Deshon walked into the residence while Brittney and Trentin remained in the vehicle. When Tyrone and Deshon exited the residence, Deshon was carrying a black bag which looked like a gun bag along with his book backpack.

Trentin stated Brittney became upset after seeing Deshon carrying the bag and requested to be taken to the bus terminal. Deshon, Tyrone and Trent drove to the terminal and dropped off Brittney.

They drove to Tyrone's residence and dropped him off, Deshon and Trentin returned to their residence where Trent and Deshon reside while Deshon carried the black gun bag into the residence. While at the residence Deshon opened the bag and Trentin observes a Tech-9 9mm hand gun. Trent advised he observed two other hand guns which were a 9mm handgun and a .38 caliber hand gun.

On Thursday morning about 2a.m. (1/27/11), Deshon called Trentin from his place of employment and told him he wanted to go out partying when he got home. Deshon arrived at the residence and bangs on Trentin's bedroom door where he was sleeping with his girlfriend, Riley Ewell.

Deshon told Trentin they were going to visit "BJ" William Littles to get some weed. Trentin knows "BJ" as a weed dealer who has sold weed to him on numerous occasions. They borrowed Riley's vehicle and Trentin and Deshon exited their residence. Deshon, before entering the vehicle placed the bag containing the weapons in the trunk under the tire jack area. Trentin stated you could hear Deshon moving the jack around as he placed the guns into the trunk.

Trentin and Deshon arrived at "BJ's" residence in Port-a-fina Villas. Trentin observed Deshon sell "BJ" the 9mm hand gun with an ammo clip. "BJ" paid Deshon \$80 or \$100 and some weed for the hand gun. "BJ" asked Deshon where the bullets were and Deshon said the bullets were not included. "BJ" carried the weapon upstairs in the residence. While at the residence Deshon told Trent he was suppose to see Laqecia Herring that night. Trentin, Deshon and "BJ" smoked some weed and Trent took a nap since he had been drinking alcohol earlier and now he was stoned. Trentin believed he napped for a couple hours and Deshon and he left the residence and went to an Apartment 9 at the Palmetto Apartment.

While at the apartment Deshon carried a back pack into the residence containing the Tech-9 9mm hand gun. Trentin, Deshon and an unknown female smoked a blunt and Trent and Deshon left the residence.

Upon leaving the Palmetto apartments Deshon stated Laqecia was expecting him and if he went over to her residence she would let him into the residence. Deshon told him he was going to her house to talk things over with her. So Deshon and Trentin drove in the direction of Laqecia's residence.

On the way to Laqecia's residence, with Deshon driving the vehicle, West on Highway 20 they turn into the Family Dollar store and Deshon cased the location of the dumpsters. Then they travel out the back driveway of the Family Dollar and turn West onto Jackson Bluff road. They travel until turning around in the driveway of 5169 Jackson Bluff Road and drive East on Jackson Bluff Road a short distance where Deshon stopped the vehicle, pulled the lever which opened the trunk of the vehicle from inside the vehicle. Then he exited the vehicle and began moving things around in the trunk. Trentin remained in the vehicle and from the sounds he heard of the "jack tools" being moved in the trunk he assumed Deshon is obtaining a gun. Deshon closed the trunk and left the area of the vehicle on foot Westbound away from the rear of the vehicle.

Trentin stated about 20 minutes later Deshon returned to the vehicle with his hand in his hoody and appeared

to be shaking. Deshon drove a short distance maintaining his hand in his hoody and Trentin became concerned and asked to drive the vehicle. They stopped the vehicle and Trentin began driving East on Jackson Bluff and Deshon instructed Trentin to turn into the Family Dollar entrance and exit West onto Highway 20.

They drove West on Highway 20 and Deshon instructed Trentin to turn around at the billboard located at Jackson Bluff and Highway 20 and go East on Highway 20. Then Deshon instructed Trent back to the driveway of 5169 Bountstown Highway and turned off the vehicle's headlights. The driveway is directly across from the duplex building of Laqecia Herrings and her residence's back door.

Deshon told Trentin to pull the trunk lever from the inside to open the trunk which he did. Deshon exited the vehicle wearing a black hoody, black Dickie jeans and black tennis shoes. Trentin stated he heard Deshon moving things around in the trunk which sounded like the area Deshon had placed the gun's.

Trentin remained in the vehicle while Deshon left the area of the vehicle and walked across 20 West toward Laqecia's residence with his hand in his hoody. Trentin stated he knew this was the residence of Laqecia since he had been to her house on prior occasions. Trentin stated Laqecia's back porch light was on.

Trentin stated while he was waiting in the vehicle and rolling a blunt, he observed the lights upstairs, the kitchen and living room in Laqecia's residence being turned on and off. Trentin advised that Deshon sent him a text message requesting him to let him know when the highway was clear for him to come out of the residence. Trentin stated he texted Deshon back the highway was clear and then heard two gun shots when a large truck drove past where he was parked, shaking the vehicle, then after the truck passed he observed Deshon coming from the direction of Laqecia's back door but stated he did not see Deshon exit her residence but stated the back door was now wide open.

Trentin advised Deshon entered the vehicle looking like he "had seen a ghost," sweating, shaking and said "it ain't like it is in the movies. Go." Deshon told Trentin to drive to the Family Dollar. Deshon told Trentin not to tell the cops anything and only say they were only at "BJ's" residence.

As they were turning into the Family Dollar driveway, Deshon told Trentin "Now is not the time to make any mistakes" and instructed him to back in next to the dumpsters. Deshon with his hand still in his hoody exited the vehicle and walked up next to the dumpsters with his back to Trentin. Trentin stated it appeared Deshon was taking something out of his pocket which he assumed was a gun and puts his hand into the dumpster. Deshon returned to the vehicle with both hands empty and instructed Trent to drive to his cousin's residence, "TJ" Terrell Jones, who resides at Lakes at San Marco on Woodville Highway. He believes Deshon attempted calling or texting Terrell on the way to the residence.

They arrived at the apartment building of Terrell Jones and Deshon walked to Terrell's residence and Trentin remained in the vehicle. Trentin stated he knows Terrell and observed Deshon and Terrell speaking together outside Terrell's apartment building.

Deshon returned and entered the vehicle and they drove to the McDonalds on Thomasville Road to purchase food for Riley then they stopped at the Shell gas station to purchase a blunt and drove to their residence. Upon entering the residence Deshon stated he was not hungry and layed on the couch.

The next morning Trentin stated while he was washing dishes in his apartment's kitchen, he heard Deshon speaking to an unknown male outside the apartment. He overheard Deshon say "two to the head"; "she was jumped over in the chair and heard a gasping sound exited from her" and Deshon said the male was a "little

crab lying on the floor with a blanket over his head." Trentin said "little crab" was a gang term.

Trentin stated after seeing the news report of a shooting in the neighborhood of Laqecia and reviewing the events with him and Deshon the night before, he knew Deshon had shot Laqecia and her brother.

Trentin stated he knew Deshon had threatened to kill Laqecia if she did not have an abortion. He said Deshon had a motive because Deshon told him Laqecia was ruining his life if she had a baby.

On Monday 2/7/2011 I prepared Probable Cause for 1st Degree Murder charges (2x) for the arrest of Deshon Thomas which was reviewed and approved by Jack Campbell, ASA. The warrants for Mr. Thomas's arrest were signed by Judge Richardson. Eric Trombley, ASA, was notified the warrants were signed and he presented an Order Motion to the Court to have Mr. Thomas adjudicated as an adult. ASA Trombley notified me the court had approved Mr. Thomas to be charged as an adult.

Detective McBride and I went to the Leon County Jail where Mr. Thomas was being held on other criminal charges and notified Mr. Thomas and the LCJ staff of the active warrants for two charges of 1st Degree Murder. The jail staff immediately took Mr. Thomas for processing of the two new charges.

On Wednesday 2/10/2011 Detective Smelt with LCSO Crime Scene and I followed up on the information provided by Trentin Ross concerning his travels the night of the incident with Deshon Thomas. Detective Smelt took photographs of the specific areas identified by Mr. Ross.