

AFTERNOON SESSION

(Both Defendants are present.)

(The Jury is in the jurybox.)

MR. MOSER: If Your Honor please, I have a stipulation with the Commonwealth representative to the statement or statements that the Detective took, I would like to read that into the record at this time.

THE COURT: State your stipulation.

MR. MOSER: Yes, sir.

The stipulation would be if a Detective Igor Alimmot, 752 of the Homicide Division were here, he would testify that on May 16, 1982 at 10:54 a.m. he went to the home located at 1514 North Felton Street, which was occupied by two people, a Mrs. (I guess that is) Nelly (and it looks like) N-s-l-l-y L-a-n-e, 53, Negro female and a Homer Lane, 29, Negro male.

The Officer would further testify that Mrs. Lane states the following: States she did not hear gunshot, heard someone knocking on Chester's door, couldn't see who was knocking on the door, Chester was lying out on the street,

she called police, police radio said it had already been called, she did not recognize the male from the neighborhood.

The statement was then taken from Homer Lane, 29, Negro male: Says his mother wake (w-a-k-e) him up, he looked out window and saw victim lying on the highway and neighbors around him, - a lady at 1515 Felton, a little boy named Omar, that lives on the street, he is about 18 years old, I think he lives at 1545 North Felton, there is another boy with him, they both lived in the same house, that's about it, then the police showed up.

That would be the stipulation.

MR. BOLAND: I agree with that stipulation, Judge.

THE COURT: Ladies and Gentlemen, remember, initially I told you, you could only take testimony that comes from the witness stand, however, when both Commonwealth and Defense Counsel stipulate to a set of facts, you can take that as coming from the witness stand.

DEFENSE-WOODS

MR. MORRISON: May I proceed, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. MORRISON: The Defense calls Carmen Woods.

COURT OFFICER: State your name and spell your last name.

THE WITNESS: Carmen Woods.
W-o-o-d-s.

CARMEN WOODS, having been duly sworn, is examined and testifies as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. MORRISON:

Q Carmen, how old are you?

A 19.

Q Did you shoot or kill Chester Laws Junior?

A No, I didn't.

Q Did you shoot at the car of Homer Lane?

A No, I didn't.

Q How long have you known Chester Laws?

A Just seen him, I have seen him.

Q Were you friends?

A Speak to each other once in a while. I wasn't friends.

Q At any time did you have a difference with him?

A Yes, I did.

Q Tell the Jury what that difference was?

A He punched me, I punched him in the face and broke his jaw.

Q Do you know the month that happened in 1981?

A Some time in November.

Q 1981?

A Or it could have been September of 1981.

Q In November of 1981 there was another confrontation between you and Chester Laws?

A Yes, there was.

Q What happened there?

A I was going home, parked my car in front of my house and me and my girlfriend got out of the car, Patricia Washington, as I was coming out of the car and going up the steps, I seen him approach me and I told my girlfriend to go to the house, she wouldn't, she stopped on the porch and she wanted to know what it was was going on. I told her. I started to walk and Chet, he said: I am going to get you now. As I turned around and I started to run, he shot me in the back.

Q He shot you in the back in November of 1981?

A Yes.

Q Did that give you motivation to kill him?

A No, sir.

Q As a result of him shooting you in the back, what did you do, if anything at all?

A I told the police.

Q Was he arrested?

A Yes, he was.

Q Was he prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office?

A Yes, I guess.

Q Did that take place in Juvenile Court?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you testify?

A Yes, I did.

Q Were you satisfied with whatever results came out of that hearing?

A Yes, I was.

Q May 16, 1982, tell the Court and the Jury where you were say approximately one o'clock in the morning?

A In the morning I was at Stacey's.

Q Stacey's is what?

A A bar.

Q How long did you stay there?

A Until at least 1:20 to 1:35 or twenty of two, something like that.

Q Did you leave the bar?

A Yes, I did.

Q When you left, who did you leave with?

A Donna Gatewood and Kelly.

Q The same girls that testified in your behalf?

A Yes, sir.

Q Where did you go to?

A The Paradise Club.

Q How far was Stacey's from the Paradise Club?

A Six or seven minutes, it depends on how the lights are.

Q How many blocks?

A Ten or eleven.

Q Do you frequently go to the Paradise?

A Yes.

Q Did you play at the Paradise?

A A disco, this was a bar.

Q Did you ever have a problem as a 19 year old getting in there --

A When I first started going down.

Q -- as a 19 year old, any question about your age?

A No.

Q Do you remember, if you can, the approximate time when you arrived at the Paradise?

A Five or three minutes of two.

Q So it would be close to two o'clock?

A Yes.

Q Did you have a watch on?

A No, I didn't.

Q Were you timing it?

A No, I wasn't.

Q On your way from Stacey's, did you have to go in the direction of Felton Street?

A No, I did not.

Q What direction did you take?

A Towards 52nd Street.

Q What route did you take?

A Straight down Lansdowne.

Q Did you pass Felton Street on the way down there?

A No, I did not.

Q Now, when you arrived at the Paradise, who, if anyone, did you see?

A I seen numerous people. Kendra Brown. Dawn Peters and there was quite a few friends, you know, a whole lot of people.

Q How long did you stay at the Paradise?

A 4:30, 4:35. The time when Gatewood got sick.

Q You took her home?

A Yes.

Q Did you leave the Paradise?

A Yes, I did.

Q Did you leave the Paradise between the time you arrived and 4:30?

A No, I did not.

Q Did you have something to drink there?

A Yes, I had a couple of beers.

Q Do you know who waited on you?

A It was a young lady. I don't know her.

Q Did you see any doorman who was on the door?

A There was quite a few guys on the door.

I don't remember who it was.

Q What kind of procedure do you have to be admitted there?

A Sign in the book.

Q Did you have to pay?

A No, I did not have to pay.

Q Why didn't you have to pay?

A I know the lady on the door.

Q Did you sign on the book on the door?

A Yes, I did.

Q Are you sure?

A Yes, I am.

Q What time did you sign in?

A At approximately two o'clock or a quarter of two.

Q Did you shoot or kill Chester Laws?

A No, I did not.

Q Did you shoot at Homer Lane?

A No, I did not.

MR. MORRISON: Your witness.

My apologies.

BY MR. MORRISON:

Q The day that Chester says that he was shot at, namely, the 18th, Election Day, were you in the company of Michael Jones?

A No, I was not.

Q Had you seen him that day?

A No, I did not.

Q That night where were you, that Tuesday night, Election night?

A I was home.

Q With whom?

A My girlfriend.

Q Who else was there, if anybody?

A Nobody.

Q What time did you take her home, if you did?

A One o'clock or 1:15. I know it was about that time.

Q And about 11:30 where were you?

A 11:30 I was home.

Q Did you see Homer Lane?

A No, I did not.

Q Can you remember the time that Homer Lane appeared in this courtroom, when is the last time you saw Homer Lane?

A I can't remember, it has been so long.

Q Were you friends?

A Yes, we spoke.

Q Were you friends?

A Yes.

Q Are you sure that you know where you were on the night of May 16th 1982 between the hours of two o'clock in the morning and 4:30, yes or no?

A Yes.

Q Are you sure that you know where you were on the night of the 18th of May between the hours of nine and 11:30 p.m. ?

A Yes.

Q Where were you?

A I was home.

Q What time did you arrive?

A I was home I guess on 9:30, a quarter to ten all night.

MR. MORRISON: Your witness, sir.

Thank you.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. BOLAND:

Q Mr. Woods, as a matter of fact, the quarrel you had with the decedent in this case, Chester Laws Junior, was that over some money he allegedly owed you?

A No, it was not.

Q Isn't it a fact that you struck him in the face with a baseball bat and broke his jaw in four places?

A No, it is not.

Q Isn't it a fact that he was hospitalized at Lankenau for some period of time?

A Yes, I am not sure how long.

Q And isn't it a fact that after he got out of the hospital, he shot you in the back of the leg?

A I don't know if it was that, but I know he shot me.

Q Where did he shoot you?

A In my back.

Q What part of your back?

A The upper right two inches from the bones.

Q Isn't it a fact that you, yourself, were in the hospital for some period of time after you got shot?

A Yes. Two days.

Q Did they take the bullets out?

A No.

Q It is still in there, right?

A Yes.

Q And you are telling the Ladies and Gentlemen of this Jury that you had no grudge against Chester Laws as a result of this incident?

A Yes, I am.

Q And you are telling the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury that you did not, in fact, shoot him as a result of this earlier incident in which he had shot you?

A Yes.

Q And that incident happened in, I believe you said, September or November of 1981?

A Yes.

Q Is that when you broke his jaw or is that when he shot you?

A He shot me in November. I might have broke

his jaw in September, I wasn't sure of that. I know it was no longer than one or two months.

Q Was that incident where you broke his jaw, was that at a party near 63rd Street?

A Yes, it was.

Q But you say you did that with your fist and not with any other object? --

A Yes, sir.

Q -- is that correct? And when he got out of the hospital, he shot you, is that correct?

A I say three weeks afterwards, or four weeks afterwards he shot me.

Q The way he shot you, he was waiting for you near your house when you came home with your girl?

A Yes.

Q You did not desire to turn the tables on him and be waiting for him one night, did you?

A No.

Q And is it your testimony that you were satisfied with what happened to that case over in Juvenile Court?

A Yes, I was.

Q Nothing happened to Chester, did it?

A Only I know the Judge told me I could go now,

and he would be dealt with.

Q They let him go?

A I didn't know.

Q You saw him on the street after that?

A At least two or three months later.

Q You don't know that they did anything to him?

A I don't know. I know he say he would be dealt with.

Q Whatever he did you know he was back on the street, don't you?

A Yes.

MR. BOLAND: No further questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. MORRISON:

Q Do you know whether or not he was incarcerated?

A Yes.

Q Was he incarcerated?

A Yes, he was.

Q Do you know whether he was given a probation or juvenile sentence?

A I don't know.

Q Whatever action was taken under the law, you were satisfied that the Court (indicates)

dealt with the matter, is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you kill him?

A No, I did not.

MR. MORRISON: Thank you.

MR. BOLAND: I have nothing else.

MR. MORRISON: Step down.

MR. MORRISON: The Defense, for the moment, rests in the case of Commonwealth versus Carmen Woods.

MR. MOSER: On behalf of my client, we would also rest and just move the various exhibits into evidence.

THE COURT: All I have is D-1.

THE JURY: We can't hear you.

We didn't hear them.(Indicates.)

(Indicating the Attorneys.)

THE COURT: He is resting and he is resting.

MR. MOSER: I am sorry, Ladies and Gentlemen.

THE COURT: The only thing I have is D-1. D-1 is admitted.

MR. BOLAND: No objection.

(Photograph is received in evidence
as Defense Jones Exhibit No. D-1, which
photograph is also C-10.)

THE COURT: Any rebuttal?

MR. BOLAND: Yes, sir.

Call Darryl Lee.

THE COURT: Do you want to see me?

MR. MORRISON: Yes.

THE COURT: Hold it.

(Sidebar conference.)

THE COURT: Five minutes recess.

(The Jury goes out of the courtroom.)

(The following occurred at sidebar
conference):

MR. MOSER: Mike, do you want to come
up here. We want to get one thing on the
record.

THE COURT: Put him under oath.

COURT OFFICER: State your name
and spell your last name.

THE WITNESS: Michael Jones.

J-o-n-e-s.