

STATEMENT SUMMARY

Name: Sissy Atkinson

Significance to Beach's Clemency Application: Beach claims she orchestrated and participated in Kim Nees's murder because she was jealous that Kim dated Alex Trottier, her baby's father. Beach also claims that Sissy made admissions of her involvement to others.

Summary of March 20, 2007 Tape Recorded Statement

Relationship with Kim and Beach

Sissy knew of Kim but did not really know her. Kim was younger than her. She actually knew Pam better than Kim. (19.) Sissy had never been inside the Nees truck. (22.) Sissy did not know Beach personally although she knew of him. She remembers her mom yelling at Beach one occasion when he tried to steal a wine bottle from one of the street people. (22.)

Recollection of Activities on Evening of June 15, 1979

Sissy recalls that she was cruising in Maude Greyhawk's car with Maude, Joanne Jackson and Roberta Jackson. She was with the girls for about an hour. She estimates that around 11 p.m., she bought them beer at the Buckhorn Bar. When she came out of the bar she saw someone hit Frank Marottek's car so she went back in and told him. (5, 7, 10-12.) Around the same time, she also recalls seeing the Nees truck drive by. There was some guy who appeared to be chasing the truck. (10-11.) After this, Maude dropped her off at home, she watched T.V. and went to bed. (7-8, 11-12.) She found out about Kim's murder while listening to the scanner the next morning. She and her brother's girlfriend, Rose, jumped into a vehicle and drove to the crime scene. There were already lots of cars lined up with people watching. She knew it was one of the Nees girls and assumed it was Pam because Pam was pretty wild. When Pam walked up, however, she realized it was Kim. (8.)

Statements and Motives Centurion Ministries Attributes to Her

She knows Dunn O'Connor but does not remember calling him and telling him about Kim's murder. (28.) She denies ever making a statement about Kim's homicide to her brother, J.D. Atkinson, and is very upset that he would say such a

thing. (17-18.) She did live in Billings for a time and did hang out at the Empire Bar, but she does not know Johnny Buffalo. Further, she left Billings in March 1999 and has never been back. She was not in the Empire Bar in Billings at any time in 2002. (15, 30.) She worked with Carl Four Star at A&S Tribal Industries. She never made a statement to him or in front of him about Kim's murder. (16.) Alex Trottier is the father of her daughter, but he was never her boyfriend. She snuck around with him, but never wanted to be seen in public with him. She has no idea if Kim ever dated him and would not have cared if she did. (19-21.)

Assessment of Centurion Ministries' Investigation

When a Centurion Ministries' investigator first approached her, he was rude and blunt and accused her of being involved in Kim's murder. Sissy reports she was "rude and blunt back." (14.) Sissy adamantly denies any involvement in Kim's murder and denies having a motive to kill Kim. (19, 22.) To this day, she is willing to take a polygraph and has always cooperated with law enforcement. She has given two sets of prints and hair samples. She is tired of being harassed and stated, "I would just like it all to go away, 'cause I have been harassed for 28 years and like I said, when we all go to heaven, we'll find out the truth and I'm sitting here today telling the truth. I was not there. I did not do anything to Kim. I don't know who did. If Barry didn't do it, I don't know who did it, but like I said, I would never confess to something I did not do." (25.)

Sissy also added that she was the youngest child in her family and has eight brothers. She watched her mom cry daily over her brother who was murdered at the age of 30. Her mom was tortured by her brother's murder, and she would never put another person's mother through what she watched her mom go through. (30.)