

# Rodney's Rule 32 Hearing, 2001

R-65

1           A. Well, whatever Terrell Moore said to --

2           Q. Other than Terrell Moore?

3           A. As far as the witnesses that he brought in at  
4 trial?

5           Q. No, as far as Mr. Whitecloud or any law  
6 enforcement agency or any -- either Mr. Whitecloud or  
7 any law enforcement agency ever indicated to you that  
8 Mr. Whitecloud's position was that Mr. "Wish" and some  
9 other person committed the crime?

10          A. No law enforcement has ever revealed that to  
11 me. Now, you are talking about "Ponytail" again;  
12 right?

13          Q. Yes.

14          A. Okay.

15          MR. KNIZLEY: Thank you.

16          MS. TIERNEY: I have no questions, Your  
17 Honor.

18          THE COURT: Thank you, Buzz. Do y'all need  
19 Buzz again?

20          MR. KNIZLEY: No, sir.

21          THE COURT: You may go, Buzz.

22          MS. TIERNEY: Judge, he's going to stay.

23          MR. JORDAN: Judge, I may sit and watch.

24          THE COURT: Certainly.

25          MR. KNIZLEY: We would like to call Mr.

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Moore.

THE COURT: Bring him in.

TERRELL MOORE

WAS SWORN AND TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. KNIZLEY:

Q. State your name, please, sir?

A. Terrell Darnell Moore.

MS. TIERNEY: Judge, I hate to interrupt Mr. Knizley, because I have the world of respect for him, but if Mr. Moore is going to testify about the things we anticipate he will testify about, and I'm concerned that this is a state forum, and that he would take this stand unrepresented and with no grant of immunity to make statements that could have life consequences for him. I just wish that the Court be apprised of that and our concern about that, sir.

MR. KNIZLEY: Judge, from our understanding the State's permission the man - he's already said this, they know about it, he has no credibility and are they telling us now they are going to prosecute him if he confesses to it?

THE COURT: I have no idea. I think what she is saying is, Judge, this man ought to be advised

LINDA McSWAIN  
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1           that if he makes a statement contrary to his own  
2           well-being that he may be subjecting himself to  
3           being charged in a criminal case, and that he has  
4           under the Fifth Amendment the right not to  
5           answer; am I correct?

6           MS. TIERNEY: Yes, sir, and also the right to  
7           consult an attorney, and I understand he has  
8           prior convictions, the consequences might be more  
9           dire than one even can anticipate at this point,  
10          and we're talking about --

11          THE COURT: Do you understand what she's  
12          saying, Mr. Moore?

13          THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

14          MS. TIERNEY: Well, he can get life without  
15          parole, but I don't know how many priors he's  
16          got, but if he comes in here and says it's me  
17          pals, then it's good-bye sunlight for the rest of  
18          his living life, and he's young. I don't know if  
19          this Court wants to countenance that at least  
20          before he has a chance to talk to an attorney.

21          MR. KNIZLEY: Judge, he's already talked to  
22          an attorney. He's already made the statement to  
23          Mr. Jordan in front of an attorney.

24          MS. TIERNEY: Well, that was five years ago,  
25          Your Honor.

1 MR. KNIBBLEY: The Court's told him he's got a  
2 right. Now, if it needs to be cleared --  
3

4 THE COURT: Proceed.

5 BY MR. KNIBBLEY:

6 Q. Mr. Moore, you recall whenever a lady named  
7 Mrs. Finley was shot? Do you remember back in those  
8 days when you were called as a witness in this case?

9 MS. TIERNEY: Judge, may I just object, sir,  
10 for one minute?

11 THE COURT: Certainly.

12 MS. TIERNEY: Could you just, Your Honor, if  
13 I may respectfully ask that at least you instruct  
14 him that he does have the right under the Fifth  
15 Amendment not to make any statements.

16 THE COURT: I thought I just did that. I  
17 think I just did that, but I'll do it again.

18 Under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution  
19 you do not have to answer any question which  
20 could even possibly incriminate you. Do you  
understand that?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, I understand it.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Proceed.

23 MS. TIERNEY: And that the State would  
24 use anything he says today, Your Honor, against  
25 him.

1 THE COURT: The State can and may.

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor I understand  
3 and I plead the Fifth Amendment.

4 MS. TIERNEY: Your Honor, he just invoked his  
5 Fifth Amendment privilege.

6 MR. KNIZLEY: Your Honor, out of sense of  
7 fairness if the prosecution stands up here and  
8 puts forth testimony that they don't think he's  
9 credible and wouldn't prosecute him and when he's  
10 already made the statement, I think it's only  
11 fair for him to know that too in making his  
12 decision what Mr. Jordan just testified to.

13 MS. TIERNEY: Well, Judge, we have never --

14 THE COURT: Did you tell -- Mr. Moore, did  
15 you say that you wish to invoke your Fifth  
16 Amendment privilege?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

18 THE COURT: I think he has that right.  
19 However, this Defendant here has rights to.  
20 Under Rule 32 he has a right to bring up any and  
21 everything he wishes to bring up. But you know  
22 I have another little problem here, those folks  
23 over in the metro jail and the penitentiary they  
24 become legal scholars overnight. Meaning, they  
25 discuss legal matters all day and all night, they

1           I don't have anything else to talk about. But  
2           assume, assume -- and I'm saying this for his  
3           mother's benefit, assume that this Defendant did  
4           after consulting with an attorney -- did come in  
5           and say, yeah I shot her. My question is: so  
6           what?

7           If they think for a minute that would  
8           exonerate him, in my opinion they are wrong.  
9           But I realize -- was this man brought from the  
10          State of New York?

11          MR. KNIZLEY: No, sir. He was coincidentally  
12          in the Mobile Metro Jail. We had him located at  
13          another location in Whistler, I believe, and  
14          coincidentally we determined that he was in the  
15          metro jail last night.

16          He is being held. I think there were some  
17          other charges here in Mobile.

18          THE COURT: Well, let me tell you what we're  
19          going to do. I'm going to appoint him a lawyer,  
20          and I'm going to put it over for a week to allow  
21          him the opportunity to discuss this matter with  
22          the competent lawyer, reset this matter, but  
23          during that week period of time, I want everyone  
24          to think about what I just said.

25          MR. KNIZLEY: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Because I have a serious question  
2 about that. When a lady takes the stand and says  
3 ladies and gentlemen of the jury, and Judge McRae  
4 and everybody else that's present at the time,  
5 this man shot me. If he later comes in and says  
6 yes, I did it, does someone think that exonerates  
7 him? I just don't understand that. Maybe I'm  
8 missing something.

9 MR. KNIZLEY: I certainly understand your  
10 logic, Judge.

11 THE COURT: But -- now, let me ask y'all a  
12 question. Buzz, who is the best constitutional  
13 lawyer in Mobile that you know of?

14 MR. JORDAN: Champ Lyons.

15 THE COURT: Well, he's on the Supreme Court  
16 now. I can't appoint him.

17 MR. JORDAN: Glenn Davidson is pretty good  
18 for that stuff, Judge. Jim Byrd is pretty good  
19 too, Judge.

20 THE COURT: I think Jim Byrd would be  
21 excellent. You know I only go by -- I'm not  
22 saying Glenn Davidson wouldn't be, but he hasn't  
23 appeared before me in constitutional questions  
24 like Jim Byrd has. So I'll appoint Jim Byrd.

25 Didn't I hear testimony earlier that his

lawyer at the time was cowboy Bob Clark.

MR. KNIZLEY: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: I don't know of anybody that's a better lawyer than Bob Clark. But if Bob has already been involved, I don't think it would be fair for this Defendant for me to appoint that lawyer.

If y'all disagree --

MR. KNIZLEY: I agree, Judge.

THE COURT: Okay. It's done. Take him back. Jim Byrd will be there to see you, Mr. Moore. Let me -- let me continue though. We have witnesses here. We have put this thing over twice. I want to hear every witness y'all have.

MR. KNIZLEY: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Let's go.

MR. KNIZLEY: Mr. Russell.

THE COURT: Ryan, Raise your right hand.

RYAN RUSSELL

was sworn and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. KNIZLEY:

Q. State your name --

THE COURT: You know I have read all of the quote, motions, filed, and as I expected three of