

BEFORE THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
THE HONORABLE JAY NIXON

In the Matter of:)

PAUL GOODWIN,)

Petitioner.)

) Scheduled for Execution by the State
) of Missouri on December 10, 2014, at
) 12:01 a.m.
)

AFFIDAVIT OF LESTER STONE

1. My name is Lester Stone. I am an inmate at Potosi Correctional Center in Mineral Point, Missouri. My inmate number is 176983.
2. I have known Paul Goodwin for approximately eleven (11) years. While I wish it were not so, I was a very different person when I first met Paul than I am now. I had a convict mentality. I do not have anyone on the streets to support me, so I am on my own in prison. In the early years of my incarceration, I made my life in prison by taking from the weak.
3. When I first met Paul, I saw that he was slow and weak. Paul has the demeanor of a child, and is playful and more childish than any of the rest of the men incarcerated at Potosi Correctional Center. Paul's nickname here at Potosi Correctional Center is Big Shirley, because of how goofy he is. Paul does not understand most of what is going on

around him. Paul is definitely not all there, from a cognitive perspective. He is so far out there -- you can tell he is simply not right.

4. When I saw Paul, I saw an opportunity, and knew that he was someone I would be able to take advantage of. I looked at Paul and thought -- "I can do this the easy way or the hard way." I decided to use kindness and casual conversation and pretend interest to befriend Paul. At that time, I did not know him as a person, and being the idiot that I was, I took advantage of him however I could.

5. After talking with Paul for a while -- and pretending to be interested in him -- I asked him if he had a little bit of coffee and tobacco that I could have. Paul shared what he had with me -- the first time I asked him -- and every time after that. I should be clear -- it only took a couple of days of my talking to Paul before I was able to get stuff from him.

6. About four (4) years ago, I got involved in a program at Potosi Correctional Center called Impact of Crime on Victims (ICVC). I did some major growing up once I got involved in that program, and I quit living off of others in prison. I saw that it was not right to take from the weak, and I am embarrassed now to have to admit to having lived that way in the past.

7. Even though I have stopped taking advantage of Paul, I know that others still do. Paul's family is able to take care of him financially, so he is able to spend every week in the canteen. The ways in which Paul is taken advantage of all revolves around what he can buy in the canteen -- those who are taking advantage of Paul look to see what they can get from him -- a lot of it is driven by what Paul is able to buy in the canteen.

8. There is a good example of the way other guys take advantage of Paul in his conduct violations. It happened before I got here, so I am uncertain of some of the details, but there is enough talk about what happened that I feel like I have a pretty good idea. Also, there are occasionally similar issues with other inmates, and whenever that happens, the situation I am talking about comes up. At some point, Paul realized that there were inmates who did not have televisions. Paul's uncle worked for a company that wanted to do something charitable, so they sent money in to a number of inmates so that they could buy televisions. As it is against the rules for an inmate's family to send money in to another inmate, Paul received a Conduct Violation. Based on what I know of Paul and what I have heard about the incident, I believe that what started out as Paul wanting to help a few guys he knew and liked and viewed as "friends" turned into a situation where inmates who saw the weaknesses in Paul were pressing him.

9. Paul does not have to manage his finances. His family always makes sure that he has enough money so that he can spend the maximum allowable money in the commissary each week. That fact elevates Paul on the prison "totem pole," and I think

that status matters to him, as he enjoys the attention he gets in conjunction with making his commissary purchases. I do not have the resources Paul has, so I do not ever have to think about what the maximum allowable is, because it is not a concern of mine, but I believe that right now it is \$85.00 a week (I could be wrong). Sometimes there are five (5) "Spend Days" in a month. This happens when the "Spend Day" falls on a day that occurs five (5) times in the month. Whenever that happens, Paul has a problem, because if you spend the maximum allowable on the first four (4) "Spend Days," you will already be at the monthly limit, and will not be allowed to make any purchases in commissary. Any time that happens, Paul is always very upset. He will cry and be off in "nowhere land." Being able to make purchases in the commissary helps ensure that Paul is comfortable, which is something he needs more than the rest of us, I think.

10. There are pros and cons to being Paul's cellmate. A pro in celling with Paul would be that if he was going to eat, you would also get to eat, as he always shares anything he makes. He is a big guy, so he eats often, and makes a lot. A con in celling with Paul would be a potential concern about your image -- especially for those inmates who are not mature individuals. Another con would be that Paul is always going to need extra help understanding what is going on around him. While I would never have celled with Paul before I grew up, once I got to know him, I would absolutely have celled with him, because I would have enjoyed the pro of him sharing his food with me and I would not have been unwilling to help him.

11. I know that Paul has had some issues with his cellmates in the past around the matter of keeping their cell clean. The bottom line is that Paul is simply not capable of truly cleaning a cell. I have watched the process a number of times. Paul can get the cleaning supplies, but he is not able to clean so that the cell (or anything else he is cleaning) is "tidy clean." He will clean around things instead of lifting them up or moving them. He will also start cleaning something and then sit down to have a smoke or drink a cup of coffee. He gets distracted and is not clear on the task at hand, so it can take him one (1) to two (2) hours to clean his cell -- and our cells are just not that big. I have also observed that he will use the toilet bowl water -- with cleaning detergent mixed in -- to wipe down the cell. While some people might think it is OK to use the water in the toilet bowl to clean, that is certainly not how the rest of us do it. I have observed that most of the time, Paul's cellies will let him do what he can to clean and then go behind him, cleaning so that their cell is really clean. I do not think that Paul really makes the connection that his cellmate is going behind him, cleaning, because they do not think he cleaned well enough.

12. Paul worked in the Laundry Room for a while. I worked in the Laundry Room during some of the same time frame that Paul did. The inmates divide the work in the Laundry Room amongst themselves. Usually there is one man who is responsible for the washer, one who is responsible for the drier, one who folds and one who presses. Once one of the jobs is finished, the men move along and help those who are still working on their job. The only role Paul ever had in the Laundry Room was as a folder,

but even that was hard for him. I think the Laundry Manager, Officer Cole, felt sorry for Paul, because he let Paul work in Laundry Room several times even though he was pretty adrift down there.

13. Paul was involved in the Puppies for Parole program for a while. In the program, two (2) cellmates work together to train a dog that is awaiting adoption from a shelter. The goal of the program is to make the dogs more adoptable because well-trained dogs are more appealing to some families. The men in the program have to be very motivated -- they are up at 4:00 am to take their dogs out every day, and follow a very strict training protocol. The men are also required to keep a diary or log documenting what they are doing with their dogs, with special emphasis on how the dogs are doing, things they can and cannot do, and things that trigger undesirable behaviors. I have heard that Paul was "kicked out" of the program because he was not able to follow the training protocol. I think his skills were not what they needed to be. To this day, I do not think he even knows he was kicked out of the program. I think if you asked him, Paul would say that he is not in the Puppies for Parole program any longer because he is not in the Honor Dorm.

14. Paul passes his time by walking circles around the perimeter of the yard when he is out. He sometimes plays Bocce Ball. Paul also plays Scrabble -- although sometimes the words he uses are not real words, because Paul does not know how to spell very well. The men who play Scrabble with Paul all know that about him. We all

just let Paul spell the words however he wants. We all know he is not right, and he is pretty much just overlooked in whatever he is doing. We could make an issue about it when Paul misspells a word, but that would not be very smart or kind. And think about how we might get labeled by other guys at Potosi if we were the one who picked on the "weakest guy in the camp"?

15. Paul has gotten written up (read: received Conduct Violations) several times for things that eventually turn out not to be quite as bad as they might sound. I think that what usually happens is that eventually, the staff who review the Conduct Violations come to understand that no matter how bad it might sound, Paul's intentions were never as bad as they might seem based on the way the Conduct Violation is written. An example comes from a time when Paul snapped (verbally) at an officer. Paul was written up and sent to the hole (read: solitary confinement). This type of a Conduct Violation would typically be viewed as very serious, and a regular inmate would be "buried" in the hole. Paul, on the other hand, was out of the hole after just a few weeks. I think this is because the staff at Potosi Correctional Center understands Paul's deficits.

16. While I was more than willing to talk to the social worker working on Paul's clemency petition, and I know she tried to identify specific inmates who know Paul well, I think it is important for me to say that I think she could have randomly picked any staff member at Potosi Correctional Center and any inmate who has been there for any length of time. Anyone who knows Paul will be able to talk about his deficits, and while

each person might provide different examples, in the end, the result would be the same
-- information about the ways in which Paul does not function well cognitively.

Further affiant sayeth not.



Lester Stone

SWORN to and SUBSCRIBED in my presence
this 29th day of November, 2014.



Notary Public

