

Det. Craig VANLOUVENDER, is a detective with the Monroe County District Attorney's Office/CID. I have been a County Detective since 2019 and prior to that I was a member of the Pennsylvania State Police from 1992 until my retirement in 2018. From 1995 until 2018, I was a Criminal Investigator assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit at PSP Swiftwater and Stroudsburg.

I have been personally involved in the investigation of this matter. This affidavit is based in part upon interviews I have conducted, my conversations with other law enforcement agents and my examination of reports and records. Where the contents of documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated.

On Sunday, 08/19/12, the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department began investigating the sudden disappearance of Stephen C. LEPORE, W/N/M, 55 YOA, 5'7", 200 pounds, brown eyes and salt and pepper hair, of Belvedere Road, Tobyhanna, PA 18466. LEPORE was reported missing by his housemate, Mary PALMACCIO, after she had not seen nor heard from him since the morning hours of 08/17/12. LEPORE regularly carried a wallet with him and he wore a gold chain with a crucifix attached. On 08/19/12, LEPORE was entered into NCIC as a missing person. The news media was made aware of the disappearance, a profile on LEPORE and his disappearance was posted on the Pocono Mountain Regional Police web site and missing person posters were distributed. These investigatory steps failed to lead to the discovery of LEPORE. On 09/26/12, a profile was created for LEPORE with NAMUS, National Missing Person and Unidentified Remains System, a national clearing house for missing person investigations and the discovery of unidentified human remains. Again, the NAMUS entry has failed to locate LEPORE. Stephen LEPORE kept in regular contact with his family and they have not had contact with him since 08/17/12. According to PALMACCIO, LEPORE operated a Chevrolet Express van, bearing PA registration, YZN5888. PALMACCIO advised that LEPORE used an I-Phone and was assigned cellular phone number 570-762-2266. As part of the missing person investigation, LEPORE's cell phone records were obtained. A review of the records revealed that no calls were made from 570-762-2266 after 08/17/12. No significant activity occurred on the phone after 1101 on 08/17/12.

On 09/06/12, LEPORE's Chevrolet Express van, bearing PA registration YZN5888, was recovered by the Stroud Area Regional Police Department after it was discovered on Brown Street, a dead end street, in Stroudsburg, PA. Brown Street is in close proximity to Phillips Street, a road that allows access from SR 191 to SR 611. Interviews conducted by law enforcement in the area of Brown Street revealed that LEPORE's van had been parked at the location for approximately two weeks. A cane used by LEPORE was discovered inside of the van.

On 10/01/12, as part of the continuing investigation, PALMACCIO was interviewed by investigators. She reported that LEPORE had been involved in several verbal disputes with Brian HEWSON over a \$15,000.00 debt. LEPORE began keeping notes on HEWSON even pulling legal documents from HEWSON's garbage. These documents, including journals documenting illegal activities by HEWSON and his associates were turned over to investigators along with a promissory note indicating that HEWSON owed LEPORE \$15,000.00. PALMACCIO stated that on 08/17/12, she observed LEPORE leave their residence at approximately 0830. LEPORE was described as wearing olive green cargo shorts and a green t-shirt. PALMACCIO also reported that she had a phone conversation with HEWSON since LEPORE's disappearance and HEWSON indicated to her that he had been with LEPORE on 08/17/12.

On 09/10/13, I conducted an interview with Jeff MEINKING, of Pocono Power Center, located along SR 611, in Pocono Township, Monroe County, PA. MEINKING reported that during September/October of 2012 he lent a Kubota excavator to Charles DEFAZIO, knowing that it was being used by Brian HEWSON. MEINKING related that no rental agreement was completed. MEINKING reported that HEWSON told him he was going to use the machine to repair a drainage ditch that was washing out on his driveway. MEINKING estimated that HEWSON had the machine for two weeks and there was only 1.2 -1.5 hours run time on the machine. MEINKING related that he runs machines for a living and he reported it would take longer than 1.2-1.5 hours to fix a road. MEINKING noted that he in fact delivered the excavator to the HEWSON/GIACALONE property, located off SR 390, in Barrett Township, Monroe County, PA. MEINKING advised that he dropped the excavator off at a garage on the HEWSON property that he knew to be used by DEFAZIO. MEINKING expected there to be much more run time on the machine than there actually was.

As part of the continuing investigation, members of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office and the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department obtained cellular telephone records for Brian HEWSON, 570-994-5295. Examination of the cellular phone records reveals that six calls occurred between HEWSON and LEPORE during the morning hours of 08/17/12. A review of HEWSON cell records reveals he was in contact multiple times with an unknown Trac phone, 570-242-3887, around the times he was in contact with LEPORE.

On August 6, 2013, members of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department, the Monroe County District Attorney's Office and various federal law enforcement agencies executed a search warrant on a 29 acre parcel of property in Barrett Township, Monroe County, PA, owned by Maria GIACALONE, the wife of Brian HEWSON. The main residence on the property is identified as 200 GIACALONE Drive Canadensis, PA. While executing the search warrant, a hole was discovered on the property in close proximity to the main house. Det. VANLOUVENDER viewed pictures of the hole that was discovered on the GIACALONE property and this hole is consistent with a dug grave site.

During September of 2013, Det. VANLOUVENDER along with other members of the Criminal Investigation Unit at the PSP Swiftwater barracks became involved in the investigation into the sudden disappearance of Stephen LEPORE.

On 09/03/13, Det. VANLOUVENDER along with Trooper William SKOTLESKI and Trooper Robert SEBASTIANELLI traveled to the 29 acre parcel of property then owned by GIACALONE in Barrett Township, Monroe County, PA, for the purpose of serving a subpoena. This is the same parcel of property where the search warrant was executed on 08/06/13. Det. VANLOUVENDER traveled a dirt driveway from the base of SR 390 to the main residence. While enroute to the main house, Det. VANLOUVENDER encountered Maria GIACALONE at a garage off the right side of the driveway. Through later interviews with Charles DEFAZIO, an associate of Brian HEWSON, Det. VANLOUVENDER learned the garage had been used in the past by DEFAZIO to store and restore machinery. DEFAZIO had been allowed to use part of the garage by Maria GIACALONE for years.

On 09/06/13, Det. VANLOUVENDER conducted an interview with Brian HEWSON at PSP Swiftwater. HEWSON admitted meeting with LEPORE the day he disappeared. HEWSON reported that LEPORE came to his residence, 200 GIACALONE Drive, around 0900-1000. HEWSON reported that LEPORE was driving his van. HEWSON noted that he and LEPORE were supposed to go and look at block for a construction job LEPORE was interested in having

HEWSON perform. LEPORE informed HEWSON that he was unable to go and look at block, because he had to go to New York City and he would be busy all weekend. HEWSON estimated that they spoke for 45 minutes and then HEWSON departed his residence with LEPORE following behind in his van. HEWSON said that he had to go to Lowes and LEPORE wanted to stop and see if there was block at a nursery that HEWSON owned in the past. HEWSON said that the nursery was located on SR 611 in the area of Phillips Street, in Stoud Township, Monroe

County. HEWSON departed his residence and took SR 390 south to SR 447 south to SR 191 and then made a right hand turn onto Phillips Street. HEWSON advised that during the time he was driving with LEPORE behind him they were in phone contact regarding the block at the nursery. I asked HEWSON if LEPORE was behind him when he reached the intersection of Phillips Street and SR 611. HEWSON advised that he was not sure if LEPORE had turned around.

The route described by HEWSON places both HEWSON and LEPORE in close proximity to Brown Street, the location where LEPORE's van was discovered.

HEWSON reported that the next day, 08/18/12, he was contacted by Mary PALMACCIO asking if he knew the whereabouts of LEPORE, because he had failed to come home.

HEWSON admitted that he borrowed \$15,000.00 from LEPORE for a business deal involving open box televisions. HEWSON claimed the deal fell through and that he had repaid LEPORE. HEWSON claimed to have had a receipt acknowledging settlement of the debt, but his office records had been cleaned out by the IRS and an individual known as Mickey NEWMAN.

At Det. VANLOUVENDER's request, HEWSON dialed 570-242-3887, the unknown Trac phone number he had been in contact with on 08/17/12. After dialing the number, HEWSON reported that his phone reflected that he was calling Cory. Det. VANLOUVENDER asked HEWSON who is Cory and he replied that he did not know. Det. VANLOUVENDER told HEWSON that the number is coming up in his contacts. HEWSON then said that the number is for Cory, a cousin to Michael CIMATO, a former employee with HEWSON Construction/Contracting. HEWSON estimated that Cory worked for him several times as a clean up guy. HEWSON was unsure of Cory's last name.

Det. VANLOUVENDER has conducted numerous interviews with former HEWSON employees/ associates including Charles DEFAZIO and Michael CIMATO. As a result of these interviews Det. VANLOUVENDER has learned that Cory, last name later provided of BANKS, resided with HEWSON at 200 GIACALONE Drive in Canadensis and they spent significant time together.

On 09/20/13, Det. VANLOUVENDER and Trooper Robert SEBASTIANELLI conducted an interview with Michael CIMATO at his residence in the City of Scranton, PA. CIMATO denied that he and Cory BANKS were blood relation and he denied having any contact with BANKS for months. CIMATO did advise that BANKS had been residing with a woman, Sandra BROWN, in the Hamlin/Lake Ariel area.

Based on the information uncovered regarding Cory BANKS, Det. VANLOUVENDER felt this name was an alias.

On 12/10/13, Det. VANLOUVENDER was present along with other investigators for an interview with Brian HEWSON, at the Lackawanna County Jail, where he was an inmate awaiting sentencing on federal charges. HEWSON was represented at the interview by counsel, Attorney Jaime DENCH. The interview had been requested by HEWSON and DENCH with the purpose of the interview being that HEWSON would reveal a location to search for the remains of Stephen LEPORE.

HEWSON again reported that LEPORE came to the HEWSON residence on the day he disappeared in his van and they spoke for approximately 45 minutes. HEWSON advised that they departed the property in separate vehicles. HEWSON noted that LEPORE stopped at the Village Court Apartments, located on SR 390, south of the GIACALONE property. HEWSON said that LEPORE was involved in a drug deal with Cory and they were supposed to meet "Black" at the abandoned Penn Hills Resort. HEWSON reported that "Black" drives a black Jeep. HEWSON related that the drug deal dealt with perscription medication and HEWSON added that LEPORE could obtain lots of pills. HEWSON advised that after LEPORE picked up Cory they continued south and HEWSON eventually passed the Penn Hills Resort. HEWSON said as he passed the resort he saw the front end of a black Jeep parked at the resort. HEWSON did not know if Cory and LEPORE pulled into the resort.

HEWSON advised that he continued on to Lowes and then returned to his home in Canadensis. HEWSON reported that he went to his shop later in the day. HEWSON advised that he didn't go out that night, although he may have helped DEFAZIO at his garage.

HEWSON reported that after the LEPORE disappearance, he observed Cory wearing a gold chain with a crucifix that he believed was the property of LEPORE. HEWSON also said that LEPORE kept a Leatherman style multi-tool in a leather pouch in his van. HEWSON related that after LEPORE's disappearance he saw Cory with a similar style multi-tool and leather pouch. HEWSON was asked if he ever saw Cory with a handgun. HEWSON reported that he has observed Cory with a 38, that he described as a big old cop gun.

During April of 2014, Det VANLOUVENDER and Trooper Robert SEBASTIANELLI conducted an interview with David HARTNETT, a former employee of HEWSON Construction/Contracting. The interview was conducted at PSP Swiftwater. HARTNETT was a friend of Michael CIMATO and CIMATO's son, Elijah MELROSE.

HARTNETT admitted to working in the past with Cory and he knew that Cory had a son named Malik LNU. HARTNETT provided specific information regarding criminal incidents that Malik was involved in.

Based on the information provided by HARTNETT, Det. VANLOUVENDER approached Alan PFIZENMAYER, of the Monroe County Juvenile Probation Department. He related that the Malik I was looking for was Malik MORGAN. PFIZENMAYER checked probation records and determined that Malik MORGAN's father is listed as Kip MORGAN, B/N/M, DOB: 12/22/63. A check of NCIC wanted person files revealed that MORGAN was wanted in the State of New York on a parole violation since 2010 with the original charge being attempted murder. The check also revealed that MORGAN was wanted for an armed robbery in the State of Illinois since 2010.

On 05/02/14, Det. VANLOUVENDER along with Trooper William SKOTLESKI, Trooper Brian NOLL and Detective Michael SCIARILLO, of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department, travelled to New York City in furtherance of this investigation. MORGAN declined the opportunity to speak with investigators after he had been arrested as a fugitive from justice on 05/01/14.

Det. VANLOUVENDER along with SKOTLESKI, NOLL and SCIARILLO then travelled to 196 Rockaway Parkway, Apt# 3D, in Brooklyn, NY, This is the location where MORGAN was apprehended. While at apartment 3D, I encountered the tenant, Carlotta MORGAN and Charles MORGAN, both siblings of Kip MORGAN. SKOTLESKI requested and was granted consent by Carlotta MORGAN to search the area where Kip MORGAN was apprehended. SKOTLESKI was

directed to a back bedroom where he discovered a backpack that contained a 38 Taurus revolver, serial# 670266.

The revolver was returned to Pennsylvania and is currently being maintained as evidence by the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department. A check of the revolver's serial number revealed that the weapon had been purchased by Gracelyn MCINTOSH and was subsequently turned over to E.B. BROWN, the separated husband of Sandra BROWN, who is the ex-girlfriend of Kip MORGAN.

On 04/26/15, Det. VANLOUVENDER along with SKOTLESKI and Trooper Robert SEBASTIANELLI travelled to Mid-State Correctional Facility in Marcy, New York and took custody of Kip MORGAN.

On 05/19/15, MORGAN, along with counsel, Attorney Michael VENTRELLA, agreed to meet with investigators, under a grant of immunity. During the interview, which occurred at the Monroe County Detective Center, MORGAN reported that he came to the Poconos and resided with his cousin, Michael CIMATO, in Greentown, PA. MORGAN related that he eventually met Brian HEWSON and became an employee of HEWSON Construction/Contracting. MORGAN also advised that he eventually moved in to the HEWSON residence where he resided with Brian HEWSON and Charles DEFAZIO. MORGAN said that he remembered a day where he was seated in the passenger seat of Brian HEWSON's Chevrolet Suburban and they were parked at the garage located on the HEWSON property. MORGAN said that part of the garage was used by DEFAZIO. Det. VANLOUVENDER is aware of the existence and location of this garage due to encountering Maria GIACALONE at it on 09/03/13. MORGAN related that Brian HEWSON was driving the Suburban and he told MORGAN that he had to wait for someone to show up. MORGAN did not remember what time of day it was other than it was during the morning hours. MORGAN related that Stephen LEPORE showed up at the garage and he was driving a van. MORGAN noted that HEWSON exited the Suburban and began a conversation with LEPORE that eventually became heated. MORGAN said that HEWSON told LEPORE that he owed him money. LEPORE then told HEWSON that he knew more about him than he thought. MORGAN heard a gun shot and then something hit the ground. MORGAN exited the Suburban and went to where HEWSON and LEPORE had been arguing. MORGAN observed LEPORE face down on the ground just outside of the garage bleeding from the back of the head. MORGAN related that HEWSON requested that MORGAN retrieve a zip tie from the rear of the Suburban. MORGAN provided HEWSON with the zip tie and HEWSON then provided MORGAN with the handgun he used to kill LEPORE and told MORGAN to get rid of it. MORGAN drove the Suburban up the driveway to the HEWSON residence to dispose of the weapon. MORGAN returned to the garage and the zip tie was used to secure LEPORE's hands behind his back. MORGAN then assisted HEWSON with placing LEPORE head first in a metal barrel. HEWSON then secured the top of the barrel and stored the barrel in the garage under a blue tarp. MORGAN reported that the garage door on the downhill side of the garage was open at the time of the shooting. MORGAN advised that HEWSON then got in LEPORE's van and MORGAN followed behind him in the Suburban. MORGAN related that HEWSON abandoned the van on a dead end street after driving around for a while. This matches the description of Brown Street, a dead end street in Stroudsburg, where LEPORE's van was discovered. MORGAN said that HEWSON told him that LEPORE was a piece of shit and they never discussed the incident again. MORGAN reported that HEWSON dropped him off at the HEWSON Construction/Contracting shop in Mt. Pocono.

On 09/01/15, Det. VANLOUVENDER was present for an interview with Kip MORGAN at the Monroe County Detective Center. Also present was Trooper Robert SEBASTIANELLI, Detective Michael SCIARILLO, LT. Steven WILLIAMS and Monroe County First Assistant District Attorney

Michael MANCUSO. MORGAN was granted immunity for the interview. MORGAN reported that he shot LEPORE one time in the head at the request of Brian HEWSON. The murder took place on the day LEPORE disappeared, 08/17/12, at the garage/pole barn on the HEWSON/GIACALONE property in Barrett Township, Monroe County, PA. MORGAN, a fugitive from justice at the time of the incident, was promised a new identity by HEWSON in return for taking care of LEPORE. According to MORGAN, LEPORE was placed in a barrel and stored in the garage/pole barn. MORGAN advised that he does not know how the barrel was disposed of. It should be noted that the location of LEPORE's remains is still unknown. MORGAN advised that HEWSON also wanted him to "Take care" of someone else, but he never provided a name. MORGAN denied that he murdered anyone else at HEWSON's request. MORGAN related that the revolver we recovered from his sister's house in New York City is the gun he used to shoot LEPORE. In previous interviews, MORGAN has admitted to using this revolver for target practice on the HEWSON/GIACALONE property in Barrett Township, Monroe County, PA. MORGAN reported that he has fired guns with Charles DEFAZIO in the past.

During September of 2023, Brian HEWSON was arrested in the State of Florida and charged as a fugitive from justice based on a bench warrant issued by the Court of Common Pleas for Monroe County. The bench warrant was issued as a result of HEWSON missing court appearances related to an active burglary charge.

On 10/16/23, HEWSON advised Det. VANLOUVENDER that the remains of Stephen LEPORE could be located at 95 Peet Road in Wayne County, Pennsylvania. Det. VANLOUVENDER is aware that 95 Peet Road in Newfoundland is the residence of Janine HEWSON, the mother of Brian HEWSON, as well as Michael HEWSON a brother of Brian HEWSON. HEWSON directed Det. VANLOUVENDER to the backyard of the residence and advised that LEPORE could be located 5'-6' to the left of a shed located behind a pool in the backyard.

On 10/16/23, Det. VANLOUVENDER along with Det. Robert SEBASTIANELLI, also of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, and Trooper Brian NOLL, of the Pennsylvania State Police, met with Janine HEWSON who signed a consent form granting a search of the backyard.

On 10/16/23, a search of the backyard by a human remains detection canine, "Gnash", was conducted with the assistance of Sgt. Michael KALINCHOCK, of the Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Emergency and Special Operations. "Gnash" is trained in the detection of human blood, bone, tissue and decomposition fluid. "Gnash" was most recently certified on 10/24/22. During the search of the HEWSON backyard, "Gnash" alerted to an area of the backyard consistent with the area provided by HEWSON as the location of the LEPORE remains.