

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
PIKE CIRCUIT COURT  
25-CR-00223

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

PLAINTIFF

VS.

COMMONWEALTH'S REPLY TO  
DEFENDANT'S OBJECTION TO CONTINUANCE OF TRIAL DATE

MICHAEL K. MCKINNEY, III

DEFENDANT

.....  
**COMES** the Commonwealth and for its reply to the Defendant's objection to our request to continue the trial to allow completion of forensic testing, and states as follows:

1. In its objection, the Defendant argues that since most of the evidence in the case has been tested, that neither the Commonwealth or apparently any of the Defendants should be concerned about forensic testing being completed on the large number of remaining items that have been submitted. To the contrary, it is in the best interest of all parties that testing be completed on all evidence collected before proceeding to trial.
2. As the Court and parties have been previously advised, the Kentucky State Police Forensics Lab tests each submission of evidence individually and cannot proceed with testing on subsequent submissions until the current one is completed. And their normal policy is not to accept more than ten (10) items in one submission, but they have allowed that number to be greatly exceeded on almost every

submission of evidence in order to get this done as quickly as possible. We are simply dealing with an unusually large amount of blood evidence in this case due to the brutal nature of the murder.

3. There are currently two (2) large submissions of evidence awaiting completion of DNA testing. Attached are two (2) serology reports from the lab listing all of the items awaiting completion of DNA testing in those submissions. As you can see, this includes DNA testing for blood found on the victim's clothing, blood found on Dr. McKinney's bedroom door only feet from where the murder occurred, blood from the couch where the victim was found, blood from numerous areas of the basement of the home, and potential blood from sink traps throughout the home. There are also potential hairs that were collected that are pending trace evidence examination to determine if they are, in fact, hairs, the type of hairs they could be, and possible nuclear or mitochondrial DNA testing that may become necessary, depending on the results.
4. It should be obvious to anyone that these are very significant items of evidence that must be properly tested in order for the Defendants and the Commonwealth to receive a fair trial. The stakes could not be higher. The victim, Amber Spradlin, is dead and in the ground after being

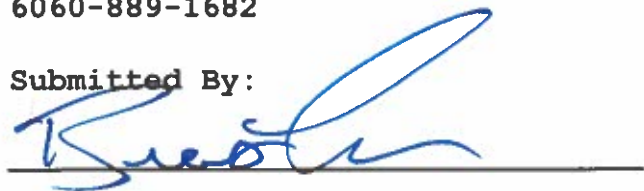
viscously murdered. Defendant M.K. McKinney is looking at the possibility of life in prison. To rush this case to trial without all the evidence being tested could result in a terrible injustice. The decision the jury reaches will have life-altering implications for everyone involved, and it is critical that all of the evidence be tested and available to the jury. To do anything less would jeopardize the integrity of the process and diminish public confidence in the outcome.

**WHEREFORE**, the Commonwealth again prays for the appropriate Orders of the Court rescheduling the current trial date until forensic testing on all evidence in the case can be completed.

Respectfully submitted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

**HON. ARNOLD BRENT TURNER  
COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY  
140 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE  
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653  
606-889-1825  
6060-889-1682**

Submitted By:



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing Reply was e-mailed on this the 5 day of **November**, 2025 to the following:

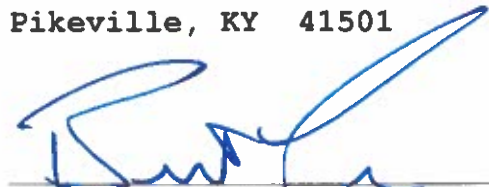
Hon. Terry Jacobs  
P. O. Box 99  
Hindman, KY 41822  
(e-mail: [terrydjacobs@hotmail.com](mailto:terrydjacobs@hotmail.com))

Hon. Steven R. Romines  
600 West Main Street, Suite 100  
Louisville, KY 40202  
[sromines@rominesweisyong.com](mailto:sromines@rominesweisyong.com)

Hon. Randy O'Neal  
P. O. Box 266  
Richmond, KY 40476  
[randy@oneallawky.com](mailto:randy@oneallawky.com)

Hon. Whitney Rowe  
300 West Short Street  
Lexington, KY 40507  
[whitney@baldanilaw.com](mailto:whitney@baldanilaw.com)

Judge Eddie Coleman  
Pike Circuit Court  
Pikeville, KY 41501

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
FLOYD COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY



KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
DIVISION OF FORENSIC SERVICES

Northern Laboratory
5690 East Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076-9734



Phone: (859) 441-2220 Fax: (859) 441-0848

REPORT OF FORENSIC LABORATORY EXAMINATION

Agency: Kentucky State Police Post 9
Agency Case #: 09-23-0485
Case Officer: M. Lewis, J. Wireman
Laboratory #: 23-C-03889
Report #: 9
County: Floyd
Subject(s): Michael K. McKinney, III - [S]
Michael McKinney, II - [S]
Joshua Mullins - [S]
Roy Kidd - [S]
Amber Spradlin - [V]

MATERIAL SUBMITTED (submitting agency exhibit numbers listed in parentheses):

Received:

Table with 4 columns: Item, Exhibit Number, Description, and Received Date. Contains 15 rows of evidence items.

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Serological Analysis

RESULTS AND OPINIONS:

Items 33, 34, 35, 37 (one sock), 38, 39, 41, and 42 contain blood. Presumptive\* testing for human origin was positive. Presumptive\* testing for blood was positive on Items 36 and 40. Presumptive\* testing for blood was positive on Item 37 (one sock), but the presence of blood could not be confirmed through further analysis.

**REPORT OF FORENSIC LABORATORY EXAMINATION (continued)**

Agency:	Kentucky State Police Post 9	LABORATORY #	23-C-03889
Agency Case #	09-23-0485	REPORT #	9

No blood was found on Items 43, 44, 45, 46, or 47.  
Items 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, and 45 contain apparent hair.  
\*presumptive tests do not confirm the presence of bodily fluids or human origin

**DISPOSITION:**

Items 33.1 (cutting from t-shirt from Amber Spradlin), 33.2 (cutting from t-shirt from Amber Spradlin), 33.3 (cutting from t-shirt from Amber Spradlin), 34.1 (cutting from bra from Amber Spradlin), 34.2 (cutting from bra from Amber Spradlin), 35.1 (cutting from pants from Amber Spradlin), 35.2 (cutting from pants from Amber Spradlin), 35.3 (cutting from pants from Amber Spradlin), 36.1 (swabs from belt from Amber Spradlin), 37.1 (cutting from sock from Amber Spradlin), 37.2 (cutting from sock from Amber Spradlin), 38.1 (cutting from pants), 38.2 (cutting from pants), 38.3 (swabs from pants), 39.1 (cutting from shirt), 39.2 (swabs from shirt), 40.1 (swab from belt), 40.2 (swabs from belt), 41.1 (cutting from shorts from bedroom floor), 41.2 (swabs from shorts from bedroom floor), and 42.1 (cutting from towel from countertop in kitchen B3) will be forwarded to the Central Laboratory for Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) analysis.

**METHODS:**

Phenolphthalein Test – Items 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47.  
HemaTrace® Test – Items 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 41, and 42.

Results relate only to the items or sampling of items tested.

Unless otherwise noted in the report, this evidence is available for release.  
Evidence descriptions were obtained from agency information, item packaging, observations and/or previous reports.

**Date Analysis Started:** 03/21/25  
**Date Analysis Completed:** 06/03/25  
**Date Report Issued:** 06/04/25



Erin N. Hildebrandt  
Forensic Scientist Specialist II



**KENTUCKY STATE POLICE  
DIVISION OF FORENSIC SERVICES**

Northern Laboratory  
5690 East Alexandria Pike  
Cold Spring, KY 41076-9734

Phone: (859) 441-2220 Fax: (859) 441-0848



**REPORT OF FORENSIC LABORATORY EXAMINATION**

<b>Agency:</b>	Kentucky State Police Post 9	<b>Laboratory #:</b>	23-C-03889
<b>Agency Case #:</b>	09-23-0485	<b>Report #:</b>	10
<b>Case Officer:</b>	M. Lewis, J. Wireman	<b>County:</b>	Floyd
<b>Subject(s):</b>	Michael K. McKinney, III - [S] Michael McKinney, II - [S] Joshua Mullins - [S] Roy Kidd - [S] Amber Spradlin - [V]		

**MATERIAL SUBMITTED** (submitting agency exhibit numbers listed in parentheses):

**Received:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>49 (59):</b>	Swab from living room couch	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>50 (60):</b>	Swab from master bedroom door	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>51 (61):</b>	Swab from basement bedroom A sheets	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>52 (62):</b>	Swab from bed railing in basement bedroom	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>53 (63):</b>	Swab from foot of bed in basement bedroom	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>54 (64):</b>	Swab from pillowcase on floor in basement bedroom	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>55 (65):</b>	Swab from trash bag on floor outside basement bedroom	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>56 (66):</b>	Swab from garbage can by basement bedroom door	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>57 (67):</b>	Swab from basement by bar	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>58 (68):</b>	Swab from basement white leather couch	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>59 (69):</b>	Swab from basement bedroom window	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>60 (70):</b>	Swab from basement bathroom door facing	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>61 (71):</b>	Swab from basement bathroom shower wall	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>62 (72):</b>	Swab from basement bathroom sink	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>63 (77):</b>	Shirt	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>64 (78):</b>	Shorts	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>65 (79):</b>	Underwear	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>66 (80):</b>	Sheet from basement bedroom	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>67 (84):</b>	Sink trap from kitchen B2	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>68 (85):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom C2	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>69 (86):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom A7	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>70 (87):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom A8	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>71 (88):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom D5	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>72 (89):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom E1	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>73 (90):</b>	Sink trap from bathroom F4	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>74 (91):</b>	Sink trap from laundry room G2	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>75 (92):</b>	Shoes from Amber Spradlin	04/22/25
<b>Item</b>	<b>76 (93):</b>	Sock from Amber Spradlin	04/22/25

**BIOC.DOTX** version 01

**Effective Date:** 09/16/2024

**Authority:** KSP Laboratory System Director

---

**REPORT OF FORENSIC LABORATORY EXAMINATION (continued)**

---

Agency:	Kentucky State Police Post 9	LABORATORY #	23-C-03889
Agency Case #	09-23-0485	REPORT #	10

---

Item 77 (94): Hair Clip from Amber Spradlin

04/22/25

**EXAMINATION REQUESTED:**

Serological Analysis

**RESULTS AND OPINIONS:**

Items 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 and 66 contain blood. Presumptive\* testing for human origin was positive. Presumptive\* testing for blood was positive on Items 51, 62, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, and 77.

No blood was found on Items 54, 61, 63, 64, or 65.

Items 64, 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, and 76 contain apparent hair.

Results relate only to the items or sampling of items tested.

\*presumptive tests do not confirm the presence of bodily fluids or human origin

**DISPOSITION:**

Items 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 66.1 (cutting from sheet from basement bedroom), 66.2 (cutting from sheet from basement bedroom), 66.3 (cutting from sheet from basement bedroom), 66.4 (cutting from sheet from basement bedroom), 67.1 (swabs from sink trap from kitchen B2), 68.1 (swab from sink trap from bathroom C2), 69.1 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom A7), 69.2 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom A7), 70.1 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom A8), 71.1 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom D5), 72.1 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom E1), 73.1 (swabs from sink trap from bathroom F4), 74.1 (swabs from sink trap from laundry room G2), 75.1 (cutting from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 75.2 (cutting from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 75.3 (swabs from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 75.4 (cutting from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 75.5 (cutting from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 75.6 (swabs from shoes from Amber Spradlin), 76.1 (swabs from sock from Amber Spradlin), and 77.1 (swabs from hair clip from Amber Spradlin) will be forwarded to the Central Laboratory for Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) analysis. .

**METHODS:**

Phenolphthalein Test - Items 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, and 77.

HemaTrace® Test - Items 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, and 66.

Unless otherwise noted in the report, this evidence is available for release.

Evidence descriptions were obtained from agency information, item packaging, observations and/or previous reports.

**REPORT OF FORENSIC LABORATORY EXAMINATION (continued)**

Agency: Kentucky State Police Post 9  
Agency Case # 09-23-0485

LABORATORY # 23-C-03889  
REPORT # 10

Date Analysis Started: 06/05/25  
Date Analysis Completed: 09/23/25  
Date Report Issued: 09/30/25



Erin N. Hildebrandt  
Forensic Scientist Specialist II