

2116

The State of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, SPRING SESSION, 1956

The Grand Jury of said County charge that before finding this indictment  
FRANK LANE, whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown,  
unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed Bennie Dinkins,  
by shooting him with a pistol,

against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

*Kenneth Cooper*  
Solicitor of the Twenty-Eight Judicial Circuit.

RECORDED

No. \_\_\_\_\_

The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County

Circuit Court

SPRING SESSION ~~XXXX~~ 19-56

The State

vs.

FRANK LANE

INDICTMENT

MURDER, 1st DEGREE

No. Prosecutor

WITNESSES:

JOHNNIE WOODYARD

BILLY JACKSON

DR. W. C. HOLMES

J. D. HORN

FRANK OSBORNE

B. D. COBB

*Petty Jackson*

*Samuel Jackson*

GRAND JURY NO. 34

A TRUE BILL,

*M. Menden*

Foreman Grand Jury.

Filed in open Court and in the presence of

the Grand Jury on the 16 day of

March, 1956

*Devin J. Russell*  
Clerk.

Presented in open Court to the presiding  
Judge by the Foreman of the Grand Jury, in

the presence of 11 other Grand Jurors.

*Devin J. Russell*  
Clerk.

Bail fixed \$ 1000<sup>00</sup>

*J. H. Smith*

Judge.

*WCC*

*We the the jury  
find the defendant  
not guilty.*

*C. J. Griffith  
Foreman*

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

We, Frank Lane, as

principal, and undersigned as sureties agree to pay THE STATE OF ALABAMA, the sum of  
One thousand DOLLARS

unless the said Frank Lane appears at the  
next Term, 1955-6 of the District Court of Baldwin County, Alabama

and from term to term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of

Murder in first Degree

We hereby waive as to all amounts that may become due hereunder the benefit of all laws exempting personal property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt by constitution or laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts, liabilities, exemptions and this bond to the amount of: real property of the value of \$2,000.00 and personal property of the value of \$1,000.00.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the \_\_\_\_\_ L. S.

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 195\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Baldwin County, Ala.

Taken and approved this the 24 day of Sept 1955

By \_\_\_\_\_, Sheriff  
K. P. Brantley, Deputy Sheriff

FRANK LANE L. S.

L. B. Dupes L. S.

J. B. Baldwin L. S.

Angela With, Sheriff

K. P. Brantley, Deputy Sheriff

The State of Alabama }  
Baldwin County }

We, Frank Lamp, as  
principal, and undersigned as sureties agree to pay THE STATE OF ALABAMA, the sum of  
One thousand DOLLARS  
unless the said Frank Lamp appears at the  
March 28 Term, 1956 of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama  
and from term to term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of  
Murder

We hereby waive as to all amounts that may become due hereunder the benefit of all laws exempting personal property from levy and sale under execution or other process for the collection of debt by constitution or laws of the State of Alabama, and we hereby severally certify that we have property over and above all debts, liabilities, exemptions and this bond to the amount of: real property of the value of \$2,000.00 and personal property of the value of \$1,000.00.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the  
..... day of ....., 19.....  
.....  
..... Baldwin County, Ala. ....

FRANK LAMP L. S.  
L. B. Pipes L. S.  
Uada Baldwin L. S.  
..... L. S.

Taken and approved this the 17 day of March 1956  
By Jaylor Melbourn, Sheriff  
By W. J. Lee, Deputy Sheriff

No. ....

The State of Alabama,

Baldwin County

..... Court

Sheriff's Office

THE STATE

VS.

*Frank Lane*

Sheriff's Appearance Bond

Amount of Bond, \$.....

Filed....., 195.....

....., Clerk

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County

To Any Sheriff of the State of Alabama:

An indictment having been found against

Frank Lane

at the Spring Term, 1956 of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, for the offense of

Murder 1st degree

you are, therefore, commanded forthwith to arrest the said Defendant and commit him  
to jail, unless he give bail to answer said indictment, and that you return this Writ  
according to law.

Dated this 16 day of March, 1956

Deirdre J. ...  
Clerk Circuit Court of Baldwin County.

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

We, \_\_\_\_\_, as principal and

the other undersigned as sureties, agree to pay the State of Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

Dollars, unless the said \_\_\_\_\_ appears

at the \_\_\_\_\_ Term of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, and from Term to

Term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of \_\_\_\_\_

In signing the above bond we and each of us hereby waive all legal rights of exemptions allowed  
us by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama.

Witness our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(L. S.)

Taken and approved \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff of Baldwin County.

CAPIAS

No. 34

The State  
vs.

Frank Lane

Bail fixed in this Case in Open Court at

\$ 1000<sup>00</sup>

By N. M. Shell  
Judge Presiding

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk.

Executed this 17 day of March, 1956

By arresting the within

named Defendant

and placing him In Jail

\_\_\_\_\_, Sheriff

W. O. Garner, Deputy Sheriff

*omi*

AFFIDAVIT 17 Sept 55 Bennie Dinkins. Printed by Moore Printing Co.

State Of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County. }

In the Justice Court of T. C. HAND

2116

Before me, T. C. HAND, Justice of the Peace

in and for said County, personally appeared R. J. Granger who, being  
duly sworn, deposes and says on oath that he has probable cause for believing and does believe that in said County,  
on or about 17 September 1955 that one Frank Lane

unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed BENNIE DINKINS, by shooting  
him with a pistol.

against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18

day of September, A. D., 19 55

T. C. Hand, J. P.

R. J. Granger

WARRANT

State Of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County. }

To Any Lawful Officer of Said County, Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to arrest Frank Lane

and bring him

before me to answer the State of Alabama on a charge

Murder

and have you then and there this writ with your return thereon.

Witness my hand this 18 day of September, 19 55.

T. C. Hand, J. P.



The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County

JUSTICE COURT OF

T. C. HAND

AFFIDAVIT

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
VS.

Frank Lane

Witnesses for the State:

- B. D. Cobb
- Marganson
- Less Davis
- Johnnie Woodyard
- Alvin D. Dubose
- Emma Fipps
- Billy Jackson
- Dr. W. C. Holmes
- J. D. Horn
- R. J. Granger

Justice Court of  
Baldwin County

Warrant of Arrest

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
vs.

Frank Lane

Executed this 18 day of Sept 1931

By arresting the within

named Defendant

and placing him

in jail.

Taylor Wilk, Sheriff

R. J. Granger, Deputy Sheriff

Foley.

2116

Charge 21.

The court charges the jury that if you believe the evidence in this case you must find the defendant not guilty of manslaughter in the first degree.

*Refused to find guilty*

2116

Charge 19.

The court charges the jury that if you believe the evidence in this case you must find the defendant not guilty.

*Refused to find guilty*

2116

The State of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County.

JUSTICE COURT OF T. C. HAND  
Precinct 4, Bay Minette, Ala.

To Any Sheriff of the State of Alabama:

You are hereby Commanded to Summon B. D. Cobb, WR Margenson, Less Davis, Johnnie Woodyard,

Alvin D. Dubose, Emma Fipps, Billy Jackson, Dr. W. C. Holmes, R. J. Granger, J. D. Horn.

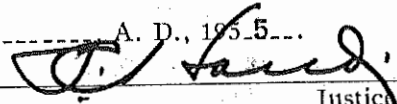
personally to be and appear before the Justice Court, to be holden for Baldwin County, at my office on the

23 day of September 9 A. M., 1955, and from day to day of said term,  
and from term to term thereafter, until discharged, to give evidence and the truth to speak in behalf of  
THE STATE, in a prosecution now pending in said Court, wherein the State of Alabama is plaintiff and

Frank Lane

\_\_\_\_\_ Defendant, and have you then and  
there this Writ, with your endorsement thereon.

Witness my hand this 20 day of September A. D., 1955.



Justice of the Peace

Executed in full, this the

1 21 day of

Sept, 1955

Taylor Watkins  
Sheriff

Orville Anderson  
Deputy Sheriff

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the document]*

2116

Charge 1.

The court charges the jury that if you believe the evidence in this case you must find the defendant not guilty of murder in the first degree.

*Refused to accept*

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Charge 2.

The court charges the jury that if you believe the evidence in this case you must find the defendant not guilty of murder in the second degree.

*Refused to accept*

2116

what crime was committed

Murder

when was crime committed

July - 17 Sept 55

where was crime committed

July

who committed crime

Frank Lane

how was crime committed

Shooting Bennie Dickins  
with a pistol.

2114

23 Sept 50

Billy Jackson Tally Level 9-10 yr  
21 yr old.

with Bennie Simpson

Shot at Beer joint, 2 miles so. Tally.  
11:30 P.M.

Frank Lane shot Bennie Simpson  
Shot 3 times after getting out of car.  
2 before get out of car.

Pulled into Frank Lane place.

~~Frank~~

Bennie got out of car and went to  
back of car.

Heard shooting 2 shots.

Frank was parking up and Bennie  
was walking toward Frank.

Bennie hand down to side.

Saw no weapon in his hands

Saw Frank hit Bennie.

Good views from Bldg. Time of shooting

2116

at corner of bldg when shot <sup>rd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> time  
~~did not see~~  
shot from outside of bldg, 4<sup>th</sup> time.

Saw no knife on Bennie.

20 minutes lived after shooting

Frank came up to car + told Bennie  
he wanted to see Bennie + they went  
behind car.

Heard Frank tell Bennie to stop as he  
would shoot

W.P. Ferguson  
17 Sept 1955 - end. shooting 25 to 12 P.M.  
went to Palmer Hop.

Bennie S. lying on back at door  
of open room - died 5 min.

Shot in left chest + breast.

Bennie made no statement.

did not search clothes at time.

after death went to Quarters + plane  
operated by Frank Lane.

On arrival Frank Lane came to  
Police car with hands up in air.



2114

1 handed him 22 ~~shots~~  
made no statement  
found pistol & bribe are to Cobb.

Coff. Chf. Police Day 14/4/47  
Knew Bennie 4-5-6, 47  
Conducted initial I.W.

17 shots fired by shooting.

Qty. 30 ft. apt.

Frank Lane was standing in front  
of Bennie's joint. He walked over to  
car with hands in air with gun  
in hand.

Gun introduced as evidence

Gun was fully loaded at time of  
arrest

Saw pool of blood behind Bennie's joint.

Bennie made statement.

Frank said he had to shoot Bennie

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Transcript of Criminal Cases from Justice Court of Baldwin County, Ala.

Attorneys	Case	Charge
No. <b>7509</b>	THE STATE OF ALABAMA, Vs. <b>Frank Lane</b>	<b>Murder</b>

Disposition of Case	Fees	Amount
Affidavit made and Warrant Issued to <b>R. J. Granger.</b>	Judge's Fees Warrant at 50c, Affidavit at 25c	<b>75</b>
Returnable <b>Grand Jury.</b>	Bond at 50c, Sci Fa. at 50c	
Witness—for State <b>B. D. Cobb</b>	Witnesses' Recognizances at 25c	
<b>W. R. Magnuson.</b>	<b>10</b> Subpoenas or notice at 25c	<b>250</b>
<b>Less Davis.</b>	Continuance at 25c	
<b>Phemie Woodyard</b>	Trial of Misdemeanor at \$1.00	
<b>Alvin Suber</b>	Mittimus at 25c	<b>25</b>
<b>Emma Fipps</b>	Judgment on Forfeited Bond at 25c	
<b>Billy Jackson</b>	Taking Bond, etc., on Appeal at \$1.00	
<b>Dr. W. C. Holmer</b>	Execution of costs at 25c	
<b>J. S. Ham</b>	Constable's Fees	
<b>R. J. Granger.</b>	Subpoena or Notice at 25c	
<b>23 Sept 11</b>	Carrying Defendant before Justice each mile for himself and guard at 10c	
<b>Bond set to Grand Jury.</b>	Arrest 50c	
<b>Bond set \$1,000.</b>	Sheriff's Fees	
<b>my being unable to man bond</b>	Arrest \$4.00, Bond \$1.00, Sci Fa. 50c	<b>500</b>
<b>was ordered committed to jail.</b>	Guard \$2.00, Finger Printing 10c	<b>2.10</b>
<b>24 Sept 11</b>	<b>10</b> Subpoenas at 50c Mileage <b>72</b>	<b>12.00</b>
<b>my. Posted bond</b>	Witness Fees	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Cl. Faud</b>	<b>Billy Jackson</b> Days at 50c	<b>50</b>
<b>Justice Court</b>	<b>B. D. Cobb</b> Days at 50c	<b>50</b>
	<b>W. R. Magnuson</b> Days at 50c	<b>50</b>
	<b>J. S. Ham</b> Days at 50c	<b>50</b>
	<b>R. J. Granger</b> Days at 50c	<b>50</b>
	Days at 50c	
	Defendant's Costs	
	Witnesses' Recognizance at 25c	
	Subpoenas at 50c	
	Executing Subpoenas	

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<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>
<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>
<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>
<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>	<p>1031</p>