

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
IN THE WAYNE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
Plaintiff,

-vs-

Case No. 99-03147  
Hon. Bradley Cobb

GEORGE CALICUT, JR.,  
Defendant.

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**Stipulated Order to Vacate Conviction and Sentence  
and to Dismiss Charges Without Prejudice**

The parties have stipulated that:

1. On March 10, 1999, Mrs. Virgie Perkins was murdered at her home in Detroit.
2. A few days after the murder, Lemuel Perkins, Sr. (Mrs. Perkins's husband) reported a cell phone—among other items—missing from the home.
3. On March 16, 1999, Detroit Police Department (DPD) Homicide officers approached Mr. Calicut at work about a stolen cell phone. Mr. Calicut confirmed that he had taken a cell phone from Lemuel Perkins, Jr. (Mrs. Perkins's son). Mr. Calicut voluntarily went to police headquarters (1300 Beaubien) with the officers and signed a consent-to-search form authorizing DPD to retrieve the cell phone from his home.

4. After DPD officers recovered the cell phone, DPD Homicide Investigator Barbara Simon interviewed Mr. Calicut. There is no known audio or video recording of the interview. During this interview, Simon authored a four-page written statement. According to this statement: Mr. Calicut went to Mrs. Perkins's house at around 10:00 am on the day of the murder to borrow money to buy crack cocaine. When Mrs. Perkins said she didn't have any money, he choked her until she passed out, then cut her neck to make it look like someone had broken in. He rifled through her purse, stealing \$5 and a cell phone, before leaving the scene.
5. At trial, the State's case relied entirely on two pieces of evidence: (1) the written statement and (2) the discovery of a stolen cell phone in Mr. Calicut's possession. Simon testified that she authored the confession and that it was written in her own handwriting. An enlarged copy of the confession was presented to the jury on a posterboard. Mr. Calicut testified in his own defense, during which he maintained his innocence, denied the statements contained in the written statement, and explained that he had stolen a cell phone from Lemuel Perkins, Jr. There were no eyewitnesses or physical evidence linking Mr. Calicut to the crime. DNA testing was ordered but not performed.
6. On October 8, 1999, the jury convicted Mr. Calicut of first-degree felony murder. Mr. Calicut was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.
7. On December 7, 2001, the Michigan Court of Appeals affirmed Mr. Calicut's conviction. *See People v Calicut*, issued December 7, 2001 (Docket No. 224817), 2001 WL 1565837.
8. On July 29, 2002, the Michigan Supreme Court denied delayed leave to appeal. *See People v Calicut*, 467 Mich 855, 650 NW2d 338 (2002).
9. Subsequently, Mr. Calicut filed a *pro se* Motion for Relief from Judgment, which was denied. *See People v Calicut*, unpublished order of the Third Circuit Court, entered January 16, 2004 (Docket No. 126939). The Michigan Court of Appeals affirmed, and the Michigan Supreme Court denied leave to appeal. *See People v Calicut*, unpublished order of the Michigan Court of Appeals, issued August 20, 2004 (Docket No. 254650); *People v Calicut*, 472 Mich 910, 697 NW2d 151 (2005).
10. Subsequently, Mr. Calicut filed a *pro se* Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, which was denied. *See Calicut v Quigley*, No. 05-CV-72334-DT, 2007 WL 37751 (ED Mich, January 3, 2007).
11. In October of 2020, the Michigan Innocence Clinic (MIC) began investigating Mr. Calicut's case. Following their investigation, MIC submitted the case to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU).
12. Throughout his trial, appeal, and his post-conviction litigation, Mr. Calicut has maintained that Simon obtained a false confession. At the outset of the interview, Simon told Mr. Calicut, who had no prior interactions with police, that she could help him by creating a

statement that would reduce the charge to manslaughter, which would allow him to get a bond and go home. Simon assured Mr. Calicut that signing the statement meant he would not spend the night in jail. Prior to Simon writing the statement, she told Mr. Calicut that, if he contacted an attorney, he would be charged with first-degree murder rather than manslaughter. Mr. Calicut testified he never read the statement prior to trial.

13. In the years following Mr. Calicut's conviction, investigation revealed that Simon employed similar patterns of coercion in multiple other wrongful conviction cases. In those cases, Simon elicited false confessions through coercive tactics nearly identical to those used on Mr. Calicut. *See, e.g., People v Craighead*, unpublished opinion of the Court of Appeals, issued October 28, 2021 (Docket No. 356393), 2021 WL 5027978 (affirming the trial court's order granting the defendant's successive motion for relief from judgment based on new evidence of Simon's misconduct and pattern of eliciting false confessions).
14. Mr. Calicut has always maintained that he took a phone from Lemuel Perkins, Jr.'s truck the day after the murder when Lemuel Perkins, Jr. came to his house. At trial, Simon agreed that Mr. Calicut told her he took a phone out of a vehicle. She admitted that this fact did not make it into the statement she wrote. Further, investigation reveals that Lemuel Perkins, Jr. had a documented history of stealing from his parents and had, in fact, stolen a cell phone from them at least once before.<sup>1</sup> MIC and the CIU also found that Lemuel Perkins, Sr. ultimately reported two phones missing after Mrs. Perkins's death. Only one phone was found among Mr. Calicut's possessions.
15. In 2025, DNA testing was conducted at Bode Technology pursuant to a stipulation between MIC, Cooley Innocence Project (CIP), and the CIU. Mrs. Perkins's purse, along with a knife and knife sheath recovered from the crime scene, were submitted to the lab. Blood staining on the knife blade served as a reference sample for Mrs. Perkins. Male DNA on the knife handle and sheath were not suitable for comparison purposes. A mixture containing male DNA was obtained from Mrs. Perkins's purse. Bode Technology excluded Mr. Calicut as a possible contributor to the interpretable portion of the male DNA profile.
16. In 2026, the Michigan State Police tested the victim's fingernail clippings. It was found during the testing process that there was no male biological material under the fingernails. However, there were two female profiles.
17. The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office and Mr. Calicut stipulate that there is reason to believe that, if the jury knew the information about Simon's pattern of coercion that resulted in false confessions, it is reasonably likely it would not have convicted Mr. Calicut in this case, as there was no other evidence tying him to the crime. The exclusionary DNA evidence further supports the lack of any evidence tying Mr. Calicut to this crime scene.

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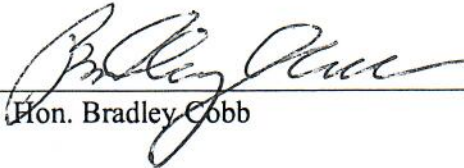
<sup>1</sup> On March 13, 1999, Lemuel Perkins, Sr. stated that Lemuel Perkins, Jr. had stolen a check for about \$300 and a cell phone from him and Mrs. Perkins a few months prior to the murder. On March 12, 1999, Cynthia Dennis (a friend of the Perkins family who had been living with the Perkins's immediately prior to the murder) stated that Lemuel Perkins, Jr. had stolen \$50 from Mrs. Perkins the week prior to her death, which he only partially paid back.

18. Mr. Calicut has made the necessary showing for purposes of MCR 6.508(D)(2) that: (1) the evidence described above is newly discovered; (2) this evidence is not merely cumulative of that presented at trial; (3) Mr. Calicut could not have through the exercise of reasonable diligence discovered the evidence before or at trial; and (4) the evidence may make a different result probable on retrial. *See People v Cress*, 468 Mich 678, 692; 664 NW2d 174 (2003).

The Court finds that no evidentiary hearing is necessary. MCR 6.508(B). The parties' stipulated facts, above, are adequate for this Court to make an informed ruling and are adopted accordingly. MCR 6.508(E).

This matter has come to the Court's attention by the stipulation of the parties, it is ORDERED that Mr. Calicut's felony murder conviction and sentence be vacated, and the charge is dismissed without prejudice.

Dated: 3/3/2026

  
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Hon. Bradley Cobb