

This is Vincent Carraher. Today is September 2, 1998. I'm here with Mr. Steven Maxwell.

VC: Would you state your name, age and address?

SM: My name is Steven Maxwell. I live at [REDACTED], St. Paul, MN 55102. My age is 30 years of age.

VC: Thank you. I'm going to make sure this is picking up.

VC: My I have your home phone, sir?

SM: 612-[REDACTED]-[REDACTED].

VC: Thank you. Do you know a person by the name of Ralph Chavous Duke? Currently incarcerated in federal prison.

SM: I know of him, yes I do.

VC: Okay. You know of him. Are you related to him in anyway?

SM: No, I'm not.

VC: Did you ever do any type of business with Mr. Ralph Duke? Legal or illegal?

SM: No, I haven't. I tried to purchase a car or two from him, but never made the purchase.

VC: Did you know him as a car dealer, car jockey, so to speak?

SM: Yes, I did.

VC: Okay. Now, you were not, I don't mean to words in your mouth, were not a friend of his?

SM: No.

VC: Okay. How did you happen to meet him?

SM: Through a friend of his, I met him through an associate of mine.

VC: Did he ever offer to buy or sell drugs from you?

SM: No, he has not.

VC: My understanding is that at one time you had a little problem with the law, is that correct?

SM: Yes, it is.

VC: Would you mind telling me what happened?

SM: I sold 2 1/2 ounces to a undercover on a sting operation.

VC: Okay. On a sting operation you sold 2 1/2 ounces of what?

SM: Powder cocaine.

VC: Okay. Do you know the name of the agent?

SM: I know him as "Cisco."

VC: Alright.

SM: And he is a St. Paul officer.

VC: Was his name Martinis?

SM: Yes, it was Martinis.

VC: Would you know anything about Officer Martinis testifying against Mr. Ralph Duke.

SM: No, I would not.

VC: Okay. If I told you that Mr. Martinis made a statement on the witness stand that you told him you were related to Ralph Duke and that you could get drugs anytime from Ralph Duke, would that be a true or a false statement?

SM: That is a false statement.

VC: That's a false statement. Okay. When you were arrested on this sting operation, did the name Ralph Duke come up?

SM: No, it did not.

VC: What year would that have been, sir?

SM: I think it was 1988. November of 1988.

VC: November of 1988. Do you know when Mr. Ralph Duke and his nephews and some other young people were arrested?

SM: I think it was May of 1989.

VC: It was sometime in 1989, I don't have the exact date. And this incident your involved, was that in any way related to the young people that were arrested along with Ralph Duke?

SM: No, it was not.

VC: What city did you grow up in, sir?

SM: I grew up in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota.

VC: Did you happen to know any of Ralph Duke's children, nephews or nieces?

SM: Yes, I did.

VC: And how would that be?

SM: Through school.

VC: Who did you happen to know through school?

SM: Me and Monty went to a couple of classes together.

VC: Were you constant companion of Monty?

SM: No, I was not.

VC: Okay. Do you know if there was such a thing as the "Duke Gang"?

SM: No it was not. Not that I know of, not to my knowledge.

VC: Okay. Having lived in the St. Paul community and gone to school with Monty Duke, do you think you would have known, would there have been talk on the street of a gang, had there been a gang?

SM: By me being in the streets, I really would of knew. You know, (inaudible) if he was in such a thing, but I never heard of a gang.

VC: So there was no "Duke Gang" to the best of your knowledge and you lived in the community, you would have heard something, is that correct?

SM: Yes, that's true.

VC: Okay. So once again you never told agent Martinis when you were arrested that you were related to Ralph Duke or that you could get drugs from Ralph Duke?

SM: No, I never stated that to him. And when I was arrested I never even talk to him no more after that.

VC: Do you know if he was wired up, if there were any tapes?

SM: To my knowledge it was never no tapes involved and when I went to court they never had any statements.

VC: When you went to court, did they ever mention Mr. Ralph Duke?

SM: Never asked me about Ralph.

VC: Okay. To the best of your recollection, what you telling me, is it accurate and true?

SM: Yes, it is to my knowledge.

VC: Okay. Have I made any promises, threats or inducements to you to speak with me about this matter?

SM: No, you have not.

VC: Alright. I will have this transcribed and copied for your records and then I will ask you to sign it. Are you comfortable with that?

SM: Yes, I am.


VC: Would you state you full name again?

SM: My name is Steve Lavell Maxwell, 2/13/68 and I live at 441 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102.

VC: Alright, sir thank you very much. That concludes the interview.



Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 18 day of SEPTEMBER, 1998.


Notary Public

