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January 25, 2005

Flint Taylor  
Attorney at Law  
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1180 N. Milwaukee  
Chicago, IL 60622

RE: Interview with Barry Mastin

Dear Flint:

In accordance with your request I located and interviewed former Chicago Police Officer Barry Mastin on September 20, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Mastin is a 57 year old African American male who lives in a neat well kept single family home located at 1015 W. 107<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago, IL 60643.

Mr. Mastin told me that during his career as a Chicago Police Officer he was assigned to the General Assignment Unit at Area 2 between 1972 and 1977. Mr. Mastin said during that time he had heard of physical abuse against detainees but that he never saw any of the abuse. He said it was an "open secret" that some Area 2 detectives abused and tortured detainees on the second floor of Area 2. Mr. Mastin went on to say that black officers were not allowed to be present during interrogations by the few white detectives.

Mr. Mastin said he had heard that detainees were sometimes starved and not allowed to go to the washroom. He said there were times when he would see detainees days after they were originally brought in wearing the same clothing who appeared to not have gone anywhere since he first saw them. Mr. Mastin said detainees were held on average two to three days. Mr. Mastin said a couple times he went upstairs when the rooms were empty and saw rings on the walls where detainees would be handcuffed.

Mr. Mastin said although he was not allowed upstairs during interrogations he was aware that some Area 2 detectives would bring suspects into the station through the rear entrance and when friends or family members of the prisoner called the front desk, the front desk personnel would

deny having seen the prisoner<sup>1</sup>. He said the front desk personnel seldom saw who was brought in and therefore were telling the truth when they told callers that they had not seen their loved ones. He described this process as a "shell game" with detainees.

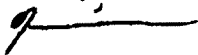
Mr. Mastin said he had heard that some Area 2 detectives seldom got warrants. He said they usually kicked in people's doors. He recalled an incident, he had heard, of a prisoner who was hung out of the window by his ankles during interrogation and accidentally dropped. Mr. Mastin said the prisoner was promptly charged with attempted escape. Mr. Mastin described a technique where some of the interrogating detectives attached one end of a dead wire to a suspect and the other end to a copy machine. The detectives would have a sheet of paper on the glass platform of the copier that read **LIE**. When the detectives did not believe the suspect they would press the copy button on the machine, retrieve the copy and show it to the suspect.

Mr. Mastin said he often saw Assistant States Attorneys at the station but he cannot recall their names. He vaguely recalled an ASA with the first name of "Paul" who he thinks may be a judge now. When asked if he knew of any officer I might talk to who may have seen some of the torture he said Sgt Palmer worked upstairs and may have seen something.

Mr. Mastin mentioned that Samuel Lacy who is retired and now a practicing attorney is suing the city for an unrelated matter. He said Henry Crump who now works in the 911 center may be willing to talk to me. I informed Mr. Mastin that after I meet with you and report this interview, you would want to meet with him and take a sworn statement. Mr. Mastin said OK. Several subsequent attempts to schedule a meeting with Mr. Mastin were unsuccessful.

I re-visited Mr. Mastin on November 28, 2004. I asked him if he would be willing to give a sworn statement and he said he did not mind but that he had to check with his lawyer first. I asked him who represented him and he said R. Eugene Pincham. I responded that Mr. Pincham is familiar with what we are doing and that he would most likely agree to a sworn statement. Mr. Mastin asked if I could check in with him in a couple days. A few days later I contacted Mr. Mastin who said he did not wish to give a sworn statement. He said "it's been thirty years, I'm retired and trying to put all that stuff behind me. Nothing is going to happen to Burge and those guys anyway." Investigation continues...

Sincerely,



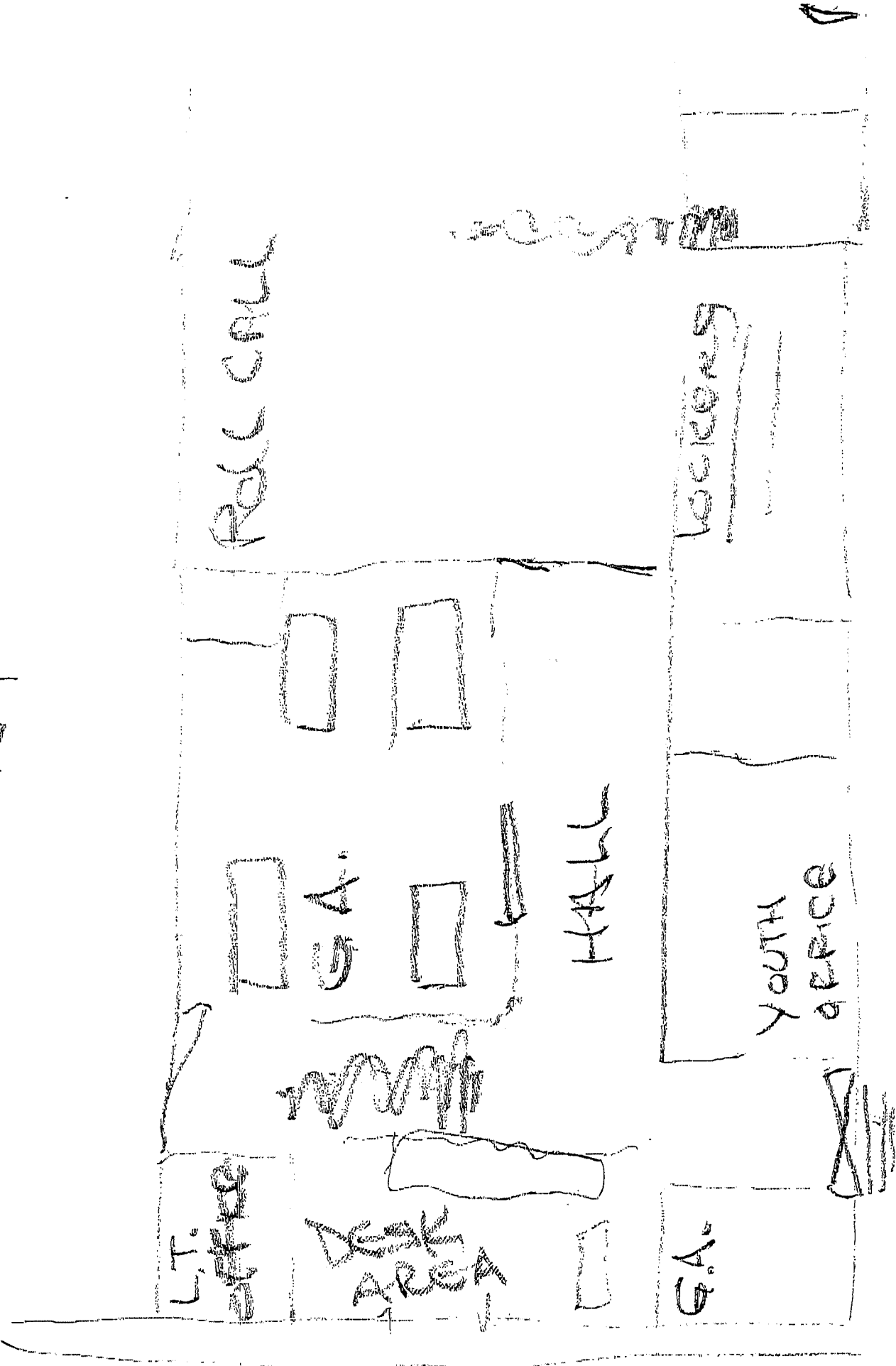
Mort Smith, M.A.  
Private Investigator

ATTACHMENT: Diagram by Mastin

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<sup>1</sup>Mr. Mastin drew a diagram of Area 2 as he recalled and showed me the rear entrance where some Area 2 detectives sneak suspects into the station.

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