

## **Bill Clutter Investigations Inc.**

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### **Memorandum of Interview**

Date: Saturday, November 21, 2009

Person interviewed: Bashkim Mustafaj DOB: 09/01/1969

Reporting agent: Bill Clutter

Re: *USA v Angelo DiPietro*

At approximately 10:45 a.m., reporting agent went to the home of Bashkim Mustafaj, who was out in his front yard raking leaves. His wife was standing on the front porch when I arrived. I introduced myself as a private investigator working on the post-conviction case of **Angelo DiPietro**. I explained to him that Mr. DiPietro is making a claim of actual innocence with respect to part of his conviction that relates to an allegation by **Din Celaj** that Mr. DiPietro was part of an Eastchester robbery conspiracy.

I explained to him that Mr. DiPietro's conviction was based on statements and testimony of Din Celaj. Mr. Mustafaj stated that Celaj made up a bunch of lies to get himself out of trouble. He stated that he knew Celaj and his family. They are both of Albanian descent. He stated that he tried to help the kid out, he bought him tennis shoes and clothes, but that Celaj dropped out of school and he took to the streets. Mr. Mustafaj stated that his background is in education. He pays his taxes and is a law abiding citizen. He stated that Celaj got involved in committing burglaries.

I asked Mr. Mustafaj how he came to know **Maurizio Sanginiti**. He stated that he met him through their mutual interest in basketball. Mr. Mustafaj stated that he coached basketball.

I explained to Mr. Mustafaj that Din Celaj testified at Mr. DiPietro's trial about a meeting at the Raceway Diner in Yonkers in which Mr. DiPietro allegedly initiated discussions

about a plan to rob a home in Eastchester.<sup>1</sup> I asked Mr. Mustafaj if he was ever present at the Raceway Diner with Angelo DiPietro. He stated that he was introduced to DiPietro by Sanginiti at the diner, but that there was never any discussion of committing robberies. He stated that all their discussion were legitimate. There was never any discussion at the diner about committing a burglary in Eastchester.

Reporting agent asked him if Celaj ever worked at a restaurant called Angelina's that was owned by **Angelo Capalbo**. He stated that he didn't know. He stated that Capalbo was a friend of Sanginiti.

Mr. Mustafaj stated he remembers once getting a phone call from Din Celaj, who said he was in Florida. He remembers telling Celaj that he was only up to no good and was headed for trouble.

Mr. Mustafaj stated that he didn't like the fact that Celaj made up lies about him so he could get out of trouble. None of that was true, said Mustafaj. Mr. Mustafaj stated that Celaj was able to get out of prison by making up lies, and he went on to commit other crimes. He stated that Celaj's own mother has given up on him, and she says that her boy is no good.

Reporting agent asked if he was ever interviewed by the FBI to check out Din Celaj's story. He stated that he was never interviewed.

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<sup>1</sup> Celaj testified on June 13, 2005 that Mustafaj was at the Raceway Diner when Angelo DiPietro allegedly began discussing plans to rob a house in Eastchester. Celaj: "We mostly spoke about that house and then I was told that, after that house was going to be another four or five houses." (Tr. Pp. 4286-95, at 4295).