

My name is Joseph Sparks.

I was one of the detectives involved in investigating the case for which Frankie Benitez is in prison.

I knew Frankie prior to his arrest.

I never had a problem with him and

I did not know him to be involved in

criminal activity. I ~~do~~ have my strong

doubts Frankie committed this crime. I

don't believe he had the character to do so.

I conducted photo arrays in this case.

I was shocked when witnesses picked Frankie.

I did not put him in the photo array because

I believed he was a suspect. I actually had

a different suspect in mind but only

put Frankie's picture in there because he had similar features to other suspect and I needed fillers in the photo array.

This is a voluntary statement. The statement is given in the presence of Josh Tepter and his colleague Rebekah Ausbrook. Mr. Tepter gave me his card. I understand that Mr. Tepter represents Frankie Benitez.

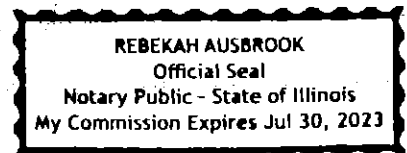
5/13/22

Date

Subscribed and sworn before me this 13th day of May 2022

Joseph Sparks
Joseph Sparks

Rebekah Ausbrook
NOTARY PUBLIC



I wanted to add that this is the one case in my entire

Chicago Police Dept. career that has bothered me and think we got the wrong guy.

5/13/22

Date

Joseph Sparkes
Joseph Sparkes

Subscribed and sworn before me on this 13th day of May 2022

Rebekah Ausbrook
Notary Public

REBEKAH AUSBROOK
Official Seal
Notary Public - State of Illinois
My Commission Expires Jul 30, 2023