



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please refer to
File No.

May 27, 2008

Thomas V. Handy
Commonwealth Attorney
105 East 4th Street
London, KY 40741

Re: Case Name: Ronnie Lee Bowling 89-CR-024
FBI File Number: 95-288155

Dear Mr. Handy:

This letter follows up on our previous communication regarding bullet lead analysis conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory. Thank you for providing the information requested from the above-referenced case.

After reviewing the testimony of the FBI's examiner, it is the opinion of the FBI Laboratory that the examiner overstated the significance of the results of the examinations conducted, possibly leading the jury to misunderstand the probative value of the evidence.

Your office is encouraged to consult appellate specialists in your jurisdiction to determine whether you have any discovery obligations with respect to the finding stated above. As directed by the Department of Justice, we are notifying the Chief Judge of the court in which this case was tried of the results of our review by copying him or her on this letter.

Additionally, you should be aware that the FBI is cooperating with the Innocence Project. The Innocence Project is interested in determining whether improper bullet lead analysis testimony was material to the conviction of any defendant, and, if so, to ensure appropriate remedial actions are taken. In order to fully assist them in their evaluation, the FBI will provide the Innocence Project information from our files, including a copy of the FBI expert's trial testimony in this case and our assessment of that testimony.

Comparative Bullet Lead Analysis Review Process
May 27, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Further questions regarding our review of your case or the general issue of bullet lead examinations may be addressed to Marc LeBeau at: FBI Laboratory Division, 2501 Investigation Parkway, Room 4220, Quantico, VA 22135 (703-632-7408). General legal questions should be directed to Assistant General Counsel James Landon, Office of the General Counsel, FBI Headquarters, Washington, DC 20535 (202-324-1724).

Sincerely,



Melissa Anne Smrz
Acting Director
FBI Laboratory

cc: Chief Judge
Courthouse
109 S. Broad St.
London, KY 40741

REPLY