

Jason Daniel Gandy — Associates Investigation

Excerpt focused on the speedy-trial / witness-aging issue and government report accuracy

Editor's note: This copy of the July 21, 2015 associate-interview notes keeps what bears on two points: (1) that the six-year delay between arrest and trial risked losing witnesses like Eugene Reynolds, an elderly associate, before he could testify; and (2) that when investigator Edwards showed associates the government's written characterizations of what they had said, several told her the reports did not match their actual statements. It also keeps each associate's overall impression of Jason where they offered one. Personal information not relevant to those points has been left out.

The speedy-trial / witness-aging problem

Jason was arrested in July 2012 and did not receive a jury trial until July 2018 — six years later, while held as a pretrial detainee. Eugene Reynolds, a longtime associate whom the government's own witness statements implicated in describing Jason's conduct, was a man in his mid-to-late seventies when these interviews were conducted in 2015, and would have been in his eighties by the time of trial in 2018.

Every year the suppression motions (DE 34, DE 46) sat unresolved was a year in which an elderly witness's memory, health, and availability to testify were put at risk. A defendant's right to a speedy trial exists in part to prevent exactly this kind of erosion of the evidence and witnesses available to his defense.

Government report accuracy — Gary Stone

Gary Stone managed Jason's Dallas properties for roughly four and a half years. He said he did not think Jason was a pedophile and that it is not in his nature to judge someone without firsthand knowledge. He also raised concerns about a different tenant, Paul Mark Walters, and told investigators that if they wanted to investigate someone, they should look at him instead.

After investigator Edwards read him the government's report of what he had supposedly said, he identified three specific points he said were either incorrect or a blatant lie:

- (a) The government's report characterized Stone as believing Jason was performing illicit massages on the Douglas Ave. property or in the RV, with an associate posing as an underage prostitute. Stone said this was a flat-out lie — he had no knowledge of anything like that, and separately believed that associate to be 19 years old at the time.
- (b) The government's report stated that Jason had borrowed Stone's computer. Stone said this was inaccurate — Jason was buying the computer from him, not borrowing it.
- (c) The government's report described how the computer reached Stone's mother in Wichita Falls. Stone gave a different, more specific account of that same transfer.

Government report accuracy — Eugene Reynolds

Eugene Reynolds refuted statements attributed to a government witness that involved him in Jason's alleged conduct with minors. He said Jason never brought minors to his apartment, that no associate of Jason's ever stayed with him for a two-week period as described, and that he never witnessed anything matching what was described in that witness's statement. He also disputed the government witness's description of a specific diet and a specific vehicle, giving different accounts of both.

Reynolds said he had known Jason for ten to twelve years, that they confided in each other, and that Jason never mentioned anything to him about minors. He said he never saw child pornography in Jason's

possession, and that to his knowledge Jason's relationships were always with people 18 and older. He also said the trip to the UK was not Jason's idea — Jason was careful with money — and that he believed it was KV's idea, adding that he thought KV may have been blackmailing Jason.

Personal information left out

St. (Attorney)

St., a client of Jason's since 2009, said he is fond of Jason and considers him a nice guy motivated by a lot of business ideas. He was aware Jason provided sensual massage to gay clients but had no knowledge of Jason providing any services to minors. When he first heard the media coverage, he was surprised and didn't believe the story — he said the allegations were just crazy for the person he knew, that he was more inclined to believe Jason over the government, and that he would not help the government if asked.

Personal information left out

Other associates — discrepancy-relevant points only

Dr. Ez., a longtime massage client, said he considered Jason a person of good character and a hardworking entrepreneur, and that it was hard for him to believe the allegations because he had never seen that side of Jason. He told investigators the government had not contacted him for a statement, and that he was not aware of any information that would help the government's case.

Personal information left out

Attorney Richard Speele, who had known Jason for three to four years, helped him with a contract and looked after his property while Jason was out of the country. He was the attorney Jason called from the airport on the day of his arrest, and said he was not permitted to see Jason in person and was given only a brief phone call, during which he told Jason not to say anything — he felt the government should have allowed him access. He said he never saw or heard anything about child pornography, and that he was surprised by the media coverage and not certain he believed the charges.

Personal information left out