DECLARATION OF JOSEPH CARSANARO

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I, JOSEPH CARSANARO, declare as follows:

1. I served as a juror on the case, <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.

2. I listened to over 50 witnesses give testimony concerning the disappearance (and subsequent sightings) of Ron Levin. I took notes of their testimony throughout the 7 month trial. These are my thoughts and opinions concerning what I heard.

3. <u>Dean Karny</u>. Mr. Karny testified that in 1984 he would lie to further his own goals. During Mr. Hunt's cross-examination, Mr. Karny was forced to admit that he perjured himself on his State Bar application to cover up the parts of his past that may have prevented him from becoming a lawye I felt that if Mr. Karny lied on this application, even after receiving immunity, he was very capable of lying and/or perjuring himself on the witnes stand.

Mr. Karny's testimony suggested that Mr. Hunt was a brilliant and calculating thinker, but his explanation of the "7 page to do" list did not fit

this characterization. For example, Mr. Karny testified that Mr. Hunt paid such great attention to detail that one item listed within the "7 pages" was to "take punched holes", to make it appear that certain documents were prepared elsewhere. His and other testimony suggested that these "7 pages" were left scattered on Ron Levin's floor. This inconsistent behavior does not make sense and calls Mr. Karny's credibility into question.

4. Tom May. Mr. May's credibility was shredded during Mr. Hunt's crossexamination. Mr. Hunt uncovered the fact that Mr. May lied regarding his bankruptcy filing and in fact had a one half million dollar trust fund when he declared bankruptcy. Mr. May testified that he had not received his investment back from Mr. Hunt, although bank checks with his endorsement suggested otherwise. Mr. May testified that his investment money was spent by Mr. Hunt on lavish furnishings and a gold "BBC" sign. Documents introduced as evidence and further cross-examination revealed the contrary. For example, Mr. May confirmed that BBC members assembled their own furniture and that Mr. May himself had purchased the gold "BBC" sign for only a few hundred dollars.

5. <u>Jerry Eisenberg</u>. I found former BBC member Jerry Eisenberg's testimony to lack any appreciable credibility. I totally discounted all of his

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testimony. An example of his bad faith while testifying is where he denied that he was a party to a conversation that was tape recorded and introduced into evidence. This evidence showed he was part of a conversation concerning a stolen car operation. Mr. Eisenberg's credibility was seriously damaged.

- 6. <u>Karen Marmor</u>. Ms. Marmor testified that she believed she saw the "7 page to do" list on Ron Levin's desk before his disappearance. This testimony contradicts Mr. Karny's testimony which indicated that the list was shown to Levin the night of his alleged murder, that is, June 6, 1984. Ms. Marmor lived next door to Levin and her husband was one of Levin's closes friends. Ms. Marmor was a very credible witness.
- 7. Len Marmor. Mr. Marmor's testimony illustrated the superficial relationship that Ron Levin had with his mother. Mr. Marmor knew Levin for years and his characterization of Levin and his relationship with his mother was more credible than the people's witnesses, Dean Factor and Michael Broder.
- 8. <u>Justine Jagoda</u>. Ms. Jagoda lived in the apartment directly above Levin's and consistently heard him ranting and raving, slamming doors, and hitting his small dog. Ms. Jagoda testified that on the night of June 6,

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1984, she was home alone and in bed reading with the windows open and no other noises around her. Ms. Jagoda testified that she heard no gunshot, no trunk slamming, or any other sounds of scuffling coming from Levin's apartment. This testimony is in conflict with Mr. Karny's and tends to corroborate the defense's version of what happened at Ron Levin's on June 6, 1984.

9. Erin A'Hearn. Ms. A'Hearn conducted tests on the BMW trunk that Mr. Hunt and Mr. Pittman allegedly put Levin's bleeding body in. Her tests results indicated that there was no evidence of blood in the trunk. Mr. Karny indicated that the body was placed into the BMW trunk causing a dent. The absence of blood and other bodily fluids or tissues would circumstantially suggest that no such crime occurred.

10. <u>John Duron</u>. Mr. Duron was a very important witness. He was Levin's hairdresser for years. Mr. Duron testified that he and Mr. Levin discussed the procedure for dyeing one's hair brown just before Mr. Levin's disappearance. Mr. Duron indicated that this was very strange because Mr. Levin was very proud of his silver hair. The police found a brown stain in Mr. Levin's bathtub. This stain was tested for and found not to be blood.

Based on Mr. Duron's testimony and Detective Zoeller's testimony about

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the stain in the bathtub, there is good reason to believe that the stain was hair dye used by Levin to conceal his silver hair.

- 11. Scott Furstman and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Through these key witnesses we can see that Levin had a motive to leave the Los Angeles area.

 Mr. Furstman indicated that Levin released his father's house from his bai bond collateral just before his disappearance. Mr. Holmes testified that Levin asked him questions about the United States' extradition treaty with Brazil. This testimony supports the defense's claim that Levin was planning to leave the country.
- 12. <u>Connie and Jerry Gerrard</u>. Mrs. Gerrard testified that she saw Levin on the Greek island of Mykanos on Christmas day in 1987. Mrs. Gerrard knew Mr. Levin and testified that she was certain she saw Mr. Levin in a restaurant on that island. Mr. Gerrard testified that his wife communicated to him in Greek at the time she saw Mr. Levin in the Mykanos restaurant Mr. Gerrard's testimony supported and enhanced his wife's testimony.
- 13. <u>Carmen Canchola</u>. Ms. Canchola testified that she saw Levin at a gastation in Arizona in 1986. Ms. Canchola testified that she picked Levin out of a photo lineup. Ms. Canchola was a very credible witness.
 - 14. Jesus Lopez. Mr. Lopez was Ms. Canchola's boyfriend at the time she

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saw Levin at the Arizona gas station in 1987. Mr. Lopez also identified Levin from a photo lineup.

- 15. Nadia Ghaleb. Ms. Ghaleb was a hostess at Mr. Chou's, a Los Angeles restaurant, in the early 1980's. Ms. Ghaleb testified that she frequently saw Levin have lunch or dinner at Mr. Chou's and was familiar with his look and character. Ms. Ghaleb testified that she saw Levin getting into a Mercedes from her car while she was driving to work in early 1987. I be lieve that it is very possible to identify someone that you know in the matter of seconds as Ms. Ghaleb indicated.
- 16. Robert Robinson. Mr. Robertson testified that he was a former new reporter and lost his job as a result of coming forward with his Westwoo sighting of Levin after June 6, 1984. Mr. Robinson indicated that Levin came to him and engaged him in conversation. Mr. Robinson was a critica defense witness because he was very credible. I believe that Mr. Robinso believes he saw and talked with Levin after the date Mr. Hunt supposedly killed him. I had no reasonable basis to discount Mr. Robinson's testimon.
- 17. Lynne Roberts. Ms. Roberts was a credible and honest witness. She testified about a telephone call that she received from her daughter,

 Brooke, and Mr. Hunt on the evening of June 6, 1984. This is in conflict

with Mr. Karny's allegations regarding Mr. Hunt's actions on that evening.

18. Carol Levin. Mrs. Levin is out of touch with reality relative to her relationship with her son, Ron Levin. The two postcards from Ron that she brought into court did not support a strong relationship between them.

Hospital documents and psychiatric reports that were brought out by Mr.

Hunt during cross-examination better illustrated their true relationship.

One hospital report indicated that Mrs. Levin had not talked to her son at all during his 4 month stay at a hospital in Washington state. Court testimony tends to suggest Mrs. Levin and her son had a superficial relationship.

19. <u>Defense Witnesses Regarding Mr. Ron Levin</u>. Taken as a whole, defense witness testimony in <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, raised more than a reasonable doubt as to the people's assertion that Mr. Hunt killed Ron Levin. The evidence regarding Mr. Levin in <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, suggests that Mr. Levin had compelling motives to leave the Los Angeles area, had no meaningful ties to the community, and took steps to prepare for his departure. Furthermore, several credible witnesses, that were addressed above, testified that they saw Levin after June 6, 1984.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Cali-

fornia that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Executed at <u>Monto Park</u>, California, on January <u>26</u>, 1993.

Joseph Carpanaro
JOSEPH CARSANARO

DECLARATION OF ARDATH HELEN SORELLE

I, ARDATH HELEN SORELLE, declare as follows:

- 1. I was born on September 13, 1933. I work at the Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency. I have worked there for 11 years.
- 2. I served as a juror on the case, <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.
- 3. I listened to over 50 witnesses give testimony concerning the disappearance (and subsequent sightings) of Ron Levin. I took notes of their testimony throughout the 7 month trial. These are my thoughts and opinions concerning what I heard.
- 4. Regarding the testimony of people's witnesses <u>Dean Karny</u>, <u>Evan Dicker</u>, <u>Tom May</u>, <u>Jerry Eisenberg</u>, and <u>Jeff Raymond</u>, I believe that they all willfully lied under oath on the witness stand to protect themselves. I also believe that they schemed and plotted with each other to avoid incriminating one another. I found them to be pitiful and on the whole, despicable, untrustworthy liars. They all had very selective memories when it came to their involvement. Their testimony fell apart on cross-

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examination. Tom May's poor character was made clear by the cross-examination of him on financial matters. Jerry Eisenberg, pathetically, refused to acknowledge his involvement in a conversation which the defense had on tape. Evan Dicker could only recall a few things he or any of the other BBCers said or did but, was amazingly lucid about Hunt's actions and statements.

Tom May was cross-examined about some lists Mr. Hunt had discovered in the Gardena warehouse trash can that described a plot to steal the Microgenesis attrition mills. This lent support to the defense contention that there were factions in the BBC. Tom May said the plan found in the trash was a joke. I thought it was interesting that the prosecution seemed comfortable with their witnesses' explanation of a list describing a theft-related plot as "a joke", but would not credit at all Mr. Hunt's explanation of the "to do" list as being something other than what it appeared to be on first reading. The testimony about the May/Gardena warehouse theft lists, revealed the double-standard the prosecution was using to evaluate testimony. I felt that this testimony helped to show the reasonableness of Mr. Hunt's explanation of the seven pages.

5. Carol Levin. I found Mrs. Levin to be very self-centered. She will al-

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ways believe the portrait she had painted of her son, Ron Levin, and their relationship. I felt the trial opened a lot of old wounds, or it should have if she wasn't in self-denial. In today's world, she would have been charged with child abuse. In a way I think Ron despised Carol. It was proven that Ron had gone off before without her knowing it (e.g. in 1979 when he went to prison for mail fraud). I think that he wouldn't contact her after fleeing to avoid further prosecution so as to make good his escape. To him, I feel, being free of her was chucking off a big burden. The Camarillo/boarding school cross-examination and evidence was very important. It gave another side to the "poor distraught mom" that the prosecution tried to portray. Carol came off as a very deluded person.

- 6. <u>Dean Karny</u>. The state's star witness got total immunity and had to come up with a story. A story that was so full of lies and scenario's that it just did not make sense. For instance Mr. Karny contended that:
 - A. "Levin's body was taken to Soledad Canyon in a BMW";

 Fact: No evidence was found in the BMW by forensic experts. Sheriff's criminalist Erin A'Hearn said that no blood stains were found on the trunk carpet of the BMW;
 - B. "Jim Pittman was sent to New York to masquerade as Levin";

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Fact: Mr. Pittman, a burly black man, did not keep a low profile, that is, he rented limousines to visit friends and relatives and made himself rather well known at the hotel;

C. "He had nothing to do with the "to do" list";

Fact: Mr. Karny and other members of the BBC contributed in making the "to do" list. The list was seen by Karen Marmor the day before Levin disappeared at Levin's, and when she asked him about it, Levin said it was a movie script. I believe this gave him the idea to place the blame of his planned disappearance on Mr. Hunt by making it look like a murder;

D. "Levin had never met Jim Pittman, which allowed Mr.

Pittman to pose as a Chicago mobster";

Fact: Mr. Pittman was seen at and around Levin's apartment before Levin disappeared. He was seen with Levin outside the apartment by John Riley and inside the apartment by Len Marmor; and

- E. Fact: Ron Levin was preparing to flee.
 - 1) Karen Marmor testified that Levin purchased clothes

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prior to his disappearance that were not his usual style;

- 2) Levin had purchased traveler's checks, approximately two inches worth, according to Len Marmor, the day before his disappearance;
- 3) Levin requested the return of the extra apartment key he had given out six months before to Oliver Wendell Holmes. The key had been given to Holmes by Levin so that Holmes could work on Levin's pending criminal case. The criminal case was not over and Holmes hadn't finished his work. So I asked myself why would Levin want the key back on that of all days. Apparently something was about to take place and I believe that was that Ron Levin was planning to "take a hike", as the expression goes. Mr. Holmes also testified that Ron Levin was asking about extradition treaties. I had to ask myself again, "Why?" Levin was born and raised in the U.S. What reason could he have to investigate the Brazilian extradition treaty other than that he was planning to leave. Holmes was a pretty reputable witness;

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4) John Rollingson of Panasonic, John Reeves of American Express, Brent Kley of Merrill Lynch, Jerry Verplancke of Progressive. Dan Wilson of Fidelity, Jon Martin, an insurance investigator, and other witnesses showed me that Levin had piled up huge debts and had a variety of reasons to flee. Jon Martin was another witness that showed Levin's personality and the scams he was involved in. There were so many problems Ron would have had to face in Los Angeles if he didn't flee:

- 5) Dr. Avery testified that Levin was raped in jail. This showed just how concerned Ron was about going back;
- 6) The money Levin left behind, about\$20,000.00, was not substantial to him. Criminals sometimes think differently about money than people who work for it do. Some think nothing of being broke. Ron Levin took in close to one million dollars in the 18 months before he fled. This sort of money was not so much as to be material to him, in my view:
- 7) I believe that the "to do" list was Levin's big

opportunity to flee. It gave him a tool to throw the police off his trail. I think he made his decision to actually go ahead and take off, as opposed to just thinking and investigating flight as a possible solution to his problems, only after he got the list from Mr. Hunt. Levin told Karen Marmor that someone had just threatened him, that would have had to have been Mr. Hunt;

- 8) Levin was facing up to 8 years in jail for fraud and grand theft. Levin told Karen Marmor on the day before he vanished that, "He would never go back to jail, that maybe he would not come back from New York the authorities would have no reason to come after him"; and
- 9) His hair dresser, John Duron, testified that Levin wanted information on how to dye his hair right before he disappeared. Detective Zoeller testified that there was a stain on the bathtub. It all fit.
- 7. John Duron. Mr. Duron really swayed me. He was a very believable witness and very informative. He described how vain Levin was about his hair. Ron even brought up shaving off his beard. All of that was very sus-

picious. He was a very important witness. I believe Mr. Duron's testimony gave the defense a believable explanation for the missing comforter. Levin was fastidious. Once stained he would never let the comforter remain in the house.

8. <u>I believe that Ron Levin is still alive</u>, owing to the above and the testimony of the credible witnesses below:

Nadia Ghaleb. She knew Levin with and without a beard over a 10 year period in a professional status and recognized him when she saw him momentarily, while stalled in traffic in 1987.

Robert Robinson. Levin walked up to him and talked to him while waiting in line at a theater in October of 1986. Mr. Robinson did not go to the police at first, because he believed that the witnesses, whom he later read about, would come forward and the case would be dismissed. Mr. Robinson did not want to "be part of the story." When he did finally go to the police in the spring of 1987, it cost him his job. Neither the police, the prosecution, nor the defense pursued this witness during the first trial, I believe. I felt Ron Levin was outrageous and brazen enough to approach Mr. Robinson as Mr. Robinson so described.

It was very helpful to the defense that there were five sightings wit-

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nesses. The testimony of Carmen Canchola and Jesus Lopez was torn down a little on small details related to the scene at the gas station by the prosecutor, and also they had no pre-existing acquaintance with Levin.

The other three sightings witnesses were not impeached in the same way at all. There were a lot of positive aspects to Ms. Canchola and Mr. Lopez's identification, so I accepted it. However, the other three sightings witnesses strengthened the legitimacy of their sighting in a sense. It is difficult to say how I would have felt if they were the sole sighting witnesses.

Justine Jagoda. Although she lived above Ron Levin and heard him yelling and abusing his dog many times, she did not hear a thing on the night Levin was supposedly fighting for his life, being shot, and being carried out of his apartment. Dean Karny said that even the allegedly silenced weapon sounded like a loud clap when used. When Mr. Hunt demonstrated such a clap, Ms. Jagoda said she would have heard such a loud noise upstairs. She didn't hear any ruckus and she didn't hear the trunk being slammed either. Karny said the BMW trunk had been bent that night. Her testimony was inconsistent with the prosecution's case.

Lynne Roberts. She spoke with Mr. Hunt and her daughter, Brooke, at

10:30 PM on June 6, 1984. The time was confirmed as she was watching the news at the time and it was about half over, it being an hour news broadcast beginning at 10:00 PM. She at first thought that Mr. Hunt was guilty because the police had arrested him. Later she then remembered the phone call from Brooke and Mr. Hunt, and decided that Mr. Hunt couldn't have done it and came forward. I found her testimony to be truthful, she had no reason to lie, and only reversed her opinion after remembering the chain of events concerning that fateful evening. Her testimony was corroborated in an important respect by the defense exhibit made from her jury duty summons postcard. This corroborated her reason for coming back from her Alaskan trip before June 6, 1984.

The testimony of the manager of the La Scala Boutique corroborated Mr. Hunt's and Lynne Roberts' testimony in an important way. The La Scala Boutique closed at 8:30 PM. Levin had both made and received calls after 9:00 PM on June 6, 1984 (Dean Factor and Michael Broder). There were food tins from the La Scala at Levin's home on the morning of June 7th. Both Mr. Hunt and Mr. Karny said Mr. Hunt had shared take-out food from the La Scala with Levin that night of June 6th. In order for Levin to be free to make those calls <u>and</u> for there to be the La Scala cartons at his

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house, Mr. Hunt would have had to have come and left before 9:00 PM. This is exactly what he said he did, but in contradiction to Karny's version.

Carmen Canchola and Jesus Lopez. They testified to seeing Levin at a gas station in Arizona sometime in September of 1986 at about 9:15 PM.

Ms. Canchola did not know whom she had seen until she saw a picture of Levin in an article in Esquire magazine concerning Mr. Hunt's first trial in Los Angeles. Mr. Lopez did not want to get involved, but complied at Ms.

Canchola's urging. The police questioned them for 10 hours, but they stuct to their story. I believe that they saw Ron Levin.

Connie and Jerry Gerrard. I found their testimony very believable. Mrs. Gerrard's description of Ron Levin and his subsequent actions upon being recognized in the restaurant on the Greek island of Mykanos, was beyond reproach.

The most important Levin case-related witnesses were Karen Marmor, John Duron, Connie Gerrard, Nadia Ghaleb, Robert Robinson, Oliver Wendel Holmes, Justine Jagoda, and Jack Friedman, in my opinion. If I was asked to rank the sightings witnesses in order of importance I would do as follows: Robert Robinson, Connie Gerrard, Nadia Ghaleb, Carmen Canchola, an Jesus Lopez.

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9. Besides the danger of Ron Levin going to jail on the grand theft charges, there were also all the companies, American Express for one, that were lining up to prosecute, and also the many individuals who were defrauded by Levin. I truly believe Levin had very good reasons and the cunning to carry out his deliverance from all of his problems through flight to avoid prosecution.

10. Joe Hunt's testimony seemed factual. I felt Mr. Hunt was just relating occurrences, not making up a story as Karny did. The chronology of events was very clear in Hunt's testimony about Levin. The structure of the "to do" list was consistent with Hunt's explanation of it being notes taken at a group meeting where others were giving him input. The notation on one of the lists, "Jeff list", showed that BBC member Jeff Raymond was involved with the lists. I felt Mr. Hunt was a person telling the truth. Karny constantly said, "I don't know" and "I don't remember". I do not recall Mr. Hunt using those type of statements except very infrequently. I believe that Mr. Hunt didn't hold back even on points that were very embarrassing to him, that is, the investors.

11. Karny's testimony about attempting to provide Hunt an alibi on June6, 1984 did not ring true. None of the people who went to the movie were

in on the supposed plan to provide an alibi for Hunt, and none of them needed an alibi themselves. After the movie Karny claimed to have gone back to their apartment and went to sleep without waiting up for Mr. Hunt, or even making an attempt to check to see if he was back at that time. I felt this testimony was quite improbable.

- 12. Mr. Hunt was never impeached with any hard evidence. He offered a more plausible alternative explanation for each of the prosecution's contentions. As for the "to do" list, I kept thinking of Karen Marmor's testimony where Levin told her, "The authorities won't have any reason to come looking for me", or words to that effect.
- 13. Karny got tripped up on cross-examination about the so-called "park bench" conversation in June of 1984. In one transcript he said Jim Pittman did not realize until that time that he, Karny, was in on the Levin plan. In another version he testified to the opposite.
- 14. Mr. Hunt's testimony about the reasons for the June 24th meeting made sense. I believe he was trying to hold the group together, and to squelch the factions that had developed through an intimidating boast until he could get one of the Microgenesis deals to close.
 - I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Cali-

fornia that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Executed at South San Francisco California, on January 13, 1993.

ARDATH HELEN SORELLE

DECLARATION OF HARRY JOSEPH MORROW

I, HARRY JOSEPH MORROW, declare as follows:

1. I was born on October 16, 1937. I have lived in Pacifica, California for 22 years. I have a BA in Industrial Education and a Masters in Special Education. I work in San Mateo County as a teacher of algebra, printing technology, and desktop publishing.

- 2. I was foreman for the jury in the case, <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, San Mateo County Superior Court. My personal vote in the trial was <u>not guilty</u>. The overall vote of our jury was 8 to 4 for acquittal.
- 3. I have been asked to comment on the evidence introduced during the trial related to the disappearance of Ronald Levin on or around June 6, 1984.
- 4. In assessing what happened to Mr. Levin I spent a lot of time thinking about the testimony of Karen Marmor and the 5 other people who testified that they saw Ron Levin after June 6, 1984. To me these were the most significant witnesses on the Levin case.
- 5. I believe that these people believed what they testified to. They were each credible. The only question for me was, "Did they truly see what they thought they saw?" In the end, after 26 days of deliberations, I

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could find no compelling reason to be sure that they did not. I am left not knowing whether Ron Levin is alive or dead. I found reasons in their testimony (and in the evidence in general) to be left in a condition of uncertainty, or substantial doubt, as to what happened to Ron Levin.

- 6. I was not comfortable with a lot of the BBC witnesses. (Tom May, Jerry Eisenberg, Jeff Raymond, and Evan Dicker.) I felt that, generally, they were involved in many more things that went on than they would admit to. This hurt their credibility. I felt more comfortable, to some extent, with the Levin-sightings witnesses and Karen Marmor, because none of them were in the BBC, they were outsiders.
- 7. I recall that it was shown that Dean Karny lied on his State Bar application after he had gotten immunity for his testimony. This was something that was discussed in deliberations, and we all agreed it worked against Karny's credibility that he would willfully perjure himself after he had left the BBC and made his deal.
- 8. To me Connie Gerrard was the most believable sighting witness. It was unfortunate that she did not speak to Levin but I understand her to have been irritated with Levin at that time regarding his dealing with her daughter. I am not 100% sure she saw Ron Levin, as opposed to seeing

someone who looked very much like him. I was somewhat troubled by the fact that she didn't come forward right away, but she sounded so convincing. Mrs. Gerrard did have a reason to know Levin through her dealings with her daughter. Jerry Gerrard corroborated his wife's description of the scene but was not a crucial factor because of his limited prior contact with Ron Levin.

- 9. Probably the most important factor related to the sightings witnesses was the fact that there were 5 of them. It would have been easier to write off such evidence as resulting from mistaken identity if there was only one sighting. For example, Robbie Robinson claimed to have seen and spoken to Ron Levin in October of 1986 in Westwood. Some of my fellow juror's felt that Ron Levin was bizarre enough to do something so brazen. I had a little trouble with that however. Yet, I did believe Robinson's explanation for why he did not come forward immediately, namely that journalistic ethics made him concerned about getting involved in a news story. Mr. Robinson, if he would have been the sole sighting witness, would have had less impact. In the end, I felt he added to the reasonable doubt that I had.
 - 10. My jury talked a lot about Karen Marmor. I felt she was a very cred-

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ible witness on the stand. During deliberations we discussed how she appeared to be exactly the sort of person who would be sufficiently nosey to be looking at papers on Ron Levin's desk. This made her more credible.

Karen Marmor was a big factor in the deliberations and in my thinking.

- 11. Some jurors pointed out that Mr. Hunt was already a convicted killer due to the Levin situation. If the jury had been judging Joseph Hunt without the Levin situation it would have been less difficult for us to have reached a unanimous verdict of acquittal.
- 12. In so far as Mr. Hunt's testimony regarding the Levin case was concerned, the prosecution never really shook that testimony. We ended up discussing the other Levin related witnesses (like Karen Marmor and the sightings witnesses) in an attempt to figure out what actually happened. Joe Hunt's explanation of the 7 pages, although not overly compelling, was within reason and was corroborated in an important way by the testimony of Karen Marmor.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I

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DECLARATION OF DAVID SAPERSTEIN

I, DAVID SAPERSTEIN, declare as follows:

- 1. I was born on June 30, 1946. I have a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from New York University. I work for International Business Machines (IBM). My title is manager of disk process development. I lead a group of 12 professionals. Our responsibility is to develop advanced disks for future disk drives that IBM will use in their computer products.
- 2. I served as a juror on the case, People v. Hunt. C15761, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.
- 3. I listened to over 50 witnesses give testimony concerning the disappearance (and subsequent sightings) of Ron Levin. I took notes of their testimony throughout the 7 month trial. These are a summary of my thoughts and opinions concerning what I heard.
- 4. Karen Marmor. I believed Ms. Marmor. I did not think that she came to court to lie for Mr. Hunt or that she had some reason to fabricate her testimony for Mr. Hunt's behalf. Obviously, it was a little peculiar that it took her seven years to recognize the significance of what she saw. I had

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some doubt about her testimony because of that. I understood that her testimony was somewhat inconsistent with the people's theory and specifically inconsistent with the details of Dean Karny's testimony. If one simplified that theory and Karny's testimony, one could still see the "to do" list as a step leading up to a homicide. However, the overall affect of Ms. Marmor's testimony on me was to reduce the impact of the people's case. Her testimony added to the reasonable doubt that I came to believe. Standing alone, her testimony would not have been enough to raise a reasonable doubt about the truth of the people's allegation that Mr. Hunt killed and robbed Ron Levin but, seen in conjunction with the 5 sightings witnesses (Connie Gerrard, Robert Robinson, Nadia Ghaleb, Carmen Canchola, and Jesus Lopez), her testimony had the affect of deepening my belief that the people had not met their burden of proof on the Levin allegations.

5. <u>Sightings Witnesses</u>. The five people that testified to having seen Levin made the largest impact on me of any of the Levin allegations related witnesses. Of these witnesses, Connie Gerrard was the most important, followed by Robert Robinson, Nadia Ghaleb, Carmen Canchola, and Jesus Lopez.

Carmen Canchola and Jesus Lopez were the least persuasive of these

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witnesses because they were not acquainted with Ron Levin before the incident at the gas station.

The fact that <u>Robert Robinson</u> both saw and spoked to Ron Levin increased the value of his sighting in my mind. The fact that he had this "voice print" as well as visual recognition to go with it, increased my confidence in the accuracy of his identification.

Nadia Ghaleb claimed to have seen Ron Levin only briefly, for just a second or two. I figure in her line of business she has had to learn to recognize people quickly. People have differing capacities to do this. We discussed this during deliberations. When I drive I have nearly tunnel vision, I see only what is on the road directly before me. My wife, on the other hand, has excellent peripheral vision. She will notice things on the side of the road (e.g. a deer grazing on a hill). Some people can pick-up on peripheral things and be right on. Others can not. I truly believe that. For Nadia Ghaleb I was convinced that she could see and recognize Ron Levin under the conditions she described. I found Ms. Ghaleb to be credible and I took her sighting seriously.

Robert Robinson was not as high on my persuasiveness rating list of the sightings witnesses as he could have been. I had a lingering uneasiness

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that he may have been courting publicity or that he could have incorrectly, and inadvertently, merged place and time. However, of all the witnesses only he had a "voice print" of Levin to go with the visual identification, as a result of actually speaking to Ron Levin. This was a very positive thing for the defense. One of the jurors made a point during deliberations over and over again. He said: "It only takes one sighting witness to raise a reasonable doubt." I thought this was very astute. We spent a fair amount of time on the sightings witnesses. In the final analysis their testimony carried a lot of weight in my mind.

Connie and George Gerrard. I believed them. There is a small amount of hesitation in my mind about whether they actually saw what they felt they saw, that is, Ron Levin, since they didn't speak to him. It is possible that the person they observed in the restaurant in Greece was not Ron Levin but merely someone who became worried for some reason and so left the restaurant suddenly. I think the unanswered question about the Gerrard's was not their sincerity but why they didn't come forward immediately. However, that concern was not so strong as to justify discounting their testimony. These two witnesses had a big impact on me.

I think that it is not too surprising that there have been no recent sight-

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ings of Levin. I gathered he was gay, he could have died of AIDS, and of course, there is always death due to natural causes. TV coverage is likely to bring out bona fide sightings witnesses. One sees that sort of phenomena occurring with certain crime-related TV shows where people come forward to reveal the location of suspects who have evaded the law for as long as 10 to 20 years. Therefore it did not surprise me that most of the sightings were during a period of intense media coverage.

6. Dean Karny. During direct examination, Dean Karny told a very horrifying story which indicted Mr. Hunt. However the cross-examination of Mr. Karny began to nullify this indictment in my mind. In particular, that Mr. Karny lied under oath in his application to the State Bar, was a point that really hit me during deliberations. We all discussed how this really hurt his credibility with us. Here was the star prosecution witness within a few months of his immunity deal, lying to the State Bar by leaving out his involvement in two murder cases and the BBC. This became a very important point in the jury room. Also significant, but somewhat less important in its impeachment value, was that he had lied under oath during his Cantor Fitzgerald deposition. We talked about that too and agreed it nega-

tively impacted his credibility. What really struck me and some of the

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other jurors about his testimony concerning the Cantor Fitzgerald deposition, was that it showed, along with other evidence, that he was part of the financial misconduct at the BBC. The prosecution said he was completely out of this and that was Karny's testimony as well.

7. Tom May. When I think of Tom May, I first see him with his head hung below the microphone during cross-examination on the witness stand. The cross-examination of Mr. May was very effective. I felt Mr. May was telling the truth about some things like the June 24th meeting. The problem becomes, if you lose confidence in the strength of a witness' commitment to tell the truth then you have a hard time knowing what is true and what is false in their testimony, and you begin to run the risk of sending an innocent man to jail. If you do not know when they are telling the truth, when they are exaggerating, and when they are lying out of spite or out of self-protection, then it becomes risky to rely on anything that witness says. There was so much in Tom May's testimony I felt was false that I had trouble deciding what I could trust. I believed that his testimony concerning his financial dealings (the bankruptcy declaration, his real estate loan application, the ITC deal, the Cantor-Fitzgerald checks) to be false. All of that was enough to show that he couldn't be trusted on financial

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matters. This had the effect of forcing me to look deeper into Mr. May's possible motives for other statements that he made.

The testimony and evidence on the ITC movie deal caused me to reflect that the publicity motive that the prosecution suggested might have been present for certain sightings witnesses, could also be said to apply to certain BBC witnesses.

8. Jerry Eisenberg. This was a witness who I felt was "willfully false". The defense microcassette tape recording of Mr. Eisenberg and others discussing stolen automobiles was a very good piece of evidence. It was the tape and Mr. Eisenberg's reaction to it that allowed us to throw out the rest of his testimony using the "willfully false" jury instruction. Without that tape it would have been just Mr. Hunt's word against Mr. Eisenberg's. The tape supported Mr. Hunt's testimony and argument that there were factions in the BBC. It helped explain why some BBC witnesses appeared to be hostile to Mr. Hunt and some didn't. It gave us a feeling in the jury room for how BBC members could be deceptive. I was also uneasy about the fact that Eisenberg helped Gene Browning to set up a company while the BBC was collapsing. It served to show that Mr. Eisenberg was sleazy.

9. Evan Dicker. I liked Mr. Dicker. During deliberations however, as we

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discussed him we reached a consensus that he had been less than candid with us. Others recalled how he only recalled what Joe Hunt supposedly said, never what he, or anyone else named as present, said. It was developed that he drank heavily during this period. When asked about whether he brandished a gun at Tom and David May's, an incident described by two other prosecution witnesses, he said he didn't recall doing so. This hurt his credibility with me. Some jurors felt his testimony should be totally disregarded. I was left not knowing what to do with his testimony, and as a result what he had to say doesn't figure substantially, (except for reaffirmation of the June 24th admission by Mr. Hunt), in my thoughts on the Levin allegations.

- 10. <u>BBC Witnesses Overall</u>. Mr. Hunt's cross-examination of these witnesses was crucial. Without the cross-examination they would have appeared to be victims of Joe Hunt. With the cross-examination, and with the other points Mr. Hunt brought up, they came off as deeply involved and people whose credibility was substantially called into question.
- 11. <u>Justine Jagoda</u>. I believed her. She was not making things up, in my view. Nor do I feel that she was trying to get publicity. I felt perfectly comfortable with her testimony. It was a factor which added to the doubt

that I had about what happened to Levin. It provided support for the sightings witnesses. She lived upstairs from Ron Levin and heard nothing on the night of June 6, 1984. The testimony of the sheriff's criminalist that there were no blood stains in the trunk, was important and helped to further the impression that nothing violent happened on the night of June 6, 1984 at Ron Levin's.

12. John Duron. He was Ron Levin's hairdresser. His testimony was very important. I believed him. I linked Detective Zoeller's testimony about the brown stain in the bath tub with Mr. Duron's testimony about Levin's sudden interest in dyeing his hair. I saw it as an explanation within reason for the missing comforter. Hair dye is very messy. While people are letting it set, it can leak down below the protective cap that is worn. I have seen this kind of leakage on occasion when my wife has dyed her hair. Given such leakage, if Ron Levin dyed his hair on June 6, 1984, the dye could have gotten on the comforter. Obviously given Levin's fastidiousness, he would not want to leave a stained comforter on the bed.

13. Lynne Roberts. I found Ms. Roberts to be credible and a good witness. It was not totally clear to me that she exonerated Mr. Hunt. Nevertheless, her recall of June 6, 1984 is important. I believe, given the dis-

tance, times, and the testimony about no blood stains in the BMW trunk, that it is not obvious how Mr. Hunt could have driven to Soledad Canyon and back and still talk to her at 10:30 PM.

- 14. <u>Detective King</u>. He may be a good police officer but he made a very shabby witness for the prosecution. He kind of blew it. I found it unbelievable that he never took notes on his meeting with Mr. Hunt, then his chief suspect. Based on his demeanor and his testimony, Detective King was pretty much discredited.
- 15. <u>Ted Woods</u>. He was Mr. Hunt's high school debate coach. He was a rebuttal witness for the people. Overall, his testimony had the impact of supporting Mr. Hunt. Initially, I believed Mr. Woods when he said that Mr. Hunt had a serious personality flaw even in high school, but Robert Mackey, the defense witness who testified after him, nullified this testimony by confirming what Mr. Hunt had testified to earlier.
- 16. <u>Carol Levin</u>. I don't believe that she knew her son. I base this feeling on her cross-examination. While she testified on direct that Ron loved her, I did not believe it after listening to her cross-examination. Ron Levin didn't reciprocate her visits or phone calls often. Given the history of their early relationship (Camarillo State Hospital, the boarding schools,

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etc.), it isn't hard to believe that when and if the time came to flee, Ron
Levin could totally break off the relationship. Based on what I heard, I
could and did, discount her testimony that Ron Levin must be dead because
he hadn't written in 8 years. Without the defense evidence about Camarillo and the boarding schools, Carol could say, "He loved me and of course he
would contact me if he was alive", and make it stick.

In light of the cross-examination, thinking about those postcards that Carol Levin got saying "Love Ronnie" just made me want to squirm. Carol Levin sold her son out when she sent him to live in boarding schools, etc. Whatever he did in the relationship later, like the postcards, I felt was calculated and not as a result of some deep affection for his mother.

17. The Option on 144 S. Peck. Martin Levin testified that Ron Levin gave him this option on the duplex Ron lived in as a partial payment on the sums Ron had borrowed from Martin and Carol Levin. Other evidence showed that Ron Levin had later sold the same option to three other people. This evidence, taken as a whole, was part of my understanding that Ron would take advantage of anybody and everybody. Later when Len Marmor testified that he was Ron's closest friend and that Ron would never "screw him". I thought "Oh yes he would!"

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18. Joe Hunt's Testimony. Mr. Hunt's explanations of most of the events were within reason and his testimony was quite lucid and detailed. His testimony provided a backdrop that allowed me to appreciate the significance of other defense witnesses. However, his testimony by itself would not have been enough to raise a reasonable doubt about the Levin allegations in my mind. The sightings witnesses were the key witnesses in that regard. His explanation of Jim Pittman's trip to New York provided a framework in which to see the possible innocent intention of the trip. In retrospect it did not seem reasonable that Mr. Hunt would send Mr. Pittman, a burly black man, to impersonate Levin. Also, the BBC members did use each others credit cards.

It was important that Mr. Hunt testified. The "to do" list needed an ex
necessary damning
planation. While his explanation had its weaknesses, they were not seed an exand Karen Marmor gave his version a big boost.

19. The most important witnesses on the Levin allegations were Connie Gerrard, Nadia Ghaleb, Robert Robinson, John Duron, Karen Marmor, Lynne Roberts, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. These were the witnesses that helped change my mind. As I stated in jury selection, I had seen the NBC miniseries and believed that Mr. Hunt was guilty. Despite this statement I

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was not excused from service. I started with a strong disposition to believe the prosecution witnesses. I developed a more objective viewpoint as I heard more of the defense case. I was left not knowing what happened to Ron Levin for sure. I was not totally comfortable believing either the defense or the prosecution's version. We spent over two weeks in deliberations discussing the BBC and Levin-related witnesses. In my view the prosecution definitely did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Hunt killed Ron Levin.

I declare that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Executed at *Portole Valley*, California, on January <u>22</u>, 1993.

DAVID SAPERSTEIN

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DECLARATION OF BARRY DEAN CREEKMORE

- I, BARRY DEAN CREEKMORE, declare as follows:
- 1. I was born on August 5, 1964. I work as a mechanic for United Airlines.
- 2. I served as a juror on the case, <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.
- 3. In the course of that trial the prosecution called witnesses in an attempt to prove that Joe Hunt killed and robbed Ron Levin.
- 4. <u>Dean Karny</u>. Mr. Karny's explanation of "D:ld" on the 7 pages was probably a lie. Karny said it meant "dildo." That seemed ridiculous in context. Mr. Hunt's explanation was that it meant "Dean: Levin debtor". Now that meant sense. People do make abbreviations like that on their computers for file names. Besides, making Levin a debtor was something that one of the 7 pages dealt with.

I was very interested to find out that Karny lied under penalty of perjury on his State Bar applications. It made me think less of him, because he had already made a deal with the government.

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I did not believe that Karny had no knowledge or involvement in defrauding investors either. It seemed to me everyone in the BBC was involved.

When he denied that knowledge or involvement, it was an outright lie.

- 5. <u>Evan Dicker</u>. I thought Mr. Dicker was a snake. The way he held himself during cross-examination suggested to me that he was lying. I thought his failures of recollection were a ploy. Especially in the sense that he had perfect recall of everything Mr. Hunt supposedly did and said, but couldn't recall a thing about what he and Karny did and said. I wrote him off.
- 6. Tom May. He seemed eccentric. His eyes were very shifty. He was always looking at Mr. Vance and Mr. Piccinotti for help when Mr. Hunt was pressuring him in cross-examination. I viewed his testimony with a lot of suspicion since he lied to the government in his bankruptcy petition, and lied a lot in relation to his other financial affairs. I felt that in light of this he would readily lie about Mr. Hunt's actions.
- 7. <u>Jerry Eisenberg</u>. Mr. Eisenberg testified that he redrafted and revised the Microgenesis option agreement found at Ron Levin's apartment. However, Lore Leis, Mr. Hunt's secretary, contradicted him. She said that she prepared the final agreement from a draft that was entirely in Mr. Hunt's

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handwriting. Mr. Eisenberg hedged all of his answers. You could see the gears turning every time Mr. Hunt asked a question. I decided he was calculating his every statement and that he was not willing to give us his unfiltered recollection. Mr. Eisenberg gave totally unbelievable responses to Mr. Hunt's questions about the tape where he, Steve Taglianetti, and Jim Pittman talked about stealing cars. Mr. Eisenberg denied that the tape was of a conversation that he participated in. I didn't believe him.

8. <u>Carol Levin</u>. I felt Ron Levin's relationship with his parents was a facade. He was using them. He was getting money from them while living the high-life in Beverly Hills. He drove a Rolls Royce at the same time he told them he couldn't pay his rent. He used them.

He probably regretted leaving them behind, but I believe Carol Levin doesn't understand how he really felt. The little gifts and two-line post cards she brought didn't show a strong bond. I believe that Ron Levin held a psychological grudge towards his mom. She had left him repeatedly. I don't think he felt that she would really miss him. What goes around comes around. It is no surprise to me that he treated her in the end, the same way that she treated him.

Carol claimed to have such a good relationship with her son, yet she had

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no idea he was convicted of mail-fraud until Ron was already in jail. She didn't even attend his preliminary hearing in Beverly Hills on the 12 grand theft charges! She didn't seem to know her son at all.

9. Martin Levin. I felt that it was extremely odd that Martin and Carol waited so long to report Ron's disappearance. It made me uncomfortable about his testimony. I also found the long period between Martin's discovery of the 7 pages in late June, and the point that he gave them to the police in mid-August, to be very suspicious. He may have been helping Ron make good his escape, but of course he may not have been. However, Martin's testimony undermined my confidence in the value of the 7 pages and the described circumstances in the house.

Mr. Hunt made a good point about the fact that Martin's testimony to the effect that he found the 7 pages strewn all over the floor in the little office didn't make sense within the Prosecution's story-line. If Mr. Hunt left them, he would have heard them fall. It seemed staged, almost as if Ron threw them on the floor to call attention to them, IF THEY WERE ON THE FLOOR AT ALL (BC)

The fact that Ron's fingerprints were found on the Microgenesis file

The fact that Ron's fingerprints were found on the Microgenesis file proved that he had put that file together -- not Mr. Hunt. I believed he kept the file so that he could have leverage on Mr. Hunt, Microgenesis, and

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the BBC.

10. Justine Jagoda. Ms. Jagoda was pretty eccentric but I found her to be believable. No one would put on an act like that! She proved that Ron Levin consistently abused his dog. Also, her testimony made me feel that it was far less likely that anything criminal happened at Ron Levin's that night. She heard nothing that night, neither shots nor slamming trunks. I think she would have heard something if there was something to hear, because she was in bed reading, According to HER TESTIMONY. BC

11. <u>Karen Marmor</u>. I found Ms. Marmor's testimony that she saw the "to do" list on Ron Levin's desk to be very important. I accepted her testimony. She knew Ron Levin and was his neighbor. She turned Ron Levin down when she first met him. (Levin wanted to open some new accounts at the bank she worked at.) I thought that showed good judgment.

She was very cooperative with both Mr. Hunt and Mr. Vance. I saw her as being fair and neutral. I felt that she just testified to the facts without bias. She also said that Levin beat his dog and that the dog went to the bathroom on the carpet.

Dean Karny told us a story where the 7 pages could only have been left a Ron Levin's the night of June 6, 1984 or the morning of June 7, 1984. Kar-

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en Marmor saw the 7 pages during broad day light in Levin's presence.

They both couldn't have been telling the truth. I believed Karen Marmor. It was an easy choice: a former officer at a bank vs. an immunized and self-admitted perjurer (e.g. the State Bar application).

12. <u>Dr. Herbert Avery</u>. Dr. Avery gave us important information too. He told us that Ron Levin had been forced to have sex in jail. Also, that Ron Levin feared going back to jail, which was corroborated by other witnesses (Karen Marmor and Oliver Wendell Holmes)

13. Jeffrey Melczer and Jerry Verplancke. Mr. Melczer was Ron Levin's

civil attorney. Mr. Verplancke was from the Progressive Savings and Loan offices. Both said that Ron Levin knew that the FBI was investigating him This was a key point. Even more reason why Levin would flee. However, I add to this that Levin rescheduled his bail on June 5, 1984, making concessions to get this accomplished. To me all of these things are a major red flag that says: "I fled. I am alive and I got away with it." THEN AGAIN I COULD BE WRONG, BUT IT MADE ME WONDER, BU

hair. I couldn't understand why Levin would want to do it at home, it just wasn't his style. It made me think: "What is this guy planning?"

I felt that the hair-dye testimony better explained why the comforter and remote control were missing than the People's theory. Detective Zoeller had seen a brown stain in the bathtub. This should have been tested more thoroughly. Given that Levin called Mr. Duron right before he disappeared it stands to reason that this was hair dye. Len Marmor said Ron Levin's place was spotless. The evidence supported that the stain was fresh. I felt Levin got the hair dye, which Mr. Duron said took 45 minutes to set and was very messy, on his bedspread and then threw it out.

It made no sense that Mr. Hunt or Jim Pittman would shoot Ron Levin on his bed and gamble that Levin's blood wouldn't soak through the bed or that the bullet wouldn't go into the mattress. On top of this the Sheriff's criminalist, Ms. A'Heren, analyzed the trunk carpet and found no blood. This helped tip the balance even farther to the defense. Sure Mr. Hunt could have had plastic in the trunk but why would Mr. Hunt think to put plastic in the trunk but not under Levin before shooting him on the bed. The main point is, there was no blood anywhere. Ms. A'Hearn was an im-

portant witness.

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15. Nadia Ghaleb. Ms. Ghaleb spotted Ron Levin on the street while driving slowly down the street. I have recognized people in similar circumstances. I am not 100% sure that she saw Ron Levin. However, she was sincere. On balance she helped the Defense.

- 16. Robbie Robinson. Mr. Robinson was also credible. He knew that if he came forward he would lose his job but he came forward anyway. I believe he actually saw Levin because he spoke to him. This was the most believable of the sightings witnesses to me.
- 17. <u>Carmen Canchola and Jesus Lopez</u>. I felt Ms. Canchola and Mr. Lopez were very believable. Mr. Lopez didn't want to come forward. Ms. Canchola knew a lot of facts that were not in the Esquire article (e.g., the hair, the scar, etc.). The scar was a very important and telling aspect of the identification.
- 18. <u>Connie and Jerry Gerrard</u>. I thought the Gerrards were a little flaky. However, I thought that she believed she saw Ron Levin. What took away a little from her credibility was her description of the restaurant. It differed a bit from her husband's.

Over all I felt the sightings witnesses were a very powerful set of witnesses for the Defense. The fact that there were several of them made me

take them seriously.

- 19. Oliver Wendell Holmes. Mr. Holmes was a key witness. Ron Levin had researched the legal risks of becoming a fugitive. This is glaring evidence of Levin's intentions.
- 20. All the evidence that was brought out points to Ron Levin being alive. There certainly was reasonable doubt. I would even go a step further. I do not even believe the Prosecution proved their case on Levin by a preponderance of the evidence.
- 21. If I had to pick the 6 most important witnesses that support this, I would pick: Oliver Wendell Holmes, Karen Marmor, Nadia Ghaleb, Scott Furstman, Robbie Robinson, and John Duron. The thorough impeachment of all the BBC witnesses, including Dean Karny, cleared the way for me to be persuaded by the Defense witnesses. Levin said he never wanted to go to prison.
- 22. Overall, I felt that Ron Levin had been preparing to flee for a long time. I thought that he consciously manipulated Mr. Hunt and the BBCers to make money. Later, Mr. Hunt had him under a lot of pressure to sign a check. This angered Levin. I believe in this context, he saw the "to do" list that Mr. Hunt tried to intimidate him with as both an opportunity to

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misdirect the authorities, and a way to get back at Mr. Hunt for threatening him. After Mr. Hunt left it at Levin's, I believe Levin decided to use the "to do" list for these two purposes.

Ron Levin used a lot of people who never even realized they were being used. He was involved in all different types of frauds. His use of the "to do" list was just more manipulation.

What I liked about the Defense case most was that it was made up of all independent witnesses. The Prosecution relied heavily on the BBC witnesses. They were highly biased. They came off as the "liar's club", just as Mr. Hunt said.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowledge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.

Executed at San Bruno, California on January 20 1993.

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DECLARATION OF SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO

- I, SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO, declare as follows:
- 1. I was born on May 7, 1965. I work as a dental assistant.
- 2. I served as a juror on the case, People v. Hunt. C15761, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.
- 3. I listened to over 50 witnesses give testimony concerning the disappearance (and subsequent sightings) of Ron Levin. I took notes of their 14 testimony throughout the 7 month trial. These are my thoughts and opinlions concerning what I heard.
- 4. A total of 8 of the 12 jurors ended our 26 day deliberation period making clear that they felt that the prosecution had not proved beyond a reasonable doubt that Joe Hunt had killed and robbed Ron Levin, or that he had committed the charged crimes against Hedayat Eslaminia. Beverly Paustenbach, Diane Farrar, and Barry Creekmore were vocal about believ-24 ling that Ron Levin had fled to avoid prosecution. They also indicated by vote that they felt that the prosecution had not met its burden of proof on the Levin evidence under the jury instructions

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5. Early in the deliberations, we reviewed the testimony of all the prosecution BBC witnesses, (Dean Karny, Tom May, Evan Dicker, Jerry Eisenberg, and Jeff Raymond). The testimony of each in turn was set aside by a unanimous vote at that time as being unreliable. We spent hours discussing each of these witnesses' testimony during deliberations. Despite concurring in this vote, 3 jurors, (Harriet Kumetat, Curtis Hackworth, and Trilby Collins), later indicated that they felt that certain things these witnesses said were true and that they were no longer prepared to disregard their testimony completely. All the way to the end of the trial, we all agreed that the prosecution's BBC witnesses had each lied during parts of their testimony.

6. A point that there was a near unanimous agreement on was that Carol Levin's belief that Ron wouldn't leave her without further contact was wholly unfounded. We discussed how we were socked by the revelations during cross-examination of how, despite her earlier claim to a perfect relationship with her son, she had institutionalized Ron at an early age and how he had lived most of the rest of his childhood and adolescence at boarding schools. The cross-examination on these points and on many others, (e.g. how Ron took advantage of his parents financially and only super-

ficially reciprocated his mother's interest in him), was very effective. 7. I recall Diane Farrar, who works at the NASA Ames Research Center as a public information specialist, saying at one point in the deliberations: "If there is one thing I am sure of, it is that Ron Levin is alive." I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Cali-fornia that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowl-edge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true. ___, California, on January 🗸 , 1993. SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO

DECLARATION OF SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO

- I, SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO, declare as follows:
- 1. I was born on May 7, 1965. I work as a dental assistant.
- 2. I served as a juror on the case, <u>People v. Hunt. C15761</u>, for nearly eight months. I served from April 13, 1992, which was the day of opening statements, until a jury deadlock was announced and hence a mistrial was declared on December 9, 1992.
- 3. I listened to over 50 witnesses give testimony concerning the disappearance (and subsequent sightings) of Ron Levin. I took notes of their testimony throughout the 7 month trial. These are my thoughts and opinions concerning what I heard.
- 4. I thought that prosecution witnesses Tom May, Evan Dicker, Jeff Raymond, Jerry Eisenberg, and Dean Karny were lying throughout their testimony. In each case their credibility suffered, particularly during cross-examination.
- 5. <u>Dean Karny</u>. The proof that Karny had lied on his State Bar applications, both before and after he did his immunity deal, seriously damaged his credibility in my eyes. It showed that he was willing to down play his involvement in the BBC if he felt it was in his interest to do so. I thought

it extremely telling that he lied on his application even though the California Department of Justice was involved in assisting him to become a licensed attorney.

In cross-examination of Karny, Mr. Hunt asked him about a conversation on a park bench that allegedly took place after Mr. Hunt returned from New York in June of 1984. I did not believe that this conversation took place a all due to an obvious contradiction that Mr. Hunt revealed by his questioning of Mr. Karny. At one point I recall Mr. Karny's testimony as being that Jim Pittman had told him, prior to Mr. Hunt's return from London, all about the events in New York. Mr. Karny said that Pittman described how he had tried to impersonate Ron Levin. The problem with this testimony was that Mr. Karny had testified at some other trial, that Jim Pittman did not realize that Dean Karny knew about the alleged Levin murder plan until this meeting on the park bench after Mr. Hunt had returned from London. This was after the point that Karny had said that Pittman had supposedly told him everything. This contradiction as it played out on the stand was rather glaring. I decided that Karny had made up the entire "park bench" episode. It effected how I viewed Mr. Karny's credibility as a whole.

6. Tom May. I did not find Mr. May to be credible. One point that sub-

stantially affected my view of him was the deal he made with ITC Productions concerning the BBC miniseries and his testimony about that deal. Mr. May made a fool of himself on the stand on this topic. On crossexamination I learned that the deal he and his brother made with this production company guaranteed them that they would be portrayed as "heroes" and "innocent victims of Joe Hunt", as long as "facts to the contrary did not come out at trial". Of course, we learned that Jeff Raymond and Evan Dicker did deals with ITC Productions also. It became clear, and Mr. Hunt later argued this in his summation, that if all these guys stuck together and corroborated with each other, they could really appear as heroes. But if they said anything embarrassing about themselves or each other, they would be embarrassed on nationwide television. I felt this gave them a powerful incentive to testify in such a way about each other to make themselves appear in the best light.

7. The Levin Sighting Witnesses. I did not find the testimony of Carmen Canchola and Jesus Lopez to be very persuasive by itself. However, considered along with the testimony of Mr. Oliver Holmes and Len Marmor that Ron Levin had a faint scar on his forehead, I began to believe that they actually had seen Ron Levin. While the person Ms. Canchola described

matched Levin to a "T", she had never personally met Ron Levin before.

This weighed against her testimony. It was the addition of this one fact, that Levin had a scar on his forehead which, against his normally fair complexion, was almost invisible, that gave her identification the power in my mind to raise a reasonable doubt. In the harsh September Arizona sun, Levin's skin, except for the scar, would tan, thus making the scar more visible. Nothing about a scar was mentioned in the Esquire magazine article. At that point her testimony could no longer be dismissed as a mis-identification.

However, the testimony of Connie and Jerry Gerrard just about bowled me over. They seemed to be very sensible and decent people. Ms. Gerrard had been in Ron Levin's company on a number of occasions and she positively identified him. Particularly persuasive to me was her description of how Mr. Ron Levin inexplicably and suddenly pulled up stakes and left the cafe after he made eye contact with her, especially since she reported over hearing Levin and his friend, only moments before, discussing their good fortune in finding a restaurant open on Christmas day. She was not impeached in my view at all. She was much more credible than any BBC witness, and unlike that crowd, she had no reason to lie.

Mr. Hunt also called Robert Robinson and Nadia Ghaleb. They had also seen Ron Levin in the 1986 to 1987 time frame. Though credible witnesses they were, the 'clincher' witnesses about Ron Levin being alive were Connie and Jerry Gerrard.

8. Levin To Flee. I have no doubt in my mind that Ron Levin fled to avoid prosecution for his many criminal acts. Not only did we learn of his insurance frauds, the 12 grand theft charges, and his check frauds in the defense case, but he also owed over one million dollars when he skipped town. Mr. Jon F. Martin, an insurance investigator, had threatened Ron Levin with jail for insurance fraud. We learned through Jeffrey Melczer, Levin's civil attorney, and Jerry Verplancke, who worked at Progressive Savings and Loan, that Levin was aware that the FBI was investigating the Progressive check scam case that netted Levin \$150,000.00 in late 1983. This was just six months before Levin fled. We also learned from Daniel Wilson, an investigator who worked for Fidelity, I believe, that Fidelity was seeking to prosecute Levin for the \$75,000.00 he had scammed from them in May or June of 1984.

I believe that Levin was terrified about going back to jail. Dr. Avery told us that Levin described being raped in jail back in 1979 on, when he

was doing time on the mail fraud case. When Carol Levin was on the witness stand, Mr. Hunt showed her a letter in her handwriting that said Ron Levin had a terrible fear of being locked up dating back from when she had committed him to the Camarillo State Mental Hospital. Mr. Oliver Holmes testified that Levin had described to him how he had been researching the extradition treaty between Brazil and the United States. This had a big impact on me. Mr. Holmes even said that Levin had called the State Department to find out when the treaty went into effect, apparently being told that it did not do so for about one year. This was proof to me that Mr. Levin had been considering fleeing for sometime. I believe that he ultimately did so.

9. The Seven Pages.

Possibly the most important witness on the issue of what happened to Ron Levin was Karen Sue Marmor. She was great! First of all, I trusted her. She used to be an officer at a bank, she was married to a former prosecution witness, she did not know Mr. Hunt at all, and she was very straight forward. When she said that she saw the "to do" list on Levin's desk, I was stunned. It all started to make sense to me. I believe Levin, after he got a hold of the "to do" list, decided to use it as cover to make

good his escape. He seemed to be thinking out-loud in Ms. Marmor's presence about doing just that. She testified that he said he was never going to go back to jail and that he might leave for New York and not come back. He also told Ms. Marmor that he had just been threatened. This corroborated Mr. Hunt's defense in several crucial ways. As Mr. Hunt often said, the lists were only used as "props in a plan to intimidate Ron Levin". The biggest point about Ms. Marmor's testimony to me is that her testimony and the prosecution's theory were totally at odds. Either you believed one or the other. Since Mr. Karny was the only witness that testified about the origin of the seven pages and how it was to be used and/or was used, it really came down to a question of whom did I believe, Karen Marmor or Dean Karny. On this level, there really was no contest. Mr. Karny had a lot of reasons to lie and, I felt, had in fact lied to us about a lot of things. Ms. Marmor did not have an immunity deal and was never impeached. Once I decided I believed Ms. Marmor, I knew Joe Hunt was innocent. Since Ron Levin had the "to do" list in his control and possession during broad day light and at a time when Joe Hunt was nowhere in sight, there was no way that this list could be the 'recipe for murder' that Karny claimed it was. In my mind, Ms. Marmor was a one person justification for an acquittal,

though I admit that many other witnesses supported her testimony by pointing to flight to avoid prosecution as an explanation for Mr. Levin's disappearance.

10. John Riley. One of the more dramatic impeachments of Mr. Karny's story of what allegedly happened on June 6, 1984, came about through the testimony of Mr. John Riley. Mr. Riley was a former newspaper reporter and magazine correspondent, he presently is a freelance writer. He was very well-spoken. He testified that he had seen Ron Levin and Jim Pittman talking at some length in front of Levin's house in 1984. He accurately described Mr. Pittman's build, height, and weight. He also picked Pittman out of a photo line-up. There was really no question in my mind that he saw Jim Pittman with Ron Levin. However, according to Karny, Pittman and Levin never met before June 6, 1984. Karny had this whole story about what happened between Levin, Pittman, and Mr. Hunt on the night of June 6, 1984, built around the fact that Levin supposedly didn't even know Pittman. Karny said that Mr. Hunt confirmed this to him during the "walk around the neighborhood" conversation that Karny said took place after Mr. Hunt allegedly killed Levin. Karny described how on this occasion Mr. Hunt had supposedly described a "scenario" that he used to attempt to convince

Levin to hand over his money under duress, but still leave Levin a basis to hope that he would survive the night if he cooperated. Pittman was supposed to have been introduced as a paid enforcer for the Chicago mob to whom Mr. Hunt was to have said he was deeply indebted. Karny testified that the idea was that Levin had never seen Pittman before and would not realize that Pittman was a BBC member. (Mr. Len Marmor also had seen Pittman at Levin's house in 1984.) As a result, Karny explained, the plan was to hoodwink Levin into believing that both he and Mr. Hunt were being pressured by this group whose representative was the physically imposing Pittman. Of course the lie to this was all proven by the evidence that Levin knew Pittman. How else could he have met Levin except through Mr. Hunt? I felt Mr. Hunt's argument was persuasive that Karny, unaware of their acquaintance with each other, had mistakenly woven into his scenario for that night this highly revealing flaw. Karny's whole plot for that night didn't make any sense with this in mind. Karny said that the "Chicago enforcer scenario" was what was meant "Explain situation" on the "to do" list. In light of all of this, I didn't think so at all.

11. John Duron.

Mr. Hunt presented powerful evidence in support of his case through the

testimony of John Duron. Mr. Duron was Levin's barber for years. Levin visited him every 2 weeks through out their business relationship. Mr. Duron was startled when, on the occasion of Levin's last visit to his hair salon, Levin inquired about dyeing his hair and beard brown. Mr. Duron stated that this was surprising because the rather vain Levin and he had long agreed that Levin's gray hair was his most striking feature. Mr. Duron testified that he tried to talk Levin out of it. When Levin insisted, Mr. Duron offered to do it for him. Levin refused the offer but called back a week or or a week and a half later. Duron tried to talk him out of it again but Levin would not be put off. Mr. Duron gave Levin instructions. Since this was a week and a half after Levin's last visit and since Levin scheduled visits regularly every 2 weeks for years, this had to have occurred right before Levin's flight. Detective Zoeller testified that he found an unexplained brown stain in Levin's bathtub which he had tested to determine if it was blood, with negative results. Mr. Duron told us that hair dye can stain porcelain. As a result of all of this, I became convinced that Levin had altered his appearance to make good his escape. Obviously, he let it grow out later, probably as he became more secure over the years. It also provided me with a reasonable explanation for the missing com-

forter. Mr. Duron told us about how these dyes must be left in one's hair for at least 45 minutes "to set". During that time one is free to get out of the shower, walk around, and relax. He described how many hair-color novices ruin their clothes and get it all over everything because of how difficult it is to handle during this period. Of course I knew that already. It was easy to see how, lying down to watch television on his bed, Levin, even if he thought he was being careful, could have stained his bedding. Naturally he couldn't leave that tell-tale clue behind. Given all the other evidence, Detective Zoeller's discovery of the stain, and Mr. Duron's testimony, I believe that is what happened. Levin got the hair dye on his comforter and hastily scooped it up, along with the television remote control device, and threw them out. Corroborating this was Blanche Sturkey, Levin's maid, who testified that only Levin and she knew where the spare comforter was.

12. <u>Justine Jagoda</u>. Ms. Jagoda was very firm about her recollections of the night of June 6, 1984. She had heard nothing that night. She testified that on other occasions she had heard Levin beat his dog, a slap followed by a yelp. Apparently, her bedroom was right over Levin's old bedroom.

She recalled the night because she was questioned by someone the next

day as to whether she heard anything unusual. She testified that she was up late reading a book. The television set was not on and the windows were open. Karny had said that he had heard the silenced gun shot and that it was very loud, as loud as a very loud clap of the hand. Ms. Jagoda felt that she would have heard that easily. She said she heard nothing unusual at all, not even a trunk being slammed or the dog yelping. This was more evidence which was inconsistent with the People's theory. I thought her testimony was important because it was ear-witness evidence, not hear-say from biased witnesses.

- 13. I am aware that the Prosecution witnesses testified that Ron Levin left some money behind, but it was a small amount in relation to the nearly one million dollars in illicit income he apparently had during his last 18 months or so in Beverly Hills. (\$150,000.00 from Progressive; \$50,000.00 from American Express; \$75,000.00 from Fidelity USA; \$250,000.00 worth of camera equipment never returned; \$500,000.00 worth of insurance fraud per Jon Martin; \$15,000.00 from Len Marmor; \$30,000.00 from Joe Hunt and the BBC; \$100,000.00 from Merrill Lynch; \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00 from Levin's parents; \$20,000.00 from his maid; etc.; etc.)
 - 14. Also, Ron Levin did do some things inconsistent with a fixed-

advance-planned-flight-to-avoid-prosecution scheme. His plans to fly to New York, the address labels Martin Levin spoke of, and paying for his insurance in advance (I think) as well. However, the evidence reflected that Levin ultimately decided to flee, not that he knew all along that he was going to do so. Karen Marmor described Levin saying: "I'm not going to jail", and "Maybe I won't come back from New York", during her very last conversation with Levin. Oliver Wendell Holmes was summoned by Levin on June 6, 1984 to return a key Levin had given him to Levin's house. That key, Mr. Holmes said, provided him access to Levin's home so that he could work in preparation for Levin's eventual trial on the 12 grand theft charges. Why did Levin decide on June 6, 1984 that it was no longer necessary to do that work? Scott Furstman said Levin did a surprising about-face on his criminal case, agreeing to return property to the victims in exchange for bail concessions on June 5, 1984. Why? So that his dad wouldn't be left holding the bag, I thought. There was no other explanation. Ron Levin had a year of premium left on his bail bond at that point! The list goes on and on

15. In the end I felt that the set of circumstances that put the "to do" list in Levin's hands, and the likelihood of more criminal charges on top of

the 12 felony counts he already faced, brought Levin to the decision to flee. Of course, 5 people have seen him since then, so the fact that he did flee is not really open to debate any longer.

16. I believe an innocent man is behind bars. In my own heart and based on the proof that I have heard and seen, I believe that Ron Levin was alive at least until Christmas of 1987, when he was seen by Connie and Jerry Gerrard on the island of Mykanos in the Mediterranean. Setting aside Mr. Hunt's notorious reputation, all the testimony coming from neutral and non-partisan witnesses (those with no personal stake in the case), points with one accord to the fact that Ron Levin fled prosecution for a variety of crimes that he had committed. The BBC witnesses were a thoroughly disrespertable and unreliable lot. Their statements were in conflict with an impressive number of facts attested to by more reliable witnesses. Carol and Martin Levin are only guessing. Basically, they believe what they need to believe. There is not a shred of physical evidence to prove violence occurred at Ron Levin's home other than the implications of a missing comforter and remote control.

However, Karny got the Beverly Hills Police reports about the circumstances at Levin's home before he made the statement. I also found more

believable, given Karny's general dishonesty, the hair dye scenario.

17. In the end I felt that the June 24, 1984 "confession", attributed to Mr. Hunt, had to be interpreted in light of the fact that: (1) Levin was planning to flee; (2) Karen Marmor saw the 7 pages at Levin's home before the night of June 6, 1984; and (3) People have seen Ron Levin alive since June 6, 1984.

In my view, it is silly, given all the evidence, to say I'm not going to believe Karen Marmor and 5 sightings witnesses because Mr. Hunt said he killed Ron Levin. All those guys, and Levin too, pulled a lot of hoaxes, they said a lot more than they meant rather frequently. There is the old saying: "Just saying it doesn't make it so." I looked at the BBC and saw believable motives for Mr. Hunt to make that statement, given the white collar crime and car stealing atmosphere of the BBC. However, the key point is that the un-biased witnesses and the eye-witnesses are a much more direct route to the truth than a "hearsay' case. One can spin theories about what people like Levin and the BBC members knew versus what they said endlessly. One can argue the whys and wherefores either way. In the end the overall trend of the evidence coming from untainted sources was all ir one direction: towards Mr. Hunt's innocence. I believe Mr. Hunt is innocent

and that Ron Levin was alive through, at least, late 1987. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Cali-fornia that the foregoing is true and correct of my own personal knowl-edge, and that as to those matters stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true. SANDRA MARIA ACHIRO