

In 2001 I was in the Strafford County Jail with Chad Evans. We were housed together in maximum security. We were allowed out of our cells for an hour per day for recreation as well as for 20 minutes to eat our meals in the pod dayroom.

Just prior to Chad Evans trial there was an altercation between Chad Evans and another inmate that was recently moved to maximum security. It had been "brewing" while we were all locked in our cells. I cannot recall the other person's name but he was being verbally abusive toward Evans regarding his charges. Evans didn't engage other than to say that he would answer questions but wasn't interested in verbal banter. The Correctional Officers that worked the tier were aware of the tension, a few of them even telling the other inmate to "shut up", during their rounds.

One night at dinner the inmate was especially aggressive calling Evans a baby killer and other names. Evans ignored the comments. This seemed to aggravate the inmate even further and while Evans was sitting in his seat the inmate walked behind him and took a swing, landing a blow somewhere on Evans' back or head. Evans quickly got up, grabbed the provoker, tossed him across the table where he smashed into the wall. At this point the inmate was bleeding from somewhere on his face and Evans kept his distance telling the aggressor to "stay down, I don't want to hurt you." The inmate seemed stunned but quickly got up and started charging at Evans. By this time, the officer in the control bubble could see what was happening and several officers rushed in. Evans just put his hands up, offering no resistance to the officers and returned to his cell as ordered.

I don't know the exact dates of the incident but Strafford County Jail would have the records. I know that it was just prior to Evans trial because I recall the local newspaper having an article about the incident just days before his trial started and I didn't think that would look too good for Evans.

Shortly after the incident, two NH State Police officers showed up at the jail and started asking me questions about the fight, how well I knew Mr. Evans, if he had said anything to me about the baby or Amanda Bortner. The officers were both male and I believe one of them was named White. The police asked if Evans had made any admissions about the night the child died. The police also asked if I saw Evans talking to any other inmates at the jail and if so what were their names. Not getting the responses they seemed to be after, the police told me that Evans had murdered a baby and they wanted to know if I could help them out and get justice for her. I told the police that I didn't know anything about his case and explained that Evans was very quiet and mostly kept to himself. The police pressed me further, wanting to know any details of conversations that I had with "Chad" even things that I thought might be stupid or unrelated could be helpful to them. I still could not think of anything that could be helpful but shared some of the details of the small talk I had engaged in with Evans. Mostly we talked about sports, his family and his job. I explained that Evans had shared that he had two sons and it was clear from the way he talked about them that he loved them. I explained to the police that I really hadn't talked to Evans about his case. They acted as if they didn't believe me. I shared the only thing that I recall Evans saying was that he loved the baby and wished he had been paying more attention. I had the feeling that the police were getting frustrated with me.

The officers then brought up my charges and the fact that I should be able to leave soon. They said that if I could think of something, they may be able to help me out as my charges were not very serious. I just stared at the officers for a minute and one of them hinted that they could have the opposite effect as well. I took this to mean that if I didn't help them I could somehow be in trouble or made to stay in jail longer. At this time, I said something to the effect, "Look, All I know is the things I have read in the newspapers. I've been in jail and have seen a lot of guilty people. Judging by the way Evans handles himself and how he treats people, I have a hard time believing he is

guilty of what you claim he did. You have to be pretty angry and out of control to do that to a child. Being charged with such a thing, guilty or innocent, has got to be stressful. People are on him all the time here and he doesn't even raise his voice." With this statement the police ended their interview. They asked me to contact them if I thought of anything or if Chad Evans talked about the case in the future.

After recently being sentenced to the NH State Prison in Concord I was moved to the same unit that Chad lives in. I reintroduced myself to Chad recently and reminded him of being with him in (low) maximum security while in Strafford County and witnessing the altercation between him and another inmate. After sharing further details Chad shared that he knew nothing of my meeting with the State Police because it wasn't in his trial discovery. Chad asked me if I would be willing to share these details and sign an affidavit swearing that they are true to the best of my knowledge. Obviously it has been over 10 years so some of the small details may be off a bit but overall this statement is the truth.

Mario Phillips 2-21-2012
Mario Phillips #52838 Date

Becky A. Harding 2/21/12
Notary Signature Date

BECKY A. HARDING, Notary Public
My Commission Expires 2/2/2016