

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 29, 2008

From: Earl Taylor, District Attorney

OPELOUSAS, LA- The St. Landry Parish Grand Jury reported to and filed with the 27th Judicial District Court, Judge James Doherty presiding:

A True Bill (indictment) was returned against Corey Rosette, 33, 806 Larcade Street, Opelousas, Louisiana for the second-degree murder of Lawrence Batiste on or about April 20, 2008. A person convicted of second-degree murder shall serve a mandatory life sentence without benefit of probation, parole or suspension of sentence.

A True Bill (indictment) was returned against Arthur Douglas Lacassin, 59, 426 Front Street, Krotz Springs, Louisiana, for indecent behavior with a juvenile under the age of seventeen occurring between January 1, 1999 and December 31, 2001. A person convicted of indecent behavior with a juvenile under age seventeen shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than seven years.

An indictment (True Bill) is a formal charge by a Grand Jury for the crimes indicated. A Grand Jury consists of twelve residents, with two alternates, who are empanelled by the 27th Judicial District Court. By Louisiana law, the DA's office is prohibited from commenting on the evidence presented to the Grand Jury. Specifically Code of Criminal Procedure Article 434, requires that "...members of the grand jury, and all other persons having confidential access to information concerning grand jury proceedings, shall keep secret the testimony of witnesses and all other matters occurring at, or directly connected with, a meeting of the grand jury..." For this reason there is never a discussion about the evidence upon which the Grand Jury based its findings.