

Richard L. Hudson, Jr.

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Hudson Consulting and Investigations, LLC*

July 11, 2018

The Honorable Ralph Northam
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia
Third Floor, Patrick Henry Building
1111 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Petition for Pardon submitted by Jens Soering

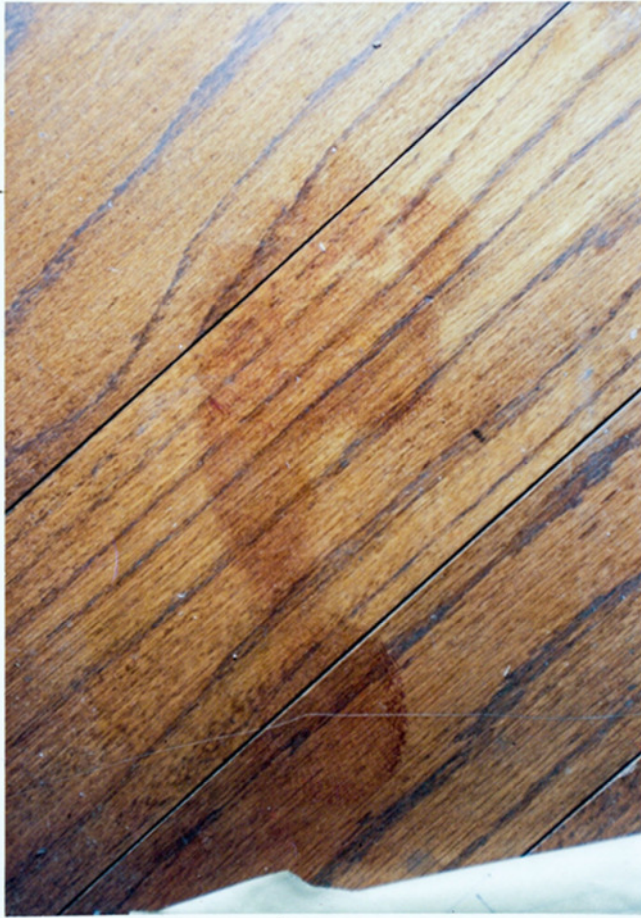
Dear Governor Northam:

I have been working on the Haysom homicide case for about a year now. I have spent hundreds of hours reviewing the crime scene evidence records and photos, interviewing persons who may have relevant information with regard to the case, and reading trial transcripts as they relate to both Elizabeth Haysom and Jens Soering. I previously submitted a report to Governor McAuliffe on September 12, 2017, regarding my initial findings with respect to my investigative assistance in the Haysom murder case.

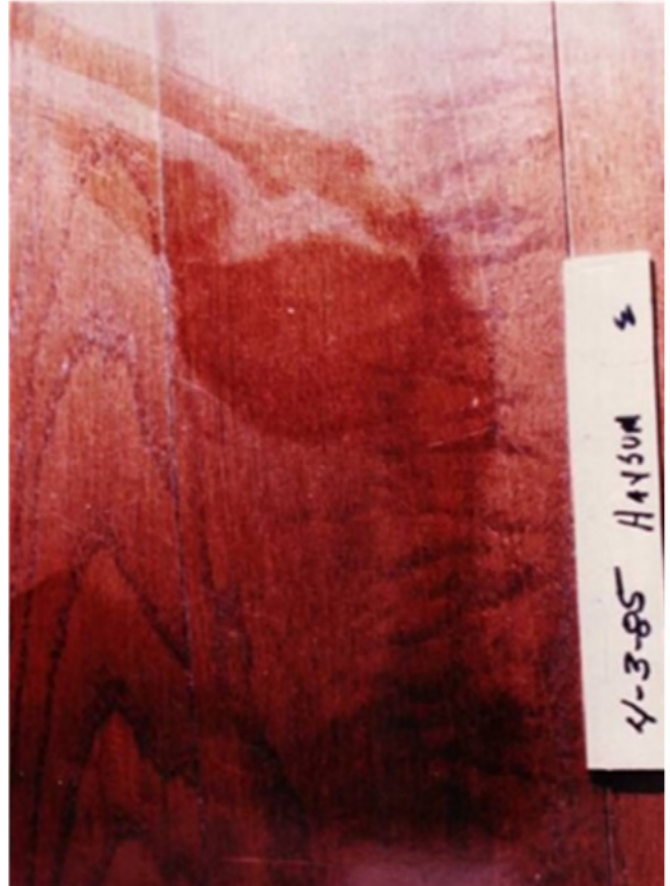
According to the Bedford County Sheriff's Office and the then-Commonwealth's Attorney - Jim Updike - the theory of the Commonwealth submitted to the jury was that Jens Soering stabbed and slashed Derek and Nancy Haysom, collectively, more than 50 times, BY HIMSELF and that Soering was injured while he was committing these crimes leaving his type O blood. In addition to my conclusions submitted to your immediate predecessor in 2017, where I concluded that Jens Soering was not in the house when Derek and Nancy Haysom were murdered, new analysis conducted by me adds to that conclusion. My conclusion is supported by several pieces of physical evidence.

During the course of my evidence examinations, I reviewed photos and testimony regarding a "Soering footprint - or sockprint." In my extensive examination of the crime scene photographs, I see, what I believe to be **THREE DIFFERENT** foot/shoe tread impressions, different from the victims and Jens Soering. The first is the "sockprint" used at trial which print

is purported to match Soering's foot. It does not meet the length requirement needed to be a match for Soering, thus eliminating him. The Commonwealth put on a witness that Judge Sweeney ruled at trial was **NOT** an expert, but still allowed to testify that the sockprint matched a known impression of Soering; that testimony flatly was not factual. At closing argument, the prosecutor argued their theory that Soering acted alone using the sockprint evidence and the Soering blood at the front door. Neither of these is correct. My review of shoe and foot print photographs further undermines the Commonwealth's theory.



(Unmarked sock print – living room)



(Sock print LR3 – living room)

There is very little mention of shoe tread wear impressions in the trial transcripts that I have reviewed; the focus was on the sock print. My experience tells me that there was little tread wear evidence introduced because the tread wear evidence did not match the Commonwealth's theory. Indeed, the shoe tread wear impressions contradict the Commonwealth's theory. One of the shoe print photos on the next page shows what appears to be a larger size impression than the sock wear impression. This conclusion is reached by extrapolating the length of the tread impression to calculate the length of the foot that would fit that particular photograph. There are shoe tread wear impressions in multiple places at the crime scene. One shoe tread wear

impression found in the crime scene photographs is inarguably of a different tread wear design than the victims' and that impression is not noted in any document I have reviewed for this case.



Tread wear print DR14 – dining room



Unmarked tread wear print – living room

It is my conclusion, using the above and below photographic support, that there was definitely more than one assailant in the Haysom house at the time of the murders and possibly as many as three. The foot/shoe impression evidence supports just that. For the avoidance of doubt, these tread wear prints cannot have originated from Nancy or Derek Haysom, as is evidenced by the crime scene photos of their shoe soles, which are clearly distinguishable from the tread patterns above.



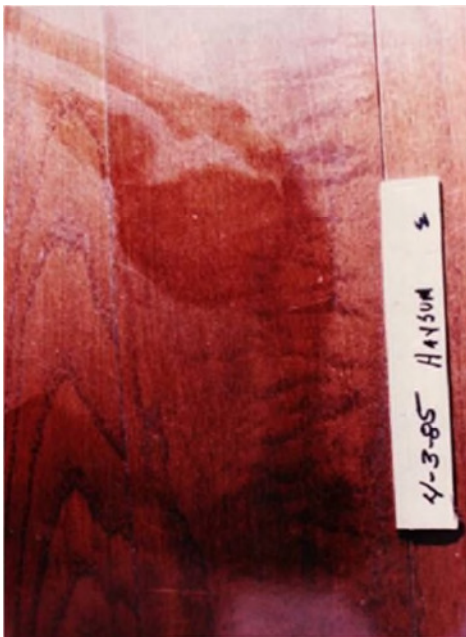
Nancy Haysom's shoe sole – kitchen



Derek Haysom's shoe soles – living room

The DNA analysis of a minuscule sample of genetic evidence supports two unknown males the crime scene I do not believe, based on my 35+ years of law enforcement experience that Jens Soering could have stabbed/slashed Derek and Nancy Haysom more than 50 times by himself - as Jim Updike argued at trial.

My belief is that there were multiple assailants and based purely on evidence analysis, there is no indication that Soering was there when this atrocity occurred. There is ample evidentiary support for multiple as yet unidentified assailants.



Sock print – living room



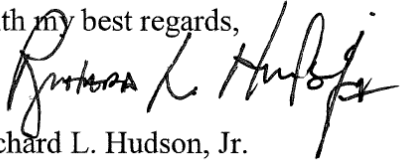
tread wear print – dining room



tread wear print – living room

Thank you for taking the time to review this matter.

With my best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Hudson, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Richard L. Hudson, Jr.