



Greg Hampikian

Greg Hampikian is an American biologist and the founder and director of the Idaho Innocence Project. He is considered one of the foremost forensic DNA experts in the United States.^{[1][2][3][4]}

Hampikian assisted in the establishment of various forensic evidence projects such as the Georgia Innocence Project, the Irish Innocence Project, and the Innocence Project France. He is currently a professor in the Departments of Biological Sciences and Criminal Justice at Boise State University. Hampikian is a DNA Expert on the Georgia Innocence Project Board. Hampikian is a New York Times contributing columnist whose two most popular contributions to date have been "Men, Who Needs Them" and "When May I Shoot a Student". Hampikian has published in numerous scholarly scientific journals, including Nature and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Hampikian was inducted as a Charter Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. His inventions range from a magnetic shaped memory alloy micro-pump to a forensic DNA labeling kit that prevents contamination of samples given to the police. Hampikian pioneered the study of DNA and protein sequences absent from nature and coined the term Nullomers. Hampikian lectures on DNA science generally as well as DNA in forensic evidence specifically nationwide.^[5] Hampikian is noted for his work on several exonerations both nationally and internationally including his work on the Amanda Knox case.

Life and work

Hampikian received a master's degree and a PhD from the University of Connecticut in 1986 and 1990, respectively. He has worked with many attorneys on cases which involved DNA forensics investigation.^[3] He established the Idaho Innocence Project which analyzes wrongful conviction claims and assists those who have been falsely charged.^[3]

Hampikian is a contributor to scientific journals, newspapers and magazines; including a farcical look at the issue of allowing concealed weapons on college campuses.^[6] He has been featured on television numerous times in news networks such as CNN and BBC. He is also the co-author of the "Exit to Freedom" which documents the life of Calvin C. Johnson Jr., who was wrongfully convicted and spent seventeen years in prison.^[7]

Hampikian is also an amateur folk singer and songwriter.^[8]

Amanda Knox

During the high-profile case of Amanda Knox, on May 23, 2011, Hampikian announced that, based on its independent investigation and review, DNA samples taken at the crime scene all pointed to African drifter Rudy Guede and excluded Knox and Sollecito.^[9] Upon reexamination of the DNA, he concluded that the evidence is unreliable and contaminated.^[3] Hampikian's work contributed to Knox and Sollecito's convictions being overturned.^[3]

References

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Experimental Biology in Massachusetts. I have also held teaching and research positions at The Yale University Medical School, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University, and Clayton State University. I teach graduate and undergraduate courses including Forensic Biology, Advanced Genetic Analysis, Biotechnology, Forensic Evidence in Cold Cases, DNA Evidence in Wrongful Convictions, and Genetics. I also supervise both undergraduate and graduate students, and have taught students who were later employed at government forensic crime laboratories.

3. Currently, my research focuses on DNA analysis, including DNA database and population studies, forensic casework analysis, and forensic DNA technology development. I have published my work in peer-reviewed journals including *Nature*, the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the *International Journal of Legal Medicine*, and *Human Biology*. I have written scholarly reviews of forensic DNA topics for the *Canadian Journal of Police and Security Services* and the *Annual Review of Genetics and Genomics*. I am a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and have offered professional development courses for the Academy on forensic DNA analysis. I am also a

member of the International Society for Forensic Genetics, and have presented my research findings there.

4. I have trained police, crime lab workers, and lawyers in DNA analysis, and have worked on murder and rape cases with police in both the US and France.
5. I have been qualified by the courts as a DNA expert in Virginia, Michigan, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Idaho; and have worked on criminal cases involving DNA throughout the United States, in England, Ireland, France, and Italy.
6. I have been asked by Stephen W. Howard of Crippen & Cline, LC, to examine evidence used by the State to obtain a conviction in the trial of Mr. Eugene Christopher Wright in Utah Third District Court case #081400519/111903200, and to opine about what a competent DNA expert may have advised the defense before trial, and testified to at trial.
7. I have had the opportunity to review evidence presented at trial as well as the results and procedures of DNA testing performed on behalf of the prosecution.

The following statements are based on my review of this information and on my training and experience.

8. Based on my review of the evidence and information I have received about the trial of this case, it is my understanding that the State's theory emphasized the idea that the person who drove the vehicle from the murder scene – the last driver of the vehicle – was the person who killed the victim.
9. A key piece of DNA evidence used at trial by the state was DNA obtained from the victim's vehicle.
10. Testing by the prosecution of certain DNA found in the victim's vehicle showed a DNA profile consistent with the defendant, Eugene Christopher Wright's (hereinafter "Mr. Wright) profile.
11. Since Mr. Wright had disclosed having been in the car on previous occasions, we would expect to find his DNA somewhere in the car. Thus, finding some DNA consistent with Mr. Wright's profile in the car is to be expected and is not probative on the question of whether Mr. Wright was the last person to drive the vehicle or, on the question of whether Mr. Wright was present at the crime scene when the crime occurred. The most significant DNA evidence taken from the car is the DNA profile obtained from the steering wheel in the area of the wheel normally associated with a driver. The driver would be in near constant contact

with the steering wheel while driving the vehicle from the crime scene, and it would be expected that the driver would leave DNA on the steering wheel.

12. My review of the evidence indicates that the DNA evidence obtained from the steering wheel was correctly obtained and processed; it was in fact the first DNA sample collected by the investigator. No DNA found on the steering wheel matched Mr. Wright's profile.
13. Analysis of the DNA sample obtained by police from the steering wheel did produce a valid DNA profile; but that analysis excluded Mr. Wright as a possible contributor to that sample.
14. The failure of the State's investigation to find Mr. Wright's DNA on the steering wheel does not support the prosecution's theory that Mr. Wright was the last person to drive the vehicle.
15. Instead, this failure to find Mr. Wright's DNA on the steering wheel tends to support the defense theory that Mr. Wright was not the last person to drive the vehicle.
16. It is my understanding that police investigators also obtained a DNA sample from the driver's seat of the vehicle, and that testing conducted by the prosecution excluded Mr. Wright as a possible contributor to that sample.

17. The exclusion of Mr. Wright as the source for the DNA sample found on the driver seat also does not support the prosecution's theory that Mr. Wright was the last person to drive the vehicle, but instead supports the defense theory that Mr. Wright was not the last person to drive the vehicle.
18. There is a clear DNA profile obtained from the sample which can be compared to alternate suspects in the case.
19. In my professional opinion, the issues addressed in this affidavit are critical matters that should have been more carefully and thoroughly addressed at trial.
20. The average layperson does not have sufficient knowledge of DNA testing and collection procedures to understand the evidence that was presented at trial relating to DNA issues.
21. It is my opinion that the issues relating to DNA in the present case were not adequately presented or explained by the defense, and that a DNA expert should have testified for the defense to adequately explain these issues.
22. I am available to testify in this case. If I had been asked by defense counsel prior to trial in 2009 or 2010 to consult and to analyze the DNA evidence in this case, I would have been available to do so and could have testified at trial to the facts stated in this affidavit.

DATED this 29 day of November, 2012.

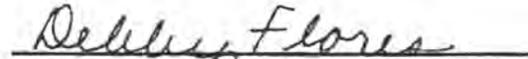

GREG HAMPIKIAN
Affiant

STATE OF IDAHO)
) ss:
COUNTY OF Ada)

On this 29 day of November, 2012, before the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared GREG HAMPIKIAN, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.




NOTARY PUBLIC

DEBBY FLORES, Notary Public
State of Idaho, County of Ada
My commission expires Aug 19 2014
Filing # 38819