

THE BAILIFF: Mr. Stampler,  
kindly take the witness box and be seated,  
please.

THEREUPON, ROBERT J. STAMPLER, a member  
of the prospective jury panel, having been  
previously sworn, was examined and testified  
on voir dire, as follows:

THE COURT: Good morning,  
Mr. Stampler.

MR. STAMPLER: Good morning,  
Judge Talty.

THE COURT: Mr. Stampler, the  
lawyers will be asking you some questions --  
is this your first occasion in the court room,  
sir?

MR. STAMPLER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Well, you just sit  
back and relax, and listen attentively to the  
questions that the lawyers will be putting to  
you, and answer them accurately and forthrightly.

If the lawyer believes another question  
should be put to you, he will put it to you.

Each of us in this room, Mr. Stampler,  
must hear your responses, and Mr. Romito who

sits in front you, the court reporter, he has the duty and the responsibility of reporting all of your responses into that record.

So you just cannot respond to a question by nodding your head. You must make an audible response. You understand that, don't you, sir?

MR. STAMPLER: Yes.

THE COURT: Now, each of us in this room must hear your responses. So will you keep your voice at a point and speak slowly and clearly and audibly; will you do that?

MR. STAMPLER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

Counselor Spellacy?

MR. SPELLACY: Yes, if it please the Court.

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION OF ROBERT J. STAMPLER

By Mr. Spellacy:

Q For the court reporter, will you please give us your name again?

A Robert J. Stampler.

Q How do you spell your last name?

A S-t-a-m-p-l-e-r.

Q Where do you live, sir?

A 13904 Castalia Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

Q How long have you lived there?

A I lived at this residence probably twenty years.

Q Where is Castalia Avenue?

A That is on the northeast side of town. Hayden and St. Clair area.

Q You have lived there for approximately twenty years?

A About twenty years, yes.

Q Are you employed, sir?

A Yes, I am.

Q Where do you work?

A Warner and Swasey Company.

Q How long have you worked at Warner and Swasey?

A Six months now.

Q What do you do at Warner and Swasey Company?

A I am a production planner.

Q Production planner?

A In the Production Control Department.

Q Prior to working for Warner and Swasey, where did you work?

A The Gabriel Company.

Q What did you do at the Gabriel Company?

A I was a production planner also.

Q The same type of work?

A The same type of occupation.



Q How long were you with the Gabriel Company?

A I was there five years.

Q May I ask what you did before you worked for the Gabriel Company?

A Before that I worked for Marquette Metal Products Company, in the same capacity.

Before that, with the Fuller, Smith and Ross Advertising Agency.

Q How long were you with Marquette?

A Three years.

Q And with the advertising agency what type of work did you do?

A I was in the Traffic Department.

Q Traffic Department?

A Yes, just writing orders and things of that nature.

Q Do you know Mr. Severs? I believe he worked for Marquette Metal Products at one time.

A No, I don't recall knowing Mr. Severs.

Q Did you go to school in the Cleveland area?

A I just went two years of grammar school. Most of my education, high school and grammar school, was in Andover, Ohio.

Q Andover, Ohio?

A Yes.

Q Was it Andover High School?

A Yes, Andover High School.

Q What year did you get out of Andover?

A In 1948, I graduated from Andover High School.

Q Did you go to school after that?

A After that, I worked for one year in Andover, and then I was inducted in the Armed Forces for two years.

Then after I received my discharge, I came back into Cleveland here where I was born.

Q I see. Then you began working?

A Then I began working here in Cleveland after the service.

Q Now, have you had prior jury service?

A No, this is my first time.

THE COURT: Counselor, excuse me, will you establish when he returned to Cleveland, if you haven't already, after service?

MR. SPELLACY: Yes.

Q What year was that?

A I returned to Cleveland in April of 1953.

Q April of '53?

A Yes.

Q Where were you living at that time?

A The same address that I am presently living now, on Castalia Avenue.

Q You are single, is that correct?

A Yes, I am.

Q Is your mother and father still living?

A They are still living. I live with them.

Q What type of business is your father in?

A He is retired.

Q When he was working, what type of business?

A He was working for a plumbing manufacturing company that manufactured fixtures, plumbing fixtures, for homes and industry.

Q Does your mother work outside the home?

A No, she does not.

Q Did she ever do any work outside the home?

A Yes, housework and cooking, domestic help.

Q You say that you have never had prior jury experience, is that correct?

A This is my first time.

Q Have you ever been a witness in any kind of a case?

A Not -- I was in the armed forces but not --

Q You were a witness on a case in the armed forces?

A Yes, sir, a small court martial in the armed forces.

Q You have never been a witness in any other type of case?

A No, I have not.

Q Now, would this experience that you had, were you a witness for the military or for the --

A I was a witness for the military.



Q Was there anything about this experience -- I might go back and ask you when that was?

A That was in 1952.

Q Anything about that experience that would prevent you from being a fair and impartial juror in this case?

A Well, I wasn't much of a witness there, I mean, I wasn't there maybe more than five minutes. I was a very minor witness.

Q Then your answer would be there is nothing that would prevent you from that experience from being fair in this case, is that right?

A Well, as far as that goes, no.

Q You understand that this is a case in which the indictment is the State of Ohio versus Sam H. Sheppard, do you understand that?

A Yes, I do.

Q Have you read about this case at any time?

A Yes, I followed it very thoroughly when I came back to Cleveland.

Q You followed it thoroughly?

A Very thoroughly.

Q Was it in the newspapers?

A Yes, absolutely.

Q As a result of having followed it thoroughly -- if you will just answer my question yes or no -- did you form or

express an opinion with regard to this case?

A Yes.

Q Do you still have that opinion today, just yes or no?

A Yes.

Q Now, did you arrive at that opinion as a result of something that you read in the newspapers?

A Part of that media, yes.

Q Is this opinion a fixed opinion that you have?

A I would say yes.

Q In other words, this opinion would prevent you from serving as a fair and impartial juror in this case?

A In all honesty, yes.

MR. SPELLACY: Your Honor,  
challenge for cause.

MR. BAILEY: Joint challenge.

THE COURT: Do you join,  
Counselor?

MR. BAILEY: Yes, your Honor.

MR. SPELLACY: Thank you very  
much.

THE COURT: Mr. Stampler,  
the Court wishes to thank you for the time  
which you have spent here with us in the  
last few days, and for your willingness to  
respond as a prospective juror in this cause,



and we know that you have been fair, and that you want to be fair and tell both sides in court your feelings in this matter.

However, since you have expressed the opinion that you have, the Court is going to grant the challenge which has been entered by both sides, requesting that you be excused as a juror in this cause, and the Court will now ask you to return to your jury room for further assignment with the gratitude of each of us.

Thank you very much.

- - -