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Comedian Found Guilty of Murder

Sacramento, Calif.- Jordan Bratton was found guilty of first degree murder yesterday morning. The victim was famed critic Preston Palmer, who was found dead by strangulation outside his estate in Hollyville, CA on April 13th, 2009.

Palmer had critiqued Bratton's comedy act on April 1st, 2009. His review sent Bratton's rising career into the depths of obscurity.

Bratton denies all involvement in the murder of Mr. Palmer, stating that he was at the Hollyville Comedy Club the night of the murder until very late. He admits that though he was saddened by the review, he never wanted to hurt Palmer. "He was just doing his job, however unfair it was," Bratton explained.

Officer Kendal Malone of the Hollyville Police Department investigated Bratton's involvement in the murder. Bratton's Sony FV-100 microphone chord perfectly matched the marks on Palmer's neck, caused by the murder weapon. Bratton's brown cotton gloves matched four characteristics from the brown cotton fibers found underneath Palmer's fingernails. Investigators believe that Palmer pushed these fibers into his own fingernails when he scratched at the assailant's hands during the murder.

Bratton matches the physical characteristics of the assailant, too. Investigators believe that the assailant would be 5'9'' through 5'11'' and left handed. Bratton is 5'10''

and left handed. Furthermore, tire treads found behind Palmer's estate, most likely made on the night of the murder, were an indisputable match to the wheels of Bratton's car. "I had all the evidence I needed to arrest Bratton," Officer Malone stated.

The Defense argued that the Sony FV-100 Microphone was one of the most common microphones in use today, and that brown cotton was one of the most common fibers in use today. Since no trace evidence was found on the microphone chord, they argue, no one can rightly say whether or not it was involved in the murder.

The Defense further stated that many people had a motive for murder. Morgan Bernard's testimony revealed that Palmer's home was repeatedly vandalized with sayings such as "hater". The Defense pointed out that no one else who had been hurt by Palmer's reviews was investigated.

"The Prosecution has a case of possibilities," The Defense explained. The lack of physical evidence tying Bratton to the case meant that he was just one possibility out of many.

The Prosecution counters with the fact that no evidence of the defendant himself was found on the chord, either. If he was innocent, his fingerprints would be all over the microphone chord. Medical examiners surmise that the chord was wiped clean with bleach. They call this the action of a "cold, calculating killer", since Bratton testified that he used the chord not a day before the murder.

The jury sent the comedian smiling all the way to the jailhouse, where he will remain for many years to come.