

NORFOLK FOUR: A TRAGEDY OF INJUSTICE

CHRONOLOGY

Date	Event
July 8, 1997	Michelle Moore-Bosko's body discovered
July 8, 1997	Williams arrested and interrogated
July 9, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Williams confessed implicating only himself; states that he "hit her with his hand," "hit her three times with his fist," struck her with "a flat-soled hard shoe," and did <u>not</u> use any other weapon or strangle her ➤ After Williams's initial confession, detectives learn and tell Williams that Ms. Bosko was raped and strangled; Williams provides a "Supplemental Confession" based on those facts
December 11, 1997	<i>DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab verbally informs detectives that Williams's DNA does not match blood or semen recovered from the crime scene
January 12, 1998	Dick arrested, interrogated, and confessed implicating himself and Williams; among many factual inaccuracies, Dick says the entire crime happened in the living room rather than the bedroom
March 26, 1998	<i>DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab issues a report eliminating Dick and Williams as contributors of the blood and semen recovered from the crime scene
April 1998	Dick implicates Wilson to Ford's informant
April 8, 1998	Wilson arrested, interrogated, and confessed implicating himself, Williams and Dick; among many factual inaccuracies, Wilson claimed that the crime occurred in the living room
April 27, 1998	Dick interrogated again; provides a second confession implicating himself, Williams and Wilson; confession is very different from Dick's first confession and continues to include many factual inaccuracies
June 10, 1998	<i>DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab issues a report eliminating Wilson as a contributor of the blood and semen recovered from the crime scene
June 16, 1998	Dick interrogated again; provides a third confession implicating himself, Williams, Wilson, someone named "George Clark," whom Dick later identifies as Derek Tice, and two other unidentified white men; confession is very different from Dick's prior confessions and continues to include factual inaccuracies
June 25, 1998	Tice interrogated and confessed implicating himself, Williams, Dick, Wilson, Pauley and Farris; among many factual inaccuracies, Tice claimed that the men pried their way into the Bosko apartment with a claw hammer, but police on the scene found no sign of forced entry
June 30, 1998	Pauley arrested, interrogated, and jailed; alibi established that at the time of the crime, Pauley was on the internet chatting with his fiancé in Australia
July 9, 1998	Farris arrested, interrogated, and jailed

Date	Event
August 28, 1998	<i>DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab issues a report eliminating Tice, Pauley, and Farris as contributors of the blood and semen recovered from the crime scene
October 27, 1998	Tice interrogated again; provides a second confession implicating himself, Williams, Dick, Wilson, Pauley, Farris, and John ("C.J.") Danser
November 4, 1998	Danser arrested, interrogated, and jailed; alibi established that at the time of the crime, Danser was in Philadelphia
January 22, 1999	Williams pleads guilty to capital murder and rape
February 18, 1999	<i>Additional DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab conducts more sophisticated DNA analysis on the suspects and two others who knew them and reports that Tice, Williams, Dick, Wilson, Pauley, Farris, Robert Mattingly, Jay Wagner, and Danser are each eliminated as contributors of the blood and semen found at the crime scene
February 22, 1999	Ford learns about letter in which Ballard admits that he killed Michelle
March 2, 1999	Ford confronts Ballard with the letter; Ballard denies any involvement in the crime
March 4, 1999	<i>DNA Results:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ford obtains verbal confirmation that Ballard's DNA matches evidence from the crime scene ➤ Ford confronts Ballard with the DNA results; Ballard confesses within 20 minutes that he killed Ms. Bosko alone
March 11, 1999	Ballard provides a second statement admitting that he also raped Ms. Bosko; Ballard continues to insist that he acted alone.
April 21, 1999	Dick pleads guilty to first-degree murder and rape thereby avoiding a possible death sentence
April 28, 1999	Trial judge denies Williams's motion to withdraw his guilty plea
May 6, 1999	<i>DNA Results:</i> The Commonwealth's forensic lab issues a report stating that Ballard's DNA matches (1) the semen found in Ms. Bosko's vaginal swabs to a certainty in the millions; (2) the semen and non-semen genetic material on the blanket covering Ms. Bosko's body to a certainty in the billions; and (3) also matches blood found underneath Ms. Bosko's fingernail.
May 7, 1999	Tice rejects plea agreement; refuses to testify against co-defendants
May 14, 1999	Commonwealth drops charges against Danser, Farris, and Pauley
June 1999	Wilson tried; convicted of rape
February 2000	Tice tried; convicted of capital murder and rape
March 15, 2000	Ballard "debriefed" and as part of plea deal implicates himself and the sailors who confessed
March 22, 2000	Ballard enters guilty plea
January 2003	Tice retried; convicted of capital murder and rape