

GREGORY FLYNT TAYLOR

v.

**PETER DUANE DEAVER, in his individual and official and official capabilities,
JOSEPH S. TAUB, in his individual and official and official capabilities,
MARK NELSON, in his individual and official and official capabilities,
RALPH KEATON, in his individual and official and official capabilities,
HAROLD ELLIOTT, in his individual and official and official capabilities**

Case: 5:11-cv-00341-H

Filed: June 28, 2011

URL: http://dig.abclocal.go.com/wtvd/docs/Taylor_Lawsuit_062811.pdf

Official Abstract

RALEIGH, N.C. -- A North Carolina man declared innocent of a murder for which he spent almost 17 years behind bars sued five former agents and supervisors of the State Bureau of Investigation on Tuesday, saying they either intentionally misrepresented blood test results or countenanced the practice.

Greg Taylor, 49, was released from prison last year after a groundbreaking hearing at which he was declared innocent of a 1991 murder. In the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Raleigh, his attorneys say former agents Duane Deaver and Jed Taub deliberately concealed negative test blood results and that three of their bosses "encouraged, condoned and approved this practice. "

Deaver's testimony at the innocence hearing in February 2010 led to an audit of the SBI crime lab's reporting of blood test results. Deaver, who was fired in January, testified that it was SBI policy to report that evidence showed a chemical indication for the presence of blood even when a follow-up test came back negative. The preliminary test results were contained in the agents' reports, while the results of confirmatory tests that were negative were kept in agents' less formal bench notes.

Deaver's testimony led to an outside review by two former assistant directors for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Chris Swecker and Mike Wolf uncovered more than 200 cases at the lab that were handled improperly during a 16-year period ending in 2003. The report found the problems were often due to misrepresented blood work and keeping notes from defense attorneys.