

Lonoke Police Department

203 West Front Street, Lonoke, AR 72086
Charles F. Peckat, Chief of Police

January 11, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

On January 27, 1997, Joe, Bonnie and Heather Stocks were found slain in their home in Furlow, Arkansas. A few days later, their eighteen (18) year old son, Heath Stocks was arrested and charged with capital murder. On June 6, 1997, Heath Stocks pled guilty and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

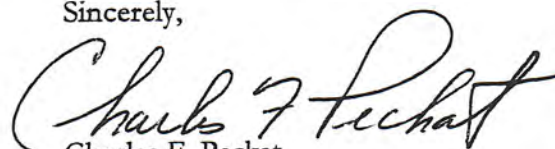
On July 29, 1997, the Lonoke Police department began an investigation into allegations that a former Scout Leader, "Jack Walls III, had been sexually molesting members of his troop." Our investigation revealed that one of those scout members was Heath Stocks.

In January 1998, victim impact statements were taken in Circuit Court. The statements included information that Jack Walls had been caught with Heath Stocks at the Stocks Residence. Heath's mother, Bonnie Stocks sought advice on how to handle this problem because Jack Walls was a family friend. Ultimately, Bonnie and the rest of her immediate family were found murdered within three (3) weeks of her witnessing Jack Walls and Heath Stocks together.

I am not advocating that Heath Stocks be released from prison, but I do feel that there is evidence and testimony available at this time, that was not available or considered before Heath Stocks pled guilty on June 6, 1997.

In January 1998, Jack Walls III pled guilty to four (4) counts of rape and other sexual offenses. One of those charges and plea of guilty involved Heath Stocks as his victim. The opening of this case, may not do anything for Heath Stocks, but it may reveal the truth of what led up to these murders and why.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Peckat
Chief of Police