



# Fighting Crime In Kent County

*Bustin' Bad Guys with GIS*



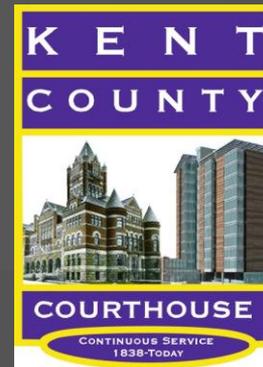
Does anyone in this room NOT have a cell phone?



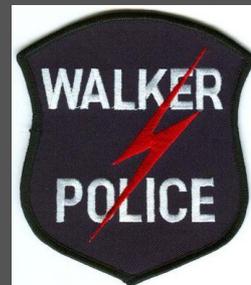


# Cell towers are EVERYWHERE!





Major Cases Involve Numerous Entities





More suspects and victims =  
more cell carriers.

**metro**PCS.  
Wireless for All.

**Sprint**<sup>®</sup>

**T** · · · Mobile · · ·

**verizon**



# Case Background

**Authorities alleged Karl Cotton traveled to Grand Rapids on March 5, 2011, for a drug deal with Ante "Black" Webb, whose brother, Louis Chevis, was dating Jamie Powell. Cotton met Webb at a gas station on 28th Street and the group proceeded on to Walker, where Powell's apartment was located.**

**At some point during the deal, Cotton was robbed of about \$5,000. Webb left the apartment through a bedroom window and shots were fired while Cotton was still inside.**

**Police found Powell face-down in a pool of blood on her bathroom floor. She was pronounced dead at the scene. Police believed she had no involvement in the drug deal.**



# The Evidence

**Assistant Prosecutor Robin Eslinger on Friday acknowledged that little physical evidence exists in the case. The doors in Powell's apartment were of such material that good fingerprints were never found. There was no DNA evidence placing Cotton at the scene.**

**Eslinger pegged much of the case on cell phone records, which show Cotton exchanged calls with those involved in the drug deal and was in the area of Powell's apartment at the time she died.**

**Authorities learned Cotton opened a new cellular phone account one day after the killing and then provided that new number to his probation agent. He denied having the old number.**

**Why? Eslinger questioned: "Because it was linked to the homicide."**



# How GIS got involved

- County Prosecutor called "I was given your name by..."
- Lead detective from City of Walker had technical details of case
- Cell phone records of 4 suspects were provided
- I mapped the data, then compared my findings with detective's 'hypothesis'



# The Cell Phone Data

Call Initiation Time	Duration (sec)	Type	Forwarded	911	Called PTN	Calling PTN	Originating Cell Site	Y	X	Terminating Cell Site
12:23:00 PM	13	Outbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622
12:26:00 PM	34	Outbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622
12:29:00 PM	8	Inbound	No	No	(269) 519-7137	(616) 322-2480	NMI2546R_ICM21_I196, (DETR-1) 634 61576	42.908298	-85.778899	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622
12:51:00 PM	11	Outbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI5278R_IC196IAlpn, (DETR-1) 626 24423	43.014692	-85.684558	NMI5278R_IC196IAlpn, (DETR-1) 626 24423
13:27:00 PM	171	Inbound	No	No	(269) 519-7137	(269) 519-8386	NMI2502R_ICNewZelnd, (DETR-1) 634 45599	42.792008	-86.020423	NMI1932R_ICCntrClub, (DETR-1) 634 45548
14:19:00 PM	29	Inbound	No	No	(269) 519-7137	(269) 519-8386	MI5361S_ICESJo_1, (DETR-1) 633 45985	42.071337	-86.43411	NMI5361S_ICESJo_1, (DETR-1) 633 23205

.dbf file provided for each suspect by City of Walker Detective



# Exhibit 1 – The Overview



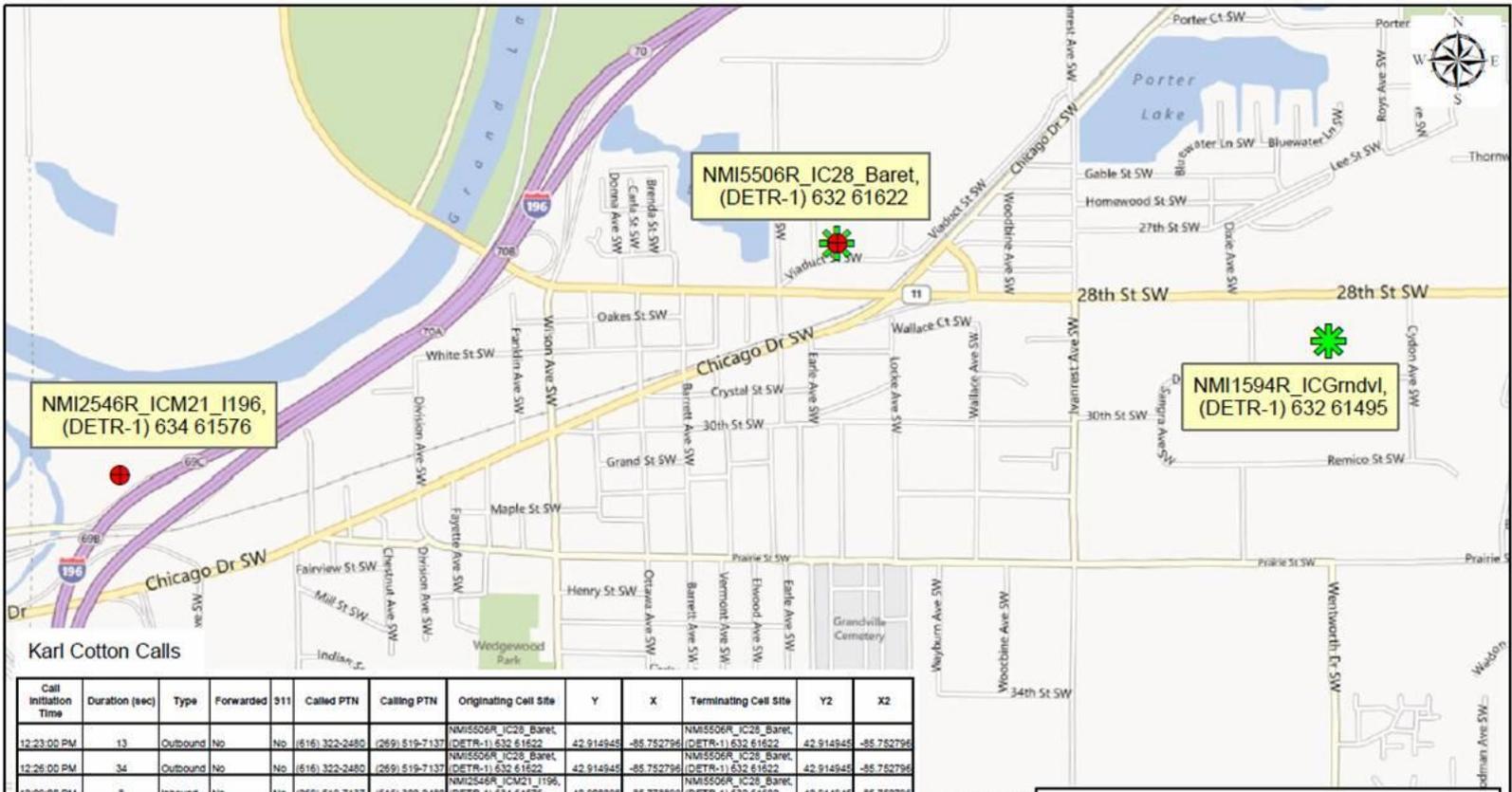
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# Exhibit 2 - The Meetup @ 12:25pm



12-06545-FC



NMI2546R\_ICM21\_I196,  
(DETR-1) 634 61576

NMI5506R\_IC28\_Baret,  
(DETR-1) 632 61622

NMI1594R\_ICGrndv,  
(DETR-1) 632 61495

Karl Cotton Calls

Call Initiation Time	Duration (sec)	Type	Forwarded	911	Called PTN	Calling PTN	Originating Cell Site	Y	X	Terminating Cell Site	Y2	X2
12:23:00 PM	13	Outbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796
12:26:00 PM	34	Outbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796
12:29:00 PM	8	Inbound	No	No	(269) 519-7137	(616) 322-2480	NMI2546R_ICM21_I196, (DETR-1) 634 61576	42.908298	-85.778899	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796

Ante Webb Calls

Call Initiation Time	Duration (sec)	Type	Forwarded	911	Called PTN	Calling PTN	Originating Cell Site	Y	X	Terminating Cell Site	Y2	X2
11:52:00 AM	6	Outbound	No	No	(616) 214-6686	(616) 322-2480	NMI1594R_ICGrndv, (DETR-1) 632 61495	42.912487	-85.734756	NMI1594R_ICGrndv_2, (DETR-1) 632 23733	42.912489	-85.734754
12:23:00 PM	14	Inbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI1594R_ICGrndv, (DETR-1) 632 61495	42.912487	-85.734756	NMI1594R_ICGrndv_2, (DETR-1) 632 23733	42.912489	-85.734754
12:25:00 PM	6	Outbound	No	No	(616) 214-6686	(616) 322-2480	NMI1594R_ICGrndv, (DETR-1) 632 61495	42.912487	-85.734756	NMI1594R_ICGrndv_2, (DETR-1) 632 23733	42.912489	-85.734754
12:26:00 PM	34	Inbound	No	No	(616) 322-2480	(269) 519-7137	NMI1594R_ICGrndv, (DETR-1) 632 61495	42.912487	-85.734756	NMI1594R_ICGrndv, (DETR-1) 632 61494	42.912487	-85.734756
12:29:00 PM	7	Outbound	No	No	(269) 519-7137	(616) 322-2480	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796	NMI5506R_IC28_Baret, (DETR-1) 632 61622	42.914945	-85.752796

**Legend**

- Karl Cotton Calls - Cell Tower Locations
- Ante Webb Calls - Cell Tower Locations

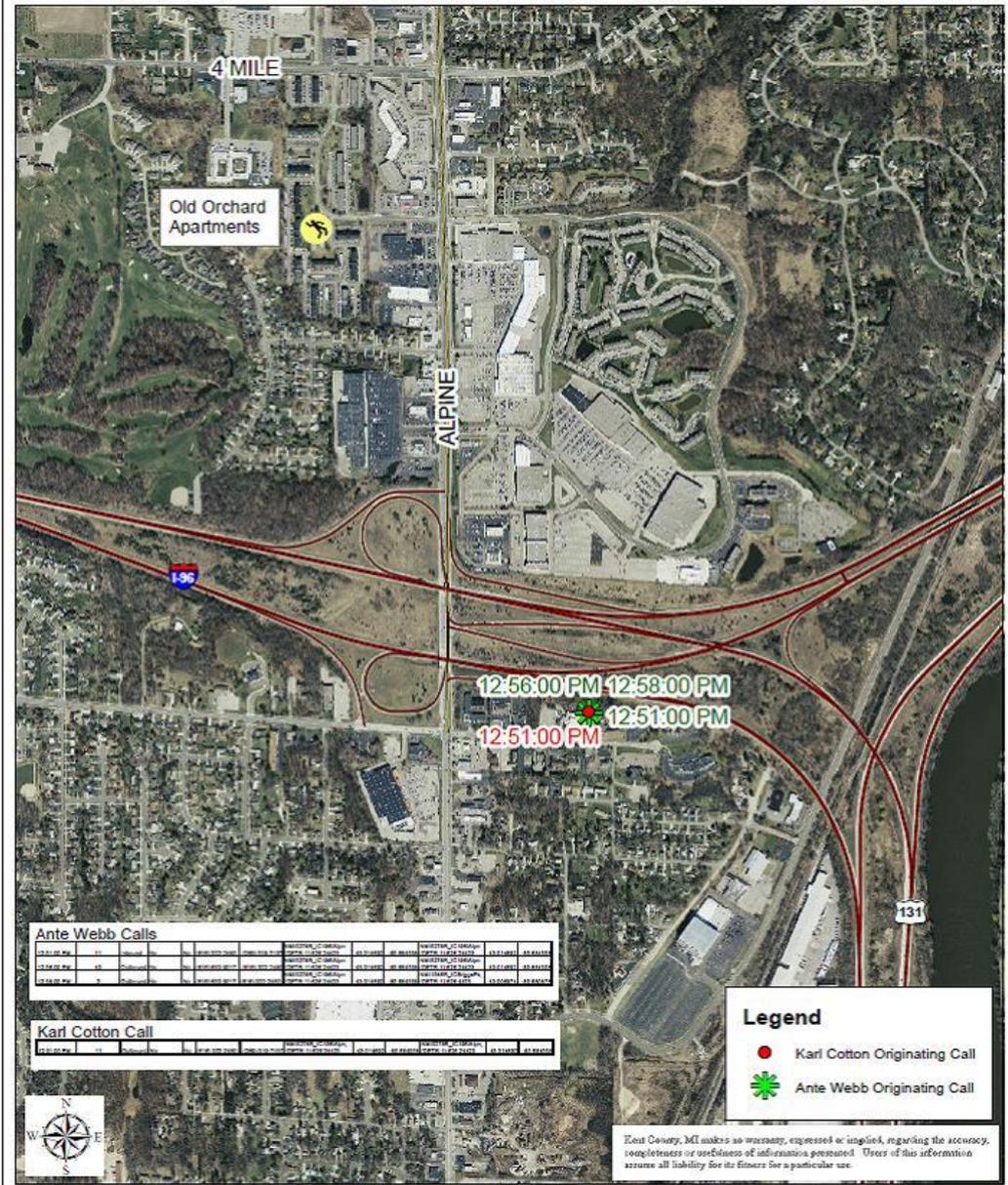
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# Exhibit 3 – Homicide at Old Orchard Apts @ 12:55pm



12-06545-FC







# Lesson Learned: No 'Dead Guy' Symbols!



# Exhibit 5: The Homicide Scene



12-06545-FC





STATE OF MICHIGAN  
County of Kent

SUBPOENA

IN THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT FOR  
THE COUNTY OF KENT  
180 OTTAWA AVE NW  
GRAND RAPIDS MI 49503

The People of the State of Michigan  
↓  
KARL CORNELIOUS COTTON

Charge: HOMICIDE - OPEN MURDER - STATUTORY SHORT FORM

Date: 01/07/2013

Time: 8:30 am

To: BRODEY HILL  
HOME ADDRESS C/O OFFICER BRANDYN HEUGEL

()-

NOTES

**WITNESS INSTRUCTIONS:**

Please report at the above time to the  
Victim/Witness Unit located at 180 Ottawa  
Ave. N.W, Suite 5400.

**PLEASE CALL (616) 632-5403 AFTER  
5:30 PM THE DAY BEFORE YOUR CASE  
IS SET TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOU  
MUST APPEAR IN COURT.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION,

Kent County Prosecutor

Circuit Court No.: 12-06545-FC  
Prosecutor Case No.: 41 12 005862 99  
Report No.: WA111875  
Event Type: JURY TRIAL  
Date of offense: 03/05/2011

HONORABLE MARK A TRUSOCK

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear personally before the**  
17<sup>TH</sup> Circuit Court  
180 Ottawa Ave NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**at the date and time above stated, then and there to give evidence  
in the above entitled cause, on the part of the people. HEREIN FAIL NOT ON  
PAIN OF THE PENALTY THAT WILL FALL THEREON.**

Issued at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on: Wednesday, February 27, 2013  
By: Mary Hollinrake, County Clerk

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Round Trip Mileage \_\_\_\_\_

Payee \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Payment Description \_\_\_\_\_

Approved for payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Server's Signature

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Subpoenaed Officer's Signature

# The Subpoena





# Corrections



Michigan.gov

An Official State of Michigan Web Site



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[Contact MDOC](#)

[OTIS Help](#)

[MDOC's Most Wanted](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[MDOC Home](#)

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



MDOC Number: 488930

SID Number: 2373250P

Name: KARL CORNELIUS COTTON JR

Racial Identification: Black

Gender: Male

Hair: Black

Eyes: Brown

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 170 lbs.

Date of Birth: 05/12/1987 (25)

Image Date: 7/31/2012

KARL CORNELIUS COTTON JR

## MDOC STATUS

Current Status: Prisoner

Earliest Release Date: 05/30/2028

Assigned Location: [Michigan Reformatory](#)

Maximum Discharge Date: 09/18/2069

Security Level: IV

## ALIASES

KARL COTTON

KARL CORNELIUS COTTON

## MARKS, SCARS & TATTOOS

None



## ***Contact:***

Brodey Hill, GISP

GIS Analyst

Kent County IT-GIS

Ph: 616-632-6558

Email: [brodey.hill@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:brodey.hill@kentcountymi.gov)

Web: <http://www.accesskent.com/YourGovernment/Departments/GIS/>