

Colin Norris Is Innocent Of Being Serial Killer Says Jury Foreman

The foreman of the jury that convicted Colin Norris in 2008 of four murders and one attempted murder in Leeds, West Yorkshire, England, [says that](#) new forensic evidence proves he is not only innocent and he wants him freed from his life sentence, but that no murders were even committed.

In 2002 Norris was a 26-year-old male nurse working at the Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) and St James's Hospital. Both hospitals are located in Leeds, England. In December 2002 Norris commented to a colleague at the LGI that 86-year-old patient Ethel Hall wasn't looking very well, and he didn't think she would survive the night.

A test of Hall's blood taken before her death suggested a high level of insulin in her system. The West Yorkshire Police were notified. They suspected foul play by Norris after learning about his comment, and they investigated if other patients he provided care for had an unusual hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) condition.

Police investigators found that two elderly female patients of Norris' had died at LGI, and one at St. James Hospital after falling into hypoglycemic comas. Those patients were 80, 88, and 79 respectively. Also, a 90-year-old woman at LGI recovered from a hypoglycemic coma during the time he tended to her. None of those four women were diabetic.

Norris denied any involvement in the death of the four women and the woman who recovered at LGI. The police investigation produced no direct evidence of his involvement, and no witness who saw him do anything unusual.

However, based on Norris' comment that preceded Hall's death and the circumstantial evidence that he had the opportunity to interfere with the care of the five women, Norris was charged with four counts of murder and one count of attempted murder.

England's media branded Norris as a serial killer and dubbed him as "The Angel of Death," during its sensational reporting before and during his trial that began in October in 2007.

The prosecution argued that Norris didn't like elderly patients, his schedule gave him



Colin Norris outside the courthouse before his conviction (BBC)

the opportunity to interfere with the care of the five patients without being observed, and it was too convenient to be believed that it was merely coincidental that he was a nurse for the five woman.

Norris [testified in his defense](#) that he didn't dislike elderly people, his comment about Hall was in bad taste because "nurses develop a black sense of humour," and that his reason for becoming a nurse was "the fact that you get to deal with people and get to make a difference in their lives."

With no physical, forensic, eyewitness or confession evidence that Norris had committed any crime, the jury relied on the prosecution's circumstantial case to convict Norris in March 2008. He was sentenced to life in prison with a minimum term of 30 years before he is eligible for parole.

As a result of Norris' prosecution hospitals in England implemented additional security measures [that included](#) wider use of CCTV, card entry to parts of the hospital, and a permanent police presence.

Norris' insistence on his innocence attracted the attention of investigative reporter Mark Daly. On October 4, 2011 the result of Daly's investigation [was broadcast](#) in an episode of BBC One's Panorama television program (roughly equivalent to *20/20*, *48 Hours*, and *Dateline* in the U.S.) titled — "A Jury in the Dark."

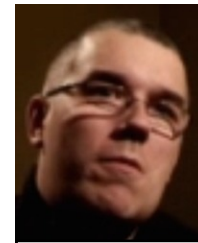
"A Jury in the Dark" presented new exculpatory medical evidence by Dr. Vincent Marks, a world renowned insulin expert, and co-author of [the book](#) *Insulin Murders: True Life Cases* (RSM Press, 2007). Dr. Marks reviewed the medical evidence in Norris' case and undertook a forensic analysis of all the new international medical studies carried out since 2008. Dr. Marks' research disproved a key part of the prosecution case — that a cluster of hypoglycemic comas in non-diabetics was rare. [Dr. Marks stated](#): "I was surprised at how very common it is in this particular group of elderly, sick people. In one very detailed survey, of thousands of patients, it was up to 10%. In others it was 5% and so I thought, well, you know, it's not that rare after all." When asked if it would be unusual for a cluster of four or five patients to have hypoglycemic comas in a period of a year [he replied](#): "Well, it wouldn't be un-

usual if you were looking through a hospital that had several thousand people over the age of 70 who are sick and so on, over the course of a year — not at all." [Dr. Marks also commented](#) that all the patients involved in Norris' case were in poor health and "at very high risk of developing spontaneous hypoglycemia" because they had risk factors such as malnutrition, infection and multi-organ failure. He opined that using the cases presented in Norris trial as evidence of insulin administration is unsafe.

"A Jury in the Dark" also presented evidence that upwards of 40,000 insulin tests a year in the United Kingdom produce erroneous results, and the test of Hall that resulted in the investigation of Norris could have shown elevated insulin when it was actually not abnormal.

After revelation of the new evidence Norris submitted an application to the U.K.'s Criminal Case Review Commission, which confirmed in May 2013 it was investigating his case.

On December 15, 2014 BBC One's Panorama program [broadcast a follow-up](#) episode about Norris' case titled: *The Innocent Serial Killer?* The episode included an interview with juror number eight on Norris' jury who voiced [his opinion](#) about the new



Paul Moffitt, foreman of Colin Norris' jury (BBC)

evidence that, "If that was available at the time I think the case would have been thrown out." When asked if he would have convicted Norris today, he said, "Based on the new evidence, no."

Paul Moffitt was the foreman of Norris' jury.

On January 28, 2015 the BBC reported that Moffitt came forward after watching *The Innocent Serial Killer?*, and he [said during an interview](#), "the [new] evidence shows that a murder wasn't committed at all, never mind four or one attempted murder, that's what it shows to me. If this case was presented with this new evidence today, I don't even know how it could possibly get to court in the first place." He also said, "I'd like to see Colin Norris freed. That's why I came forward, put my name forward, I just felt it would be my duty to do that." He had a personal message for Norris, "Justice will come your way."

[Click here to view](#) "A Jury In The Dark" broadcast on Oct. 4, 2011 on BBC One's

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Wash. Appeals Court Rules Gerald Yanac Didn't Rob Bank Asking Teller For Money

The Washington Court of Appeals [acquitted](#) Gerald Lewis Yanac on February 18, 2015 of first-degree robbery for being given money by a bank teller he asked for "money."

On August 15, 2012 Yanac went into a Key Bank in Port Orchard, Washington, a city of about 12,000 that is 13 miles due west of Seattle. Yanac placed a plastic bag on the counter at the teller's station and stated, "Money." Unsure of what Yanac wanted, the bank teller inquired "Money?", and he responded "Money." Yanac didn't brandish any kind of weapon or threaten the teller.

After the teller put one and five dollar bills into the plastic bag Yanac left the bank. The bank notified the police it had been robbed. Two hours later Yanac was arrested in Port Orchard driving a stolen truck. He had \$405 in his pocket, and the bank reported that he was given \$505.

Yanac was charged with theft of a motor stolen vehicle, first-degree robbery, and first-



Key Bank on Bay Street in Port Orchard, Washington (Google Streetview)



Gerald Lewis Yanac (Kitsap County Sheriff)

degree theft.

Yanac waived a jury trial. Relying on stipulated facts, the judge convicted Yanac of theft of a motor vehicle and first-degree robbery, but he dismissed the first-degree theft charge.

In his findings of fact the judge determined [that Yanac](#) had "leaned into [the bank teller]'s personal space" with the plastic bag; that the bank teller was "nervous and intimidated" by Yanac's request for money; the bank teller felt "she needed to comply to avoid harm to herself or others; and that it was also bank policy to comply with demands for money for the same reasons." Based on those findings, the judge concluded that Yanac's request for money "impliedly threatened the immediate use of force," which the prosecution needed to prove for Yanac to be found guilty of first-degree robbery.

The judge sentenced Yanac to 12 years in prison for robbing the bank and 5 years for stealing the truck.

Yanac appealed his first-degree robbery conviction, arguing it should be reversed because the prosecution introduced insufficient evidence to prove his request for money involved an implied threat of immediate force.

On February 18, 2015 the Washington Court of Appeals reversed Yanac's robbery conviction in *State of Wash. v. Gerald Lewis Yanac*, No. 45228-6-II (Wa Ct. of Appeals, Div. II, 2-18-2015). The Court's ruling [states in part](#):

A defendant commits "robbery" when he unlawfully takes personal property from the person of another or in his or

her presence against his or her will by the use or threatened use of immediate force, violence, or fear of injury to that person or his or her property or the person or property of anyone.

... The trial court characterized the three words that Yanac spoke as "demands" for money. In addition, the trial court relied on the fact that the bank teller "felt she needed to comply to avoid harm to herself or others." To the extent the trial court relied on the bank teller's subjective reaction to Yanac's conduct, this was error.

On these facts, there was no suggestion inferred either from Yanac's conduct or his words that he threatened to use immediate force against the bank teller in order to enforce his demands for money. We conclude that insufficient evidence supports this element of robbery.

Yanac is entitled to dismissal with prejudice of his first degree robbery conviction.

The Court's ruling recognizes that if the teller had not given Yanac any money he could have been expected to simply leave the bank empty-handed.

Yanac's acquittal bars his retrial for robbery. However, because he didn't appeal his stolen vehicle conviction he will not be released until he finishes that sentence.

[Click here to read the ruling in State of Wash. v. Gerald Lewis Yanac](#), No. d2 45228-6-ii (Wa Ct. of Appeals, Div. II, 2-18-2015) (vacating robbery conviction)

Source: [State of Wash. v. Gerald Lewis Yanac](#), No. d2 45228-6-ii (Wa Ct. of Appeals, Div. II, 2-18-2015) (vacating robbery conviction)



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Panorama program. (30 minute video).

[Click here to view](#) "A Jury In The Dark" broadcast on December 15, 2014 on BBC One's Panorama program. (30 minute video).

The Justice For Colin Norris website is at www.colinnorris.org.

The Case of Colin Norris is a 62-page booklet that can be [downloaded by clicking here](#).

[Click here for the Free Colin Norris](#) Facebook page.

Source: [The Innocent Serial Killer?](#), Panorama program, BBC One, December 15, 2014

[Colin Norris: Juror's doubt over serial killer verdict](#), BBC News, January 28, 2015

[I believe convicted Scots serial killer Colin Norris is INNOCENT](#): Head juror speaks out on Angel of Death, *Daily Record*, January 28, 2015

[Free Colin Norris](#) (Community page), Facebook.com

[Nurse guilty of killing patients](#), BBC News, March 3, 2008

[Colin Norris](#), Wikipedia.org (last visited Feb. 5, 2015)

[A Jury In The Dark](#) (an Innocent Man) FREE COLIN NORRIS NOW, BBC (on Youtube.com)

Insulin Murders, by Vincent Marks and Caroline Richmond (ISBN 13: 978-1-85315-760-8)



A Jury Blinded by Science

The Case of Colin Norris

Colin Norris Support Group