

OPENING STATEMENT OF REGINALD RINGGOLD III

Delivered In Propria Persona

Date: 4/9/2025

Court: Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen of the jury,

My name is Reginald Ringgold III, and I'm representing myself in this case.

What you're about to hear over the next few days is not just about charges and evidence. It's about how a personal betrayal was turned into a criminal accusation — and how the system let it happen.

This case was built on assumptions, not facts.

It's based on a narrative crafted by someone with a motive — not a weapon, and not the truth. But that narrative began to fall apart the moment real witnesses stepped forward.

You'll hear from **Emmanuel Davis**, a man who was present during the alleged incident and was initially listed by the prosecution as a victim in Counts 2 and 4 of the original complaint. But those charges were dropped — not because the facts changed, but because he refused to adopt the story the prosecution wanted him to tell.

Once the restraining order that blocked me from contacting him was lifted, Emmanuel gave a **sworn affidavit**. In that statement — and in his expected live testimony — he confirms:

- He was never threatened,
- He never saw a firearm,
- And I was never alone with the alleged victim.

And yet, **his name was removed from discovery**. His statements were never turned over. He was included in one version of the police report — and redacted from the next.

You'll also hear from **Melissa Paradise**, another key eyewitness. She has stated clearly, to law enforcement and under oath, that:

- She never saw a gun,
- She was **never threatened**,
- And nothing criminal occurred.

She, too, was never interviewed. Never disclosed. Never listed as a potential witness — until I subpoenaed her myself.

You will learn that the **vehicle the prosecution links to me** is not mine. It is legally registered to **Antwaun Brown**, a resident of Las Vegas. I am not listed on the title, not covered under the insurance, and I was not in or around that vehicle at the time of the alleged incident. In fact, **it was parked over a block away**.

Despite all of that, the police never contacted Mr. Brown. They never investigated the real owner of the vehicle. And yet they built their theory of possession around it.

You'll also see that the **search warrant affidavit** left out critical facts. It didn't mention Emmanuel Davis. It didn't mention Melissa Paradise. It didn't mention that the firearm was found much later — in someone else's vehicle — with **no photos, no logs, no timestamped chain of custody** tying it to me.

That's not just sloppiness. That's **selective investigation** — and the law calls that a **Brady violation**.

I filed over 30 motions to bring these facts to light. I followed the law, met the deadlines, served the District Attorney — and most of those motions were denied or ignored, not because they lacked merit, but because I'm representing myself. Because the system wasn't designed for someone like me to succeed on their own.

But the law still matters. And so does your role.

You are not here to guess. You are not here to fill in blanks. You are here to weigh the facts — and you'll see there aren't many on the prosecution's side.

You will not see a weapon linked to me. You will not hear credible testimony that I made a threat. You will see a timeline that doesn't add up, witnesses that contradict the official story, and evidence that was either withheld, redacted, or never investigated at all.

This is not about proving my innocence. It's about showing you the **lack of proof**— and giving you the truth that was kept from you until now.

At the end of this trial, I trust that you'll see this for what it is:

Not a case of violence — but a case of manipulation, omission, and a rush to prosecute without proof.

And when you do, I believe you'll do what's right.
You'll return a verdict of Not Guilty .
Thank you.