



Northwood Police Department

Person of Interest (Form S-853)

Case No.
9649-2a

Date filed:
March 18, 2024

DETAILS

Full Name:	Marcus Adler	Age:	31	Dominant Hand:	Right
Height:	5' 10"	Weight:	142 lbs		
Shoe Size:	11	Eye:	Brown	Hair Color:	Brown
Military Experience:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Own Fire arms:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Prior Arrests:	None	Outstanding Warrants:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Employer	Northwood Research Institute	Occupation	Scientist		

VEHICLES (use additional sheet of necessary)

Year	2019	Model	Accord	Make	Toyota	Color	Dark Blue	License Plate	YTR-492
Year		Model		Make		Color		License Plate	

STATEMENT

In space below, describe your whereabouts on the date and time of incident

On the evening of Dr. Eleanor Vance's death, I was working with her in the Northwood lab preparing samples. I left the lab at approximately 8:45 p.m. I left my car in the lab parking lot and took a walk along the river to clear my head. I walked for several hours and did not return to the lab that night. I did not encounter anyone I know during this walk, and I did not see Dr. Vance again after leaving the lab.

Received by: Det. Pat Jensen

Date: March 14, 2024



Northwood Police Department

Interview Transcript (Form S-942)

Case No.
9649-2a

Date filed:
March 18, 2024

Details

Interview: Dr. Marcus Adler

Date: 03 / 14 / 2024 Time: 3:51pm Location: Northwood Police Station RM 4

Detective Jensen: Please state your name for the record.

Marcus Adler: Marcus Jonathan Adler.

Detective Jensen: And your connection to Dr. Eleanor Vance?

Marcus Adler: Eleanor was my colleague. We worked side by side in the lab for... almost four years now. She was brilliant, no doubt about that. But we didn't always see eye-to-eye.

Detective Jensen: How so?

Marcus Adler: *[sighs]* Eleanor had this very... cautious, methodical style. She double-checked everything, triple-checked it sometimes. I mean, I get it — we're dealing with dangerous chemicals, but her pace... it slowed us down. I've got ideas, big projects, and I felt like she was holding me back. My career, too. It's frustrating when you're ready to push forward and your partner insists on crawling.

Detective Jensen: Did you ever argue about this?

Marcus Adler: Not shouting matches, no. But yeah, we had words. I thought she was too strict, too controlling. You couldn't move a single jar without her snapping at you. She had this rule — every chemical had its exact place on the shelf. She'd say it was for safety, so nothing got knocked over or mislabeled. And... she wasn't wrong. But it felt obsessive sometimes.

Detective Jensen: Tell me about the night of Eleanor's death.

Marcus Adler: I was in the lab with her earlier that evening. We both stayed late to prep samples. But I left at 8:45. I'm sure of that — I checked the clock on my way out.

Detective Jensen: And where did you go?

Marcus Adler: I didn't go home, if that's what you're asking. I left my car in the lab parking lot and went for a long walk along the river. Needed to clear my head after another... tense evening. I was gone for hours. Just walking.

Detective Jensen: Anyone see you during this walk?

Marcus Adler: No. Not that I know of. It was quiet. Hardly anyone out there at that hour.

Detective Jensen: So, to be clear — you and Dr. Vance disagreed often, and you felt her approach was limiting your research and your professional advancement?

Marcus Adler: *[tightens jaw]* Yes. But that doesn't mean I wanted her dead.

Conducted By: Det. Pat Jensen

Transcribed By: Shawn Nguyen



Performance Review – Marcus Jonathan Adler

Department of Biochemistry, Northwood Research Institute

Marcus Adler has continued to demonstrate his capability as a brilliant scientist with strong potential for groundbreaking contributions in the field. Over the past year, he has authored two significant papers: “*Novel Pathways in Enzyme Stabilization Using Synthetic Polymers*” (*Journal of Molecular Biochemistry*, March 2022) and “*Cross-Linking Mechanisms in Rare Catalytic Proteins*” (*International Review of Chemical Sciences*, October 2022). Both works have received positive attention from peers and positioned Marcus as a promising voice in biochemical research.

However, concerns remain regarding his inattention to detail and tendency to rush processes. This has led to several lab accidents over the past year and, most notably, the retraction of his paper “*Accelerated Binding Kinetics of Aetherium-Derived Compounds*” (*Frontiers in Biochemical Research*, July 2023). The retraction was the result of faulty data collection and analysis practices, highlighting the need for greater care in his methodology.

It is the recommendation of this review that Marcus continue to pursue his research but under closer mentorship. Specifically, pairing him with Dr. Eleanor Vance is strongly encouraged. Dr. Vance’s methodical, detail-oriented approach could help Marcus refine his own processes and ensure that his creative drive is balanced with the rigor required for safe, reliable, and reproducible science.

Overall Assessment:

Marcus Adler has a bright future in the field and the intellectual capacity to make lasting contributions. With appropriate mentorship and greater attention to detail, he is well-positioned to grow into one of the Institute’s leading researchers.

Dr. Harold Whitmore
Head of Biochemistry Department
Northwood Research Institute

