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STATE OF CONNECTICUT *v.* TYRONE ROSA  
(AC 42267)

Keller, Elgo and Bright, Js.

*Syllabus*

Convicted of the crimes of murder, assault in the first degree and criminal possession of a firearm, the defendant appealed, claiming that the state violated his right to due process when it suppressed DNA evidence that was material to his defense, in violation of *Brady v. Maryland* (373 U.S. 83), and did not disclose it until after the jury returned its verdict. The defendant allegedly shot the victims, J and M, in the automobile in which the three were riding after they had left an after-hours club. M subsequently died from his injuries but J was able to flee after he was shot. After the three men left the after-hours club, the defendant told J to park the automobile on the street so the defendant could exit the automobile to urinate. The defendant testified that, while he was urinating by a nearby fence, an unknown person put a gun to his head and told him not to move, yell or turn around. The defendant further testified that he then heard two loud pop sounds. When he turned around one minute later and saw no one, he went back to the automobile and saw that the driver's side door was open. The defendant testified that he did not see anyone inside the automobile or on the street and then ran away. A discarded sweatshirt that the police found in the vicinity of the shootings was sent to the state's scientific laboratory for DNA testing. At the time of trial, DNA from the sweatshirt had not been matched to anyone, including the defendant. Two weeks after the verdict, the prosecutor notified defense counsel that a DNA profile from the sweatshirt had matched a DNA sample that had been collected from a convicted felon, O, whom defense counsel later learned was not incarcerated at the time of the shootings. The defendant claimed that the state had acquired the DNA evidence at least two months before his trial began or while his trial was proceeding, and that it would have discredited the testimony of J, the state's key witness, and bolstered the defense theory that the unknown individual was the shooter. At the defendant's sentencing proceeding, the trial court denied the defendant's motion for a judgment of acquittal. *Held* that the defendant failed to prove that the DNA match between the sweatshirt and O constituted material evidence within the meaning of *Brady*, there having been no reasonable basis to conclude that the lack of the DNA evidence of the match at trial undermined its fairness and resulted in a verdict that was not worthy of confidence: it was reasonable to conclude that the sweatshirt could have been left as a result of innocuous activity, rather than by someone involved in the commission of the shootings, as the defendant did not testify that the alleged unknown gunman was wearing a sweatshirt, which was found more than half a block away from the crime scene in an area that was reasonably likely to be traversed by the public, there was no evidence that indicated how long the sweatshirt had been there, that it was present when the police first responded to the crime scene or that it contained gunpowder residue or blood, and, as there was no indication that O was in the vicinity of the crime scene at the time of the shootings or had any connection to the victims, the defendant would not have been able to successfully raise a third party culpability defense; moreover, even though the defendant was aware of the existence of the sweatshirt at the time of trial and that it did not contain his DNA, it was not necessary for defense counsel to know about the DNA match in order to suggest to the jury that the sweatshirt belonged to someone other than the defendant, bolstering his claim that some unknown person committed the shootings; furthermore, the state's case against the defendant was strong, as it included J's identification of the defendant as the shooter, evidence that the defendant had a motive to kill M when he learned at the after-hours club that M had admitted to the killing the brother of a close friend of the defendant, the defendant's testimony about the events was very weak and lacked credibility, and significant consciousness of guilt evidence implicated

the defendant, as he had lied to the police when they interviewed him and had sought to have friends dispose of his cell phone and visit an area near the crime scene to see if surveillance cameras were present.

Argued October 11, 2019—officially released March 17, 2020

*Procedural History*

Substitute information charging the defendant with the crimes of murder, assault in the first degree and criminal possession of a firearm, brought to the Superior Court in the judicial district of Hartford and tried to the jury before *Baldini, J.*; verdict of guilty; thereafter, the court denied the defendant's motion for a judgment of acquittal and rendered judgment in accordance with the verdict, from which the defendant appealed; subsequently, the court, *Baldini, J.*, granted the defendant's motion for rectification. *Affirmed.*

*Daniel J. Krisch*, assigned counsel, for the appellant (defendant).

*Nancy L. Chupak*, senior assistant state's attorney, with whom, on the brief, were *Gail P. Hardy*, state's attorney, and *Robin D. Krawczyk*, senior assistant state's attorney, for the appellee (state).

KELLER, J. The defendant, Tyrone Rosa, appeals from the judgment of conviction, rendered following a jury trial, of one count of murder in violation of General Statutes § 53a-54a, one count of assault in the first degree in violation of General Statutes § 53a-59 (a) (5) and one count of criminal possession of a firearm in violation of General Statutes § 53a-217 (a) (1). The defendant claims that the state suppressed evidence in violation of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83, 87, 83 S. Ct. 1194, 10 L. Ed. 2d 215 (1963). Specifically, the defendant asserts that, either before his trial began or while the trial was ongoing, the state, via its agent, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's division of scientific services (division), acquired evidence that the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)<sup>1</sup> reported that a DNA profile that was developed from the swabbing of a discarded sweatshirt found in the vicinity of the crime scene matched (CODIS match) a DNA sample collected from a convicted felon, Javier Otero. He asserts that this evidence, which was favorable to him and material for purposes of *Brady*, was not disclosed to the defense until after the jury had returned a guilty verdict. He asserts that this evidence would have bolstered his sole theory of defense that an unknown gunman committed the crimes and also would have discredited the state's key witness. We affirm the judgment of the trial court because we conclude that the defendant has failed to prove that the CODIS match was material to his defense.

On the basis of the evidence presented at trial and the reasonable inferences drawn therefrom, the jury reasonably could have found the following facts. The victims, Dederick "DJ" Jiminez and Hiram "Sito" Martinez, had been close friends since childhood. In 2009, Jiminez became friends with the defendant while the two were incarcerated in the same prison. Jiminez knew the defendant by his nicknames of "Flex" and "Pipone." Jiminez introduced the defendant to Martinez, who began selling drugs with the defendant.

The defendant was friends with Joel "Tuti" Gonzalez, who had a brother named Mariano "Papa" Gonzalez. The defendant claimed to have never met Mariano Gonzalez, but when the police showed the defendant his photograph, the defendant identified him. On December 14, 2014, Mariano Gonzalez was murdered on Bond Street in Hartford, and the police suspected that Martinez was the perpetrator.

On December 20, 2014, Jiminez and Martinez drove in Martinez' tan-colored Honda to an after-hours club on Francis Avenue in Hartford.<sup>2</sup> They arrived between 3 and 4 a.m. and encountered the defendant inside the club. The defendant was there with a close friend, Carlos "Cuz Los" Mangual. At the club, the defendant

156 began talking to Martinez. Jimenez walked away while  
157 Martinez and the defendant continued to talk. After  
158 Martinez and the defendant stopped talking, the defen-  
159 dant approached Jiminez and asked him what had  
160 happened on Bond Street. Jiminez believed that Marti-  
161 nez had just told the defendant that he was the one  
162 who had killed Mariano Gonzalez on Bond Street.  
163 Jiminez replied that Mariano Gonzalez “got what he  
164 deserved” because he had tried to rob Martinez and  
165 had tried to “run up in [Martinez’s] house with his  
166 family.” After hearing this information from Jiminez,  
167 the defendant’s mood changed. He became quiet and  
168 no longer wanted to talk. Jiminez, at that time, was  
169 unaware that Joel Gonzalez and Mariano Gonzalez were  
170 brothers, although he knew that they were related. He  
171 also was unaware of the defendant’s friendship with  
172 Joel Gonzalez.

173 At about 5 a.m., as Jiminez and Martinez were leav-  
174 ing the after-hours club, the defendant approached  
175 them and asked if they had any cigarettes. When they  
176 responded that they did not, he asked them to give  
177 him a ride to get some. Jiminez refused because there  
178 was no room in the automobile’s backseat, which was  
179 crowded with his possessions. Upon Martinez’s insis-  
180 tence, however, Martinez and Jiminez made room for  
181 the defendant in the backseat of the automobile, behind  
182 the driver. The defendant got inside of the automobile  
183 in the space made for him. Jiminez got into the driver’s  
184 seat and Martinez got into the front passenger seat.

185 The defendant directed Jiminez to drive to the resi-  
186 dence of the defendant’s sister, which was located at  
187 the corner of Park Street and Hazel Street. After learn-  
188 ing that no one inside of the house had any cigarettes,  
189 the defendant directed Jiminez to drive to a twenty-  
190 four hour convenience store at Park Street and Broad  
191 Street. When the three men arrived at the store, how-  
192 ever, the defendant refused to go inside, insisting that  
193 Martinez go inside instead. Martinez refused, and he  
194 and the defendant argued until Jiminez got out of the  
195 car, went inside the store, and purchased cigarettes.  
196 After Jiminez purchased the cigarettes, the defendant  
197 directed him to drive to Hendricxsen Avenue. When  
198 they arrived at Hendricxsen Avenue, adjacent to a  
199 vacant lot, the defendant told Jiminez to park the auto-  
200 mobile because he needed to urinate. Jiminez com-  
201 plied and parked the automobile close to the street  
202 corner at which Hendricxsen Avenue and Masseek  
203 Street meet, and the defendant exited the automobile.

204 Initially, Jiminez could not see where the defendant  
205 went because the defendant had left the automobile  
206 door open, which caused the interior dome light to  
207 remain on and obscure his view of the defendant. Once  
208 Jiminez had closed the door, however, he saw the defen-  
209 dant standing behind the automobile, by a fence. Jimi-  
210 nez heard the defendant talking on his cell phone as

211 he returned to the automobile. Once he was back inside  
212 the automobile, the defendant asked Jiminez and Mar-  
213 tinez if they wanted to go to the home of one of his  
214 friends and have a few drinks. Both of them agreed.

215 As he waited for directions from the defendant to  
216 the friend's house, Jiminez checked his cell phone. He  
217 suddenly heard a loud bang from the backseat of the  
218 automobile. Stunned by the loudness of the bang, he  
219 brought his hands up to his ears and ducked down. He  
220 then felt his right arm fall to his side and realized that  
221 his arm did not feel right. He opened the driver's side  
222 door, got out of the automobile and ran. While running,  
223 he looked back and saw only the defendant standing  
224 outside of the automobile. He did not see Martinez exit  
225 the automobile and did not see anyone else on the  
226 street.

227 Jiminez ran through a vacant lot, toward a building  
228 located at 62 Hendricxsen Avenue. A woman inside the  
229 building yelled to him that she was coming downstairs  
230 to open the door. Jiminez went inside and lay down on  
231 the steps. The woman called 911.

232 At approximately 5:40 a.m., Hartford Police Officer  
233 Christopher White was dispatched to 62 Hendricxsen  
234 Avenue, where he found Jiminez in the stairwell, bleed-  
235 ing and holding his shoulder. At approximately 5:41  
236 a.m., Hartford Police Officer Matthew Steinmetz was  
237 dispatched to the area of Hendricxsen Avenue and Mas-  
238 seek Street on a report of a shooting and a victim inside  
239 a tan Honda. Steinmetz found the engine of the tan  
240 Honda running and Martinez slumped over the center  
241 console with a gunshot wound to the back left side of  
242 his head. He did not see any other people in the area.

243 Martinez later was pronounced dead as a result of  
244 the gunshot wound that he had sustained to his head.  
245 Jiminez, who had been shot twice, underwent surgery  
246 to repair gunshot wounds to his shoulder and elbow.  
247 Physicians were unable to remove the bullet that was  
248 lodged in his shoulder without risking greater dam-  
249 age and had to place permanent plates and rods in  
250 his elbow, which had shattered. After surgery, Jimi-  
251 nez told the police that the defendant, whom he called  
252 "Pipone," had shot him. He gave a description of "Pip-  
253 one" that matched the defendant's appearance at the  
254 time of the shooting. Later, he gave a written statement  
255 to the police and selected the defendant's photograph  
256 from a sequential photographic array. Hartford police  
257 lifted the defendant's fingerprint from the interior han-  
258 dle of the rear door on the driver's side of the automo-  
259 bile, next to the seat where Jiminez had said the defen-  
260 dant was sitting when he fired the gun.

261 After leaving the after-hours club, Mangual could not  
262 find the defendant and repeatedly tried to call him. It  
263 was not until 5:36 a.m. that the defendant answered his  
264 phone. The defendant told Mangual to pick him up.

265 Thereafter, Mangual picked up the defendant on Ston-  
266 ington Street in Hartford, which is near Hendricxsen  
267 Avenue, where the shootings occurred, and is separated  
268 from the scene of the crimes only by a vacant lot with  
269 a path running through it. Portions of the path are horse-  
270 shoe shaped. When Mangual arrived to pick up the  
271 defendant, the defendant told him that he “almost got  
272 shot.”

273 After their initial investigation, the Hartford police  
274 suspected that the defendant had some involvement in  
275 the shooting of Jiminez and Martinez. At the request of  
276 the police, on December 31, 2014, the defendant was  
277 taken into custody by his parole officer and transported  
278 to the Hartford Police Department, where he consented  
279 to be interviewed. He provided the police with a fake  
280 cell phone number and falsely denied that one of  
281 his nicknames was “Flex.” The police found a public  
282 Facebook profile for the defendant that reflected his  
283 use of that nickname. Although the defendant admitted  
284 that he knew Joel Gonzalez, he falsely denied associ-  
285 ating with him. The defendant’s cell phone records,  
286 which later were seized by the police, revealed that the  
287 defendant called Joel Gonzalez’ phone fifty-one times  
288 between December 16 and December 20, 2014. The  
289 police also found an online video in which the defen-  
290 dant stated to Joel Gonzalez that he loved him and  
291 would die for him. The defendant admitted to the police  
292 that he was at the same after-hours club as Jiminez  
293 and Martinez on the morning of the shooting. He indi-  
294 cated, however, that although he had gotten into a gold  
295 automobile with them and had sat behind the driver’s  
296 seat, he had not been driven anywhere in the automo-  
297 bile with them that morning. He told the police that  
298 after he left the after-hours club, he walked to the area  
299 of Capitol Avenue and Rowe Avenue in Hartford to visit  
300 a woman, but he could not provide the police with  
301 her name.<sup>3</sup>

302 During the interview, Hartford Police Detective  
303 Daniel R. Richter told the defendant that cell towers  
304 help the police track people’s movements via their cell  
305 phones. After Richter made this statement to the defen-  
306 dant, Officer Luis Colon of the Department of Correc-  
307 tion listened to and recorded a phone call the defendant  
308 made the very next day from prison to Joel Gonzalez,  
309 in which he instructed Joel to make sure that Mangual  
310 destroyed his cell phone “because of [cell] towers.”  
311 Colon also listened to and recorded another call from  
312 the defendant to Joel Gonzalez on February 18, 2015,  
313 the day on which the defendant was arrested on the  
314 charges in this case. During that phone conversation,  
315 the defendant directed Joel Gonzalez to “take a trip  
316 down memory lane,” go around the “horseshoe,” and  
317 “go make sure that within that trail there’s nothing  
318 [there] . . . . But if you seen that trail and cheese, I  
319 see you,” make sure that there are no “cheese, I see  
320 you.” The defendant’s statement was significant evi-

321 dence of his involvement in the crimes because there  
322 was a horseshoe shaped area close to the shooting  
323 scene and “cheese, I see you” is code for a surveillance  
324 camera. Thereafter, Richter returned to the area near  
325 the crime scene and checked several horseshoe shaped  
326 areas but did not find any additional evidence.

327 The defendant testified at trial. His testimony con-  
328 cerning the events that occurred on the morning of  
329 December 20, 2014, was markedly different from the  
330 information that he previously had relayed to law  
331 enforcement personnel. He testified that, while he was  
332 standing at the fence at Hendricxsen Avenue and uri-  
333 nating, an unknown person put a gun to his head and  
334 told him not to move, yell or turn around. He stated  
335 that he then heard two loud “pops,” a car door open  
336 and close, and a whistle. One minute later, he turned  
337 around, and, seeing no one, went back to the automo-  
338 bile. He saw that the driver’s door was open but did  
339 not see anyone inside or on the street and so he ran  
340 away. The defendant admitted that he never told any-  
341 one about the presence of this unknown gunman prior  
342 to his trial testimony. He claimed that he did not do so  
343 and that he lied to the police during his interview  
344 because he did not want his parole violated. He also  
345 admitted that he did not testify to this version of events  
346 during his parole revocation hearing.<sup>4</sup>

347 After approximately two and one-half days of deliber-  
348 ation, the jury found the defendant guilty of murder,  
349 assault in the first degree and criminal possession of a  
350 firearm. The trial court denied the defendant’s postver-  
351 dict motion for a judgment of acquittal, rendered judg-  
352 ment of conviction, and sentenced him to seventy years  
353 of incarceration. Additional facts and procedural his-  
354 tory will be set forth as necessary.

355 The defendant’s sole claim on appeal is that the state,  
356 through its agent, the division,<sup>5</sup> suppressed evidence  
357 favorable to him and material to his guilt or innocence,  
358 namely, evidence of the CODIS match indicating that  
359 the DNA of another convicted felon was found on a  
360 discarded sweatshirt in the vicinity of the scene of the  
361 shootings. He alleges that the division acquired this key  
362 evidence either at least two months before his trial  
363 began or while his trial was proceeding, and did not  
364 disclose it until after his trial had concluded. He asserts  
365 that evidence belonging to a convicted felon, found near  
366 the crime scene, would have bolstered his sole theory  
367 of defense—that an unknown individual was the  
368 shooter—and discredited the state’s key witness, Jimi-  
369 nez. He maintains that because the outcome of the trial  
370 hinged on whether the jury believed him or Jiminez  
371 with respect to the identity of the shooter, the failure  
372 to disclose the CODIS match for nearly two weeks after  
373 the verdict violated his right to due process under the  
374 United States constitution<sup>6</sup> and cast doubt on the fair-  
375 ness of his trial.

376 The state counters that the defendant's *Brady* claim  
377 was waived when his trial counsel chose to pursue a  
378 postjudgment motion for a judgment of acquittal rather  
379 than properly raise his *Brady* claim by filing a motion  
380 for a new trial, although he had a fair opportunity to  
381 do so. Alternatively, the state, mainly focusing on the  
382 issue of whether the evidence of the CODIS match had  
383 been suppressed, argues that the record is inadequate  
384 for this court to review the defendant's unpreserved  
385 *Brady* claim under the rule in *State v. Golding*, 213  
386 Conn. 233, 239–40, 567 A.2d 823 (1989), as modified by  
387 *In re Yasiel R.*, 317 Conn. 773, 781, 120 A.3d 1188 (2015).  
388 Finally, the state contends that if the defendant's *Brady*  
389 claim is reviewable, it fails on its merits because the  
390 defendant failed to prove that (1) the division sup-  
391 pressed favorable evidence regarding the CODIS match  
392 and (2) the CODIS match constitutes material evidence.  
393 We agree with the state that the defendant has failed  
394 to prove that the newly disclosed evidence of the CODIS  
395 match was material and, therefore, affirm the judgment  
396 of the trial court.

397 The following additional facts and procedural history  
398 are relevant to the defendant's claim. At trial, Detective  
399 Jason Lee testified that, on December 23, 2014, he was  
400 working for the Hartford Police Department's crime  
401 scene division, which processes crime scenes. His main  
402 function was to process the crime scene by taking  
403 photographs and collecting and preserving evidence.  
404 At approximately 11:43 a.m. on December 20, 2014, he  
405 was called to process a murder scene in the area of  
406 Hendricxsen Avenue and Masseek Street. While there,  
407 the lead detective in the case, Richter, who had arrived  
408 on the scene at approximately 7:47 a.m., alerted him to  
409 "potential evidence" on a street "kind of . . . nearby"  
410 the crime scene and south of it. Lee "tried" to photo-  
411 graph his "way down there to . . . show perspec-  
412 tive" and then photographed two items, a sweatshirt  
413 and a pair of sweatpants in that area. Lee testified that  
414 the sweatshirt was on the "southeast corner of the inter-  
415 section of Hendricxsen Avenue and Curcombe Street,"  
416 by a sidewalk and a fence near "an apartment com-  
417 plex." He saw the sweatpants behind a telephone pole  
418 as "you headed east on Curcombe . . . ." After photo-  
419 graphing the items, he seized them. The sweatshirt and  
420 sweatpants were processed and sent to the division  
421 for testing.

422 The defendant's trial ended on February 14, 2017. On  
423 April 4, 2017, the date of the defendant's sentencing,  
424 the court began the proceeding by stating on the record  
425 that a meeting had just taken place with counsel in  
426 chambers to go over what "we were going to do today.  
427 During that conversation, there was some information  
428 provided to the court." The court did not indicate the  
429 nature of this information. Defense counsel then indi-  
430 cated that he wanted to address one issue before sen-

431 tencing. He stated on the record that, on February 27,  
432 2017, almost two weeks after the jury returned its ver-  
433 dict, the prosecutor had e-mailed him, stating that she  
434 had been notified by the division of a “CODIS hit”  
435 between Otero and the sweatshirt recovered from the  
436 corner of Hendricxsen Avenue and Curcombe Street.  
437 Defense counsel explained that “there was some DNA  
438 taken from a sweatshirt” for testing, and that, “[a]t the  
439 time of [the defendant’s] trial,” the DNA had not been  
440 matched to anyone, including the defendant. Defense  
441 counsel indicated that, after he received the e-mail from  
442 the prosecutor, he did some research and learned that  
443 Otero had not been incarcerated at the time of the  
444 crimes and, thus, “potentially,” could have been a sus-  
445 pect in this case. He further stated that the “information  
446 was not available to anyone” and was “not insinuating”  
447 that the state had engaged in any “subterfuge” with  
448 regard to it. Defense counsel then noted that, after the  
449 prosecutor had alerted him to the CODIS match and  
450 its potential value, he did research and consulted with  
451 several attorneys about how to proceed. Referring to  
452 Practice Book § 42-51, which governs motions for a  
453 judgment of acquittal,<sup>7</sup> and Practice Book § 42-53, which  
454 governs motions for a new trial,<sup>8</sup> defense counsel orally  
455 made “a motion for [a] judgment of acquittal . . .  
456 based on new evidence.”

457 Defense counsel then stated that he knew that the  
458 court was “aware of the fact that there is some informa-  
459 tion that may [have] changed the balance of the case,  
460 and I would ask for the court to allow me to advance  
461 the argument and to grant that motion. And there’s—  
462 there’s certain remedies; I think, you could overturn or  
463 set aside the verdict, or you could grant a new trial  
464 . . . it’s within your discretion.” Defense counsel then  
465 advised the court that it would be his plan to go through  
466 with the sentencing if the court denied his motion and  
467 that the next stage would be to file a petition for a new  
468 trial, which was the “proper mechanism” for raising  
469 his concerns under Practice Book § 42-55<sup>9</sup> and General  
470 Statutes § 52-270 (a).<sup>10</sup> He concluded by asserting that  
471 he had just made, “fairly, a complete record,” and asked  
472 the court to rule on the motion.

473 The prosecutor responded that the standard for grant-  
474 ing a motion for a judgment of acquittal, as set forth in  
475 Practice Book § 42-51, had not been met because the  
476 admitted evidence, which included Jiminez’ eyewitness  
477 testimony that the defendant shot both him and Marti-  
478 nez, fully and reasonably supported the jury’s verdict.  
479 The prosecutor did not address the defendant’s request  
480 for a new trial.

481 The court then stated that, “in the interest of jus-  
482 tice,” it would entertain the defendant’s late motion for  
483 a judgment of acquittal “under Practice Book §§ 42-  
484 51 and 42-52” because it had had some advance notice  
485 from defense counsel that he would be making an oral

486 motion, and it had reviewed its notes, some of the  
487 testimony, “the information that was presented,” and  
488 the law pertaining to postverdict motions for a judgment  
489 of acquittal. The court did not indicate that it was con-  
490 sidering a motion for a new trial pursuant to Practice  
491 Book § 42-53. The court then denied the motion for a  
492 judgment of acquittal, specifically stating that it had  
493 considered the “information that was conveyed to the  
494 state’s attorney’s office, which was subsequently pro-  
495 vided to defense counsel with regard to some evidence  
496 that was discussed at this trial” in light of the evidence  
497 presented in this case. It then proceeded to sentence  
498 the defendant.

499 Our review of the proceedings before the trial court  
500 on the defendant’s oral motion for a judgment of acquit-  
501 tal or a new trial leads us to conclude that no claim of  
502 a *Brady* violation ever was advanced to the trial court by  
503 the defendant’s trial counsel. Rather, defense counsel  
504 explicitly stated that he had been made aware of newly  
505 discovered evidence, and that neither the prosecution  
506 nor the defense were at fault for the postverdict tim-  
507 ing of this disclosure. Without introducing any docu-  
508 mentation or other evidence, he made an argument that  
509 an acquittal or a new trial was justified on the basis  
510 of newly revealed information concerning the CODIS  
511 match, which apparently had been discussed earlier  
512 with the court in chambers, but made no legal argument  
513 that would have alerted the court that he was making  
514 a *Brady* claim.

515 The state, in opposing the defendant’s motion, appar-  
516 ently did not perceive that defense counsel was making  
517 a claim of untimely disclosure under *Brady*. Rather,  
518 the state argued that the defendant had not met the  
519 standard for the granting of a motion for a judgment of  
520 acquittal. Defense counsel made no rebuttal argument  
521 indicating that his claim was of a different nature. In  
522 denying the motion for a judgment of acquittal, the  
523 court did not set forth any factual findings or legal  
524 conclusions that, in any way, addressed the essential  
525 components of a *Brady* claim. As we will discuss in  
526 greater detail, “[i]n order to prove a *Brady* violation,  
527 the defendant must show: (1) that the prosecution sup-  
528 pressed evidence after a request by the defense; (2)  
529 that the evidence was favorable to the defense; and (3)  
530 that the evidence was material.” (Internal quotation  
531 marks omitted.) *State v. Dixon*, 72 Conn. App. 852, 858,  
532 806 A.2d 1153, cert. denied, 262 Conn. 926, 814 A.2d  
533 380 (2002).<sup>11</sup>

534 After filing the present appeal, appellate counsel for  
535 the defendant filed a motion for rectification of the rec-  
536 ord and requested that three documents that were refer-  
537 enced as “information” during the hearing on his motion  
538 for a judgment of acquittal or a new trial be marked  
539 as court exhibits, as they were the basis for his unpre-  
540 served *Brady* claim and necessary to his appeal. He

541 indicated in the motion for rectification that there had  
542 been a conversation in chambers on April 4, 2017, and  
543 that some information had been provided to the court.  
544 That information, he claimed, was disclosed by the state  
545 in its February 27, 2017 e-mail to defense counsel. He  
546 alleged that the three documents contained “critical  
547 facts,” which were not otherwise in the record, in sup-  
548 port of his *Brady* claim. These facts included the dates  
549 on which (1) Otero was incarcerated, (2) Otero’s DNA  
550 sample was taken and (3) the division, the state’s invest-  
551 igative agent, matched the DNA from the sweatshirt to  
552 Otero’s DNA and provided notice of this result to the  
553 Hartford police and the Hartford state’s attorney’s  
554 office. Those three documents, which were appended  
555 to the defendant’s motion for rectification, were: (1) a  
556 printout of the February 27, 2017 e-mail from the state  
557 to defense counsel, in which it disclosed the CODIS hit;  
558 (2) the offender hit notification form, dated February  
559 23, 2017, that the division sent to the Hartford and New  
560 Britain police departments and the Hartford state’s  
561 attorney’s office, informing them of the CODIS hit; and  
562 (3) an inmate information sheet from the Department  
563 of Correction regarding the incarceration of Otero. On  
564 September 12, 2018, the trial court granted the motion  
565 for rectification and marked the three documents as  
566 court exhibits.<sup>12</sup> The court stated that the page number  
567 designations at the bottom of the documents were not  
568 there at the time of its initial discussion and review of  
569 the documents, but that they were otherwise “what  
570 [the] court recollect[ed] [were] discussed in this matter  
571 previously.”<sup>13</sup> The defendant sought no further augmen-  
572 tation of the record.

573 As previously discussed, in this case, the record  
574 reveals that defense trial counsel never argued, and the  
575 trial court never considered, a *Brady* claim. Therefore,  
576 the defendant’s *Brady* claim is unpreserved, a fact the  
577 defendant concedes in his reply brief, wherein he first  
578 asserts that his claim is subject to review under *State*  
579 *v. Golding*, supra, 213 Conn. 239–40, as modified by  
580 *In re Yasiel R.*, supra, 317 Conn. 781, yet falls short of  
581 affirmatively requesting such review. Under *Golding*,  
582 “a defendant can prevail on a claim of constitutional  
583 error not preserved at trial only if *all* of the following  
584 conditions are met: (1) the record is adequate to review  
585 the alleged claim of error; (2) the claim is of constitu-  
586 tional magnitude alleging the violation of a fundamental  
587 right; (3) the alleged constitutional violation . . .  
588 exists and . . . deprived the defendant of a fair trial;  
589 and (4) if subject to harmless error analysis, the state  
590 has failed to demonstrate harmlessness of the alleged  
591 constitutional violation beyond a reasonable doubt. In  
592 the absence of any one of these conditions, the defen-  
593 dant’s claim will fail.” (Emphasis in original; footnote  
594 omitted.) *State v. Golding*, supra, 213 Conn. 239–40.  
595 “The first two steps in the *Golding* analysis address  
596 the reviewability of the claim, while the last two steps

597 involve the merits of the claim.” (Internal quotation  
598 marks omitted.) *State v. Jerrell R.*, 187 Conn. App. 537,  
599 543, 202 A.3d 1044, cert. denied, 331 Conn. 918, 204  
600 A.3d 1160 (2019).

601 An affirmative request for review under *Golding* is  
602 not a prerequisite for review. See *State v. Elson*, 311  
603 Conn. 726, 754–55, 91 A.3d 862 (2014) (to obtain *Golding*  
604 review of unpreserved claim, defendant need only raise  
605 claim in main brief, present adequate record for review  
606 and affirmatively demonstrate that claim seeks to vin-  
607 dicate fundamental constitutional right). The defen-  
608 dant’s claim is reviewable under *Golding* because the  
609 record is adequate for review and, in his main brief, he  
610 has alleged a violation of his constitutional right to due  
611 process and provided analysis of his claim. Therefore,  
612 pursuant to *Golding*, we will proceed to examine the  
613 defendant’s unpreserved claim that the state committed  
614 a *Brady* violation by failing to disclose the CODIS  
615 match.

616 “Our analysis of the defendant’s claim begins with  
617 the pertinent standard, set forth in *Brady* and its prog-  
618 eny, by which we determine whether the state’s failure  
619 to disclose evidence has violated a defendant’s right to  
620 a fair trial. In *Brady*, the United States Supreme Court  
621 held that the suppression by the prosecution of evi-  
622 dence favorable to an accused upon request violates  
623 due process where the evidence is material either to  
624 guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith  
625 or bad faith of the prosecution. . . . In *Strickler v.*  
626 *Greene*, 527 U.S. 263, [281–82] 119 S. Ct. 1936, 144 L.  
627 Ed. 2d 286 (1999), the United States Supreme Court  
628 identified the three essential components of a *Brady*  
629 claim, all of which must be established to warrant a  
630 new trial: The evidence at issue must be favorable to  
631 the accused, either because it is exculpatory, or because  
632 it is impeaching; that evidence must have been sup-  
633 pressed by the [s]tate, either [wilfully] or inadvertently;  
634 and prejudice must have ensued. . . . Under the last  
635 *Brady* prong, the prejudice that the defendant suffered  
636 as a result of the impropriety must have been mater-  
637 ial to the case, such that the favorable evidence could  
638 reasonably be taken to put the whole case in such a  
639 different light as to undermine confidence in the ver-  
640 dict.” (Citations omitted; internal quotation marks omit-  
641 ted.) *State v. Skakel*, 276 Conn. 633, 699–700, 888 A.2d  
642 985, cert. denied, 549 U.S. 1030, 127 S. Ct. 578, 166 L.  
643 Ed. 2d 428 (2006), discussing *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S.  
644 419, 435, 115 S. Ct. 1555, 131 L. Ed. 2d 490 (1995). “If  
645 . . . [the defendant] . . . fail[s] to meet his burden as  
646 to [any] one of the three prongs of the *Brady* test, then  
647 [the court] must conclude that a *Brady* violation has  
648 not occurred.” *Morant v. Commissioner of Correction*,  
649 117 Conn. App. 279, 296, 979 A.2d 507, cert. denied, 294  
650 Conn. 906, 982 A.2d 1080 (2009).

651 In setting forth his claim on appeal, the defendant

652 does not claim that an error was committed by the trial  
653 court. As we have discussed previously, the defendant  
654 moved for rectification to have certain documents made  
655 part of the record so that he could raise this *Brady*  
656 claim for the first time on appeal, and he maintains that  
657 the record, as rectified, renders his claim adequate for  
658 review.<sup>14</sup> Stated otherwise, the defendant relies solely  
659 *on the facts in the record* to demonstrate that a *Brady*  
660 violation occurred and, thus, he was deprived of a  
661 fair trial.

662 With respect to the record, we observe that “[o]ur  
663 Supreme Court has clarified that [a] record is not inade-  
664 quate for *Golding* purposes because the trial court has  
665 not reached a conclusion of law if the record contains  
666 the factual predicates for making such a determina-  
667 tion. . . . Nevertheless, [i]f the facts revealed by the  
668 record are insufficient, unclear or ambiguous as to  
669 whether a constitutional violation has occurred, we will  
670 not attempt to supplement or reconstruct the record,  
671 or to make factual determinations, in order to decide  
672 the defendant’s claim.” (Citation omitted; internal quo-  
673 tation marks omitted.) *State v. Morales*, 164 Conn. App.  
674 143, 167, 136 A.3d 278, cert. denied, 321 Conn. 916, 136  
675 A.3d 1275 (2016). Although the parties dispute whether  
676 the late disclosed CODIS match is favorable to the  
677 defense and whether it was suppressed by the division,  
678 they do not dispute the nature of the late disclosed evi-  
679 dence or where it was located. A sweatshirt was found  
680 approximately one-half to three-quarters of a block  
681 away from the car in which the shootings occurred.  
682 After the sweatshirt was tested for DNA, a CODIS match  
683 to Otero, who was not incarcerated at the time of the  
684 shootings, was generated. In the present case, we are  
685 being asked by the defendant to reach a legal conclusion  
686 that the trial court had not been asked to address, on  
687 the basis of an undisputed factual record that we deem  
688 adequate for review of the *Brady* claim as framed by  
689 the defendant in this appeal. See *State v. Torres*, 230  
690 Conn. 372, 379, 645 A.2d 529 (1994). On the basis of the  
691 record demonstrating these facts and, assuming, with-  
692 out deciding, that this evidence is favorable to the  
693 defense and was suppressed, we are able to dispose of  
694 the defendant’s *Brady* claim by addressing only the  
695 materiality prong.<sup>15</sup>

696 Next, we turn to the standard by which we review  
697 materiality in the context of a *Brady* analysis. We rely  
698 on the standard set forth in *State v. Ortiz*, 280 Conn.  
699 686, 718–22, 911 A.2d 1055 (2006), in which our Supreme  
700 Court “clarified” the standard for review of materiality  
701 in a *Brady* claim because it determined that prior cases  
702 had not squarely articulated one.<sup>16</sup>

703 The court in *Ortiz* joined sister state and federal  
704 jurisdictions that have concluded that a trial court’s  
705 determination as to materiality under *Brady* presents  
706 a mixed question of law and fact subject to plenary

707 review, with the underlying historical facts subject to  
708 review for clear error. *Id.*, 720. Our Supreme Court, how-  
709 ever, also expressed a preference for providing the trial  
710 judge with the opportunity to first consider a *Brady*  
711 claim, as the trial judge has observed firsthand the pro-  
712 ceedings at trial, and it indicated that its “independent  
713 review nevertheless is informed by [the trial judge’s]  
714 assessment of the impact of the *Brady* violation . . . .”  
715 *Id.*, 721–22. The court explained: “[W]e find persuasive  
716 the Second Circuit Court of [Appeals’] approach of  
717 engaging in independent review, yet giving ‘great  
718 weight’ to the ‘trial judge’s conclusion as to the effect  
719 of nondisclosure on the outcome of the trial . . . .’”  
720 *Id.*, quoting *United States v. Zagari*, 111 F.3d 307, 320  
721 (2d Cir.), cert. denied sub nom. *Herzog v. United States*,  
722 522 U.S. 983, 118 S. Ct. 445, 139 L. Ed. 2d 381 (1997),  
723 and cert. denied sub nom. *Shay v. United States*, 522  
724 U.S. 988, 118 S. Ct. 455, 139 L. Ed. 2d 390 (1997).

725 Despite our Supreme Court’s preference to first have  
726 the trial court assess the impact of a *Brady* violation,  
727 we do not interpret this stated preference as an inviola-  
728 ble rule that any *Brady* claim must first be fully pre-  
729 sented and preserved in the trial court or be deemed  
730 waived. That would be a derogation of defendants’  
731 rights under *Golding*. This court has reviewed unpre-  
732 served *Brady* claims under *Golding* when there was  
733 no dispute as to the nature of the allegedly suppressed  
734 evidence. For example, in *State v. Bryan*, 193 Conn.  
735 App. 285, 219 A.3d 477, cert. denied, 334 Conn. 906, 220  
736 A.3d 37 (2019), despite the fact that the trial court did  
737 not adjudicate the specific issue of whether the state  
738 committed a *Brady* violation by failing to disclose cer-  
739 tain internal affairs records of a police department, this  
740 court determined that no additional proceedings under  
741 *State v. Floyd*, 253 Conn. 700, 730–32, 756 A.2d 799  
742 (2000), were necessary. *State v. Bryan*, supra, 313; see  
743 footnote 14 of this opinion. It proceeded to examine  
744 the defendant’s unpreserved *Brady* claim, noted that  
745 the state conceded that certain records had not been  
746 disclosed, and then assumed, without deciding, that the  
747 internal affairs records were favorable to the defendant  
748 as impeachment evidence against one of the testifying  
749 police officers.<sup>17</sup> *Id.*, 316. Addressing only the materiality  
750 prong, the court in *Bryan* concluded that there was no  
751 *Brady* violation because the records were not material  
752 to the outcome of the defendant’s trial and, thus, the  
753 state’s late disclosure did not run afoul of *Brady*. *Id.*;  
754 see also *State v. Bethea*, 187 Conn. App. 263, 280–82, 202  
755 A.3d 429 (conducting *Golding* review of unpreserved  
756 *Brady* claim by assuming evidence was favorable to  
757 defense, reviewing transcript of pretrial hearing, and  
758 finding, based on transcript, that defendant had equal  
759 access to witness to obtain statement and, thus, there  
760 was no evidence of suppression), cert. denied, 332  
761 Conn. 904, 208 A.3d 1239 (2019).<sup>18</sup>

762 Having resolved the issues of reviewability that

763 pertain to the claim before us, we turn to the merits of  
764 the claim under *Golding*. “Not every failure by the state  
765 to disclose favorable evidence rises to the level of a  
766 *Brady* violation. Indeed, a prosecutor’s failure to dis-  
767 close favorable evidence will constitute a violation of  
768 *Brady* only if the evidence is found to be material.”  
769 (Internal quotation marks omitted.) *Gaskin v. Commis-*  
770 *sioner of Correction*, 183 Conn. App. 496, 529–30, 193  
771 A.3d 625 (2018). Under the last *Brady* prong, the evi-  
772 dence must have been material to the case, such that “the  
773 favorable evidence could reasonably be taken to put the  
774 whole case in such a different light as to undermine confi-  
775 dence in the verdict.” *Kyles v. Whitley*, supra, 514 U.S.  
776 435. The mere possibility that the undisclosed infor-  
777 mation might have helped the defense or might have  
778 affected the outcome of the trial does not meet the mate-  
779 riality standard. See *State v. Pollitt*, supra, 205 Conn. 149.  
780 For the reasons that follow, we conclude that, even  
781 assuming that the state suppressed favorable evidence,  
782 the defendant has failed to show that the evidence the  
783 state allegedly suppressed was material.

784 In deciding whether the defendant has met his bur-  
785 den on the materiality prong, this court views the undis-  
786 closed favorable evidence, “not . . . in a vacuum  
787 . . . [but] in the context of all the evidence introduced  
788 at trial.” (Internal quotation marks omitted.) *Id.*, 143.  
789 “[E]vidence that may first appear to be quite compell-  
790 ing when considered alone can lose its potency when  
791 weighed and measured with all the other evidence, both  
792 inculpatory and exculpatory. Implicit in the standard  
793 of materiality is the notion that the significance of any  
794 particular bit of evidence can only be determined by  
795 comparison to the rest.” (Internal quotation marks omit-  
796 ted.) *Smith v. Commissioner of Correction*, 141 Conn.  
797 App. 626, 639, 62 A.2d 554, cert. denied, 308 Conn. 947,  
798 67 A.3d 290 (2013). The favorable evidence must cast  
799 the whole case in a different light. It is not enough for  
800 the defendant to show that the undisclosed evidence  
801 would have allowed the defense to weaken or destroy  
802 a particular prosecution witness or item of evidence to  
803 which the undisclosed evidence relates. See *Kyles v.*  
804 *Whitley*, supra, 514 U.S. 460 (Scalia, J., dissenting).  
805 When the evidence admitted at trial strongly supports  
806 the defendant’s guilt, it is less likely that the undisclosed  
807 evidence would undermine confidence in the verdict.  
808 See, e.g., *State v. Dupigney*, 295 Conn. 50, 73, 988 A.2d  
809 851 (2010).

810 In this case, the defendant failed to prove that the  
811 CODIS match constituted material evidence. The defen-  
812 dant did not testify that the alleged unknown gunman  
813 was wearing a sweatshirt, and the sweatshirt was not  
814 found at the actual crime scene but more than half a  
815 block away<sup>19</sup> at the corner of Hendricxsen Avenue and  
816 Curcombe Street. There is no evidence to indicate how  
817 long the sweatshirt had been there or that it was even  
818 present when the police first responded to the crime

819 scene. There is no indication that the sweatshirt con-  
820 tained any signs of gunpowder residue or blood. Rich-  
821 ter, who did not arrive at the crime scene until 7:43  
822 a.m. on the morning of December 20, 2014, testified at  
823 trial that he alerted Lee to the sweatshirt. As depicted  
824 in photographs taken by Lee near the crime scene, the  
825 sweatshirt was found next to a sidewalk and in front  
826 of a fence surrounding an apartment complex, an area  
827 that is reasonably likely to be traversed by the public.

828 We are guided in our analysis by our Supreme Court's  
829 analysis in *State v. Dupigney*, supra, 295 Conn. 50, in  
830 which the petitioner, who had been convicted of mur-  
831 der, sought postconviction forensic DNA testing of a  
832 hat that was found on a driveway near the crime scene  
833 and had been introduced into evidence at his criminal  
834 trial. In *Dupigney*, the state had presented evidence at  
835 trial that the shooter had been wearing a hat. *Id.*, 70.  
836 In order to be entitled to postconviction DNA testing  
837 of evidence, the petitioner, pursuant to General Statutes  
838 § 54-102kk (b) (1), had to demonstrate a reasonable  
839 probability that he “would not have been prosecuted  
840 or convicted if exculpatory results had been obtained  
841 through DNA testing . . . .” The trial court denied the  
842 petition. *State v. Dupigney*, supra, 53. On appeal, our  
843 Supreme Court, applying the reasonable probability  
844 standard under § 54-102kk, found that the possibility  
845 that DNA testing of the hat could show that biological  
846 material from the hat belonged to neither the victim nor  
847 the petitioner would not create a reasonable probabili-  
848 ty that the jury could have formed a reasonable doubt  
849 that the petitioner was the shooter. *Id.*, 73. In making  
850 its decision, the court noted that the term “reasonable  
851 probability” has a well established meaning—“a proba-  
852 bility sufficient to undermine confidence in the out-  
853 come”—in the context of postconviction challenges,  
854 generally, including the *Brady* line of cases governing  
855 postconviction challenges on the basis of prosecutorial  
856 failure to disclose evidence to an accused. (Internal  
857 quotation marks omitted.) *Id.*, 60–61. Accordingly, it  
858 applied the *Brady* materiality standard to its determi-  
859 nation of whether the petitioner had shown sufficient  
860 cause to obtain postconviction DNA testing of the hat.  
861 *Id.*, 64. In other words, the question that was addressed  
862 by the court in *Dupigney* was whether confidence in the  
863 outcome of the petitioner's trial would be undermined  
864 if the results of testing on the hat were to reveal the  
865 presence of DNA that matched neither the petitioner  
866 nor the victim. After noting the generic nature of the  
867 black knit hat found approximately twenty-two feet  
868 from the scene of the crime and the fact that the state  
869 never argued that the shooter had worn that particular  
870 hat, the court ruled that the link between the hat recov-  
871 ered in the driveway and the hat worn by the shooter  
872 was inconclusive. *Id.*, 71–72. In light of the strong evi-  
873 dence, entirely unrelated to the hat, identifying the peti-  
874 tioner as the shooter, the court determined that even

875 if biological material could be found on the hat that did  
876 not belong to the petitioner or the victim, it would not  
877 undermine confidence in the fairness of the guilty ver-  
878 dict. *Id.*, 72–73.

879 In the present case, the connection between the  
880 sweatshirt and the crimes is even more tenuous than  
881 the connection between the black knit hat and the crime  
882 in *Dupigney*. Specifically, the sweatshirt was found  
883 farther away from the crime scene, and the defendant  
884 did not testify that the alleged unknown shooter was  
885 wearing a dark colored sweatshirt.

886 Furthermore, in the present case, although defense  
887 counsel provided documentation to the trial court that  
888 Otero was not in prison at the time of the crimes, there  
889 is no indication that he was in the vicinity of the crime  
890 scene on or about December 20, 2014, or that he had any  
891 connection to the victims, let alone a motive to harm  
892 them. Without a clear link between Otero and the crimes,  
893 the defendant would not have been able to successfully  
894 raise a third-party culpability defense, assigning blame  
895 to Otero. In the absence of other evidence that connected  
896 Otero to the crime, it is reasonable to conclude that the  
897 sweatshirt at issue, which was located more than half a  
898 block from the crime scene, could have been left as a  
899 result of innocuous activity, rather than by someone  
900 involved in the commission of the shootings. See *State*  
901 *v. Gray-Brown*, 188 Conn. App. 446, 474, 204 A.3d 1161  
902 (evidence of partial fingerprint of third person on vehicle  
903 victim was driving at time of robbery raised only bare  
904 suspicion that third party committed crime and was not  
905 relevant to jury's consideration; defendant needs to dem-  
906 onstrate direct connection between third party and  
907 crimes to warrant giving third-party culpability instruc-  
908 tion to jury), cert. denied, 331 Conn. 922, 205 A.3d 568  
909 (2019).

910 Even though, at the time of the trial, defense counsel  
911 did not know of the CODIS match, which linked Otero  
912 to the sweatshirt, he nonetheless was aware of the  
913 existence of the sweatshirt and the fact that it did not  
914 contain the defendant's DNA. In fact, in closing argu-  
915 ment, defense counsel argued to the jury that it should  
916 question why it had heard nothing from the state about  
917 evidence found at or near the crime scene, but which  
918 testing revealed not to belong to the defendant. Defense  
919 counsel referred to the sweatshirt, fingerprints, and  
920 a cigarette butt. Obviously, it was not necessary for  
921 defense counsel to know about the CODIS match to  
922 suggest to the jury that the sweatshirt found up the  
923 street near the scene of the crimes belonged to someone  
924 other than the defendant in order to bolster his claim  
925 that some unknown person committed the shootings.  
926 He could have cross-examined Richter, who testified  
927 that the sweatshirt revealed no useful evidence, in more  
928 depth and asked him to explain in detail what forensic  
929 analysis, if any, the state had performed and, specifi-

930 cally, whether the division had created a DNA profile  
931 from a swabbing of the sweatshirt, whether that profile  
932 was compared to the defendant's DNA profile, and what  
933 the results were. See *United States v. Alston*, 899 F.3d  
934 135, 147 (2d Cir. 2018) (to extent that defendant argues  
935 exculpatory testimony was material because it bol-  
936 stered his reasonable perception that third party was  
937 legitimate businessman, defendant had opportunity to  
938 make that argument to jury through evidence already  
939 admitted, specifically, third party's trial testimony),  
940 cert. denied, 586 U.S. 1201, 139 S. Ct. 1282, 203 L. Ed.  
941 2d 292 (2019).

942 Although the defendant places great weight on the  
943 fact that Otero was a convicted felon, Otero's felony  
944 conviction was for larceny in the second degree, not  
945 for a violent crime. If Otero's felony history presumes  
946 a propensity to commit the crimes in this case, the same  
947 could be said of the defendant's criminal history, for  
948 he admitted in his testimony that he had several prior  
949 felony convictions, several for larceny.

950 Viewing the evidence as a whole, the state's case  
951 against the defendant was strong. It included Jiminez'  
952 eyewitness identification of the defendant, a person  
953 with whom he was familiar, as the shooter. Jiminez also  
954 testified that he exited the car immediately after being  
955 shot and ran in the direction of the apartment building  
956 in front of which the sweatshirt was discarded but that  
957 he saw no one else except the defendant in the area.

958 There also was evidence of a motive. The jury reason-  
959 ably could have found that the defendant's mood at the  
960 after-hours club suddenly changed when he became  
961 aware that Martinez had admitted to killing Mariano  
962 Gonzalez, and the defendant was very close with Mari-  
963 ano Gonzalez' brother, Joel Gonzalez. The defendant  
964 himself testified that he had vouched for Martinez with  
965 the Los Solidos gang after Martinez had said the gang  
966 suspected him of killing someone.<sup>20</sup>

967 There also was significant consciousness of guilt evi-  
968 dence implicating the defendant. There was evidence  
969 that he repeatedly lied to the police during his interview  
970 with them, by giving an incorrect number for his cell  
971 phone and by denying that one of his nicknames was  
972 Flex, that he associated with Joel Gonzalez, and that  
973 he drove anywhere with Jiminez and Martinez on the  
974 night of the shootings. There was evidence that he  
975 called Joel Gonzalez to ask him to tell Mangual to get  
976 rid of the defendant's cell phone after the police told  
977 him they could track phone locations via cell towers.  
978 He also called Joel Gonzalez a second time to ask him  
979 to go to an area close to the crime scene, the "horse-  
980 shoe," to see if there were any surveillance cameras  
981 present.

982 Particularly damaging to the defendant's testimony  
983 that an unknown gunman was the perpetrator was his

admission on cross-examination that he previously did not describe that version of events when he was interviewed by the police or when it would have behooved him to do so at his parole revocation hearing, which resulted from his having violated his parole by committing the crimes in this case. His testimonial version of the events that transpired also lacks credibility in certain areas. As a matter of logic, certain unanswered questions undermine the defendant's version of events. For example, how could he look into the car when the driver's side door was open and not see the dying, or already deceased, Martinez slumped over the front console? And, why would he have told his friend, Mangual, who picked him up near the crime scene early that morning, only that he "almost got shot," and why wouldn't the defense have asked Mangual, on cross-examination, to corroborate that conversation?

There was strong evidence inculcating the defendant, including the eyewitness testimony of Jimenez, the evidence that he had a motive to commit the crimes, and evidence that he was conscious of his guilt. Although the defendant presented his own testimony concerning an unknown shooter, a version of events that he did not previously relate to the police or to parole officials, such evidence was very weak. Additionally, the jury was made aware of the fact that a sweatshirt and a pair of sweatpants had been discovered near the crime scene but that these items were not connected to the defendant. Also, the defendant is unable to demonstrate any actual connection between Otero and the victims in this case. On the basis of the foregoing, there is no reasonable basis to conclude that the lack of the evidence of the CODIS match during the defendant's trial undermined its fairness and resulted in a verdict not worthy of confidence.

The judgment is affirmed.

In this opinion the other judges concurred.

<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., *State v. Webb*, 128 Conn. App. 846, 852–83 n.3, 19 A.3d 678 (generally describing national CODIS database), cert. denied, 303 Conn. 907, 32 A.3d 961 (2011).

<sup>2</sup> Jiminez described the after-hours club as a "place where people go after the clubs are closed down."

<sup>3</sup> During his trial testimony, the defendant admitted that he had fabricated much of the information he gave the police during their interview of him, including his statements about his association with Joel Gonzalez and about not driving anywhere with Jiminez and Martinez in Martinez' car after he left the after-hours club on December 20, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> In fact, when the defendant began referring to his encounter with an unknown gunman on Hendricxsen Avenue, the prosecutor declared she was surprised and had not been given any notification that the defendant was going to assert a third-party culpability defense.

<sup>5</sup> The state concedes that it sent the sweatshirt that was seized to the division for DNA testing and is not contesting agency for purposes of this appeal. See *State v. Guerrero*, 331 Conn. 628, 631, 206 A.3d 160 (2019) (when Department of Correction acts as investigative arm of state in conducting review of inmate phone calls at behest of prosecutor as part of state's investigation into criminal case, such calls are subject to disclosure requirements of *Brady*); *Stevenson v. Commissioner of Correction*, 165 Conn. App. 355, 367–68, 139 A.3d 718 (whether individual or agency is "arm of the prosecution," does not turn on status of person or agency but on what they

1045 did—i.e., whether they worked in conjunction with police or prosecutor  
1046 and whether they actively assisted in investigation of crime), cert. denied,  
1047 322 Conn. 903, 138 A.3d 933 (2016).

1048 <sup>6</sup> Although the defendant also claims a due process violation under our  
1049 state constitution; see Conn. Const., art. I, § 8; he does not provide a separate  
1050 analysis thereunder or argue that the Connecticut constitution provides  
1051 greater protection than the federal constitution. Accordingly, review of his  
1052 claim is limited to the federal constitution. See *State v. Ortiz*, 280 Conn.  
1053 686, 689 n.2, 911 A.2d 1055 (2006).

1054 <sup>7</sup> Practice Book § 42-51 provides in relevant part: “If the jury returns a  
1055 verdict of guilty, the judicial authority, upon motion of the defendant . . .  
1056 shall order the entry of a judgment of acquittal as to any offense specified  
1057 in the verdict, or any lesser included offense, for which the evidence does  
1058 not reasonably permit a finding of guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. If the  
1059 judicial authority directs an acquittal for the offense specified in the verdict,  
1060 but not for a lesser included offense, it may either:

1061 “(1) Modify the verdict accordingly; or

1062 “(2) Grant the defendant a new trial as to the lesser included offense.”

1063 Practice Book § 42-52 provides in relevant part: “Unless the judicial author-  
1064 ity, in the interests of justice, permits otherwise, a motion for a judgment  
1065 of acquittal shall be made within five days after a . . . verdict . . . .”

1066 <sup>8</sup> Practice Book § 42-53 provides in relevant part: “(a) Upon motion of the  
1067 defendant, the judicial authority may grant a new trial if it is required in  
1068 the interests of justice. Unless the defendant’s noncompliance with these  
1069 rules or with other requirements of law bars his or her asserting the error,  
1070 the judicial authority shall grant the motion:

1071 “(1) For an error by reason of which the defendant is constitutionally  
1072 entitled to a new trial; or

1073 “(2) For any other error which the defendant can establish was materially  
1074 injurious to him or her. . . .”

1075 <sup>9</sup> Practice Book § 42-55 provides: “A request for a new trial on the ground  
1076 of newly discovered evidence shall be called a petition for a new trial and  
1077 shall be brought in accordance with General Statutes § 52-270. The judicial  
1078 authority may grant the petition even though an appeal is pending.”

1079 <sup>10</sup> General Statutes § 52-270 (a) provides: “The Superior Court may grant  
1080 a new trial of any action that may come before it, for mispleading, the  
1081 discovery of new evidence or want of actual notice of the action to any  
1082 defendant or of a reasonable opportunity to appear and defend, when a just  
1083 defense in whole or part existed, or the want of actual notice to any plaintiff  
1084 of the entry of a nonsuit for failure to appear at trial or dismissal for  
1085 failure to prosecute with reasonable diligence, or for other reasonable cause,  
1086 according to the usual rules in such cases. The judges of the Superior Court  
1087 may in addition provide by rule for the granting of new trials upon prompt  
1088 request in cases where the parties or their counsel have not adequately  
1089 protected their rights during the original trial of an action.”

1090 In his brief, the defendant indicates that no petition for a new trial has  
1091 been filed.

1092 <sup>11</sup> In its brief, the state argues that the defendant waived his *Brady* claim  
1093 when defense counsel had a fair opportunity to raise a *Brady* claim and  
1094 made a strategic decision not to pursue one. We decline to construe the  
1095 argument of defense counsel, in seeking a judgment of acquittal or a new  
1096 trial on the basis of what he characterized as “newly discovered evidence,”  
1097 rather than suppressed evidence, as a knowing and intelligent waiver of a  
1098 possible *Brady* claim. On the basis of our review of the record, we are not  
1099 convinced that defense counsel realized that he may have had the factual  
1100 requisites to raise a *Brady* claim.

1101 <sup>12</sup> The court marked the February 27, 2017 e-mail to defense counsel from  
1102 the prosecutor, the February 23, 2017 offender hit notification form from  
1103 the division, and the Department of Correction information sheet concerning  
1104 Otero as court exhibits one through three, respectively. To avoid confusion  
1105 with court exhibits one through three, which had been marked as court  
1106 exhibits during the defendant’s trial, we will refer to the three documents  
1107 added to the record through rectification as the state’s e-mail, the offender  
1108 hit notification form and the Department of Correction information sheet.

1109 <sup>13</sup> Because there was no specific reference, on the record, to any of these  
1110 documents during the hearing on the defendant’s postverdict motion on  
1111 April 4, 2014, we conclude that the court, in indicating that it had previously  
1112 been made aware of the documentation sought to be introduced in the  
1113 defendant’s motion for rectification, was referring to the same “information”  
1114 to which it alluded as having been provided to it in chambers prior to the  
1115 commencement of the April 4 hearing.

1116 <sup>14</sup> In moving for rectification and seeking to have only the three documents  
1117 made part of the record so that he could raise a *Brady* claim on appeal,  
1118 the defendant should have been aware of other options available to him to  
1119 further perfect the record and to preserve the claim at trial, including

1120 requesting an evidentiary hearing pursuant to *State v. Floyd*, 253 Conn. 700,  
1121 730–32, 756 A.2d 799 (2000) (defendant may request hearing to create factual  
1122 record and obtain factual findings necessary to properly present *Brady*  
1123 claim on appeal when he was precluded from doing so previously because  
1124 new information was obtained postjudgment). After the defendant’s motion  
1125 for rectification was granted, he chose not to ask the trial court to conduct  
1126 an evidentiary hearing to consider the merits of his *Brady* claim based on  
1127 this new documentation.

1128 The defendant is not now entitled to have the matter remanded by this  
1129 court to the trial court for a *Floyd* hearing to further perfect the record,  
1130 especially because he has indicated, adamantly, that he does not need, and  
1131 therefore, does not request, this alternative relief. See *State v. Ouellette*, 295  
1132 Conn. 173, 183–84, 989 A.2d 1048 (2010) (although defendant claimed in his  
1133 intermediate appeal that Appellate Court should order *Floyd* hearing to  
1134 determine whether state withheld impeachment evidence, he did not renew  
1135 claim in his certified appeal to Supreme Court or ask for such relief in  
1136 alternative; consequently, he abandoned any such claim for relief).

1137 <sup>15</sup> Because the defendant bears the burden of proving each of the three  
1138 prongs of the *Brady* test, we need not address the favorability or the suppres-  
1139 sion prongs. See, e.g., *Morant v. Commissioner of Correction*, supra, 117  
1140 Conn. App. 296 (if petitioner fails to satisfy burden of proof as to one  
1141 of *Brady*’s three prongs, court must conclude that *Brady* violation has  
1142 not occurred).

1143 <sup>16</sup> In *Ortiz*, the court discussed the lack of clarity in its prior opinions, as  
1144 follows: “Compare, e.g., [*State v. Wilcox*, 254 Conn. 441, 452–55, 758 A.2d  
1145 824 (2000)] (reciting governing legal principles without stating standard of  
1146 appellate review) with *State v. Pollitt*, 205 Conn. 132, 147–49, 531 A.2d 125  
1147 (1987) (noting that ‘the determination of materiality has been said to be  
1148 ‘inevitably fact-bound’ and like other factual issues is committed to the  
1149 trial court in the first instance,’ but characterizing trial court’s determinations  
1150 about whether there was ‘‘reasonable probability’’ that the result of the  
1151 trial would have been different,’ as ‘conclusions of law,’ but also recognizing  
1152 ‘the difficulty inherent in measuring the effect of nondisclosure in the course  
1153 of a lengthy trial with many witnesses and exhibits such as this; this lack  
1154 of certitude suggests deference by a reviewing court especially in the  
1155 weighing of evidence’) and *State v. Shannon*, 212 Conn. 387, 400, 563 A.2d  
1156 646 (citing *Pollitt*, but reviewing trial court’s materiality determination for  
1157 abuse of discretion), cert. denied, 493 U.S. 980, 110 S. Ct. 510, 107 L. Ed.  
1158 2d 512 (1989).” *State v. Ortiz*, supra, 280 Conn. 718–19.

1159 <sup>17</sup> There were two sets of internal affairs records in *State v. Bryan*, supra,  
1160 193 Conn. App. 310–11, that were the subject of the defendant’s *Brady*  
1161 claim: a set from 2008 and a set from 2005. During a 2017 hearing on a  
1162 motion for augmentation and rectification before the trial court, the state  
1163 conceded that it had not disclosed the 2008 records prior to trial, and, during  
1164 a second hearing on a motion for augmentation and rectification of the  
1165 record in 2018, the parties entered into a stipulation that the 2005 records  
1166 also had not been disclosed prior to trial. *Id.*, 309–11. The trial court, however,  
1167 never ruled on whether the state’s failure to disclose the records constituted  
1168 a *Brady* violation. *Id.*, 312–13.

1169 <sup>18</sup> Our Supreme Court in *State v. Ortiz*, supra, 280 Conn. 686, noted that  
1170 its decision in *State v. Floyd*, 253 Conn. 700, 732–33, 756 A.2d 799 (2000),  
1171 had established a procedure by which evidence could be developed to  
1172 explore claims of potential *Brady* violations in “the unusual situation in  
1173 which a defendant was precluded from perfecting the record due to new  
1174 information obtained after judgment.” (Internal quotation marks omitted.)  
1175 *State v. Ortiz*, supra, 713 n.17. This would include seeking a full evidentiary  
1176 hearing, a *Floyd* hearing, to augment the record. The purpose of a *Floyd*  
1177 hearing is to permit the “rapid resolution of these fact sensitive constitutional  
1178 issues and mitigate the effects of the passage of time that would accompany  
1179 requiring defendants to wait to address these matters until after the conclu-  
1180 sion of direct appellate review. Indeed, the potential memory fade attendant  
1181 to this delay conceivably might even reward the state for violating *Brady*.”  
1182 *Id.*, 714 n.17. In determining that we can address unpreserved *Brady* claims  
1183 under *Golding* in a direct appeal, we are furthering the policy favored by  
1184 our Supreme Court of promoting “rapid resolution” of *Brady* issues. *Id.*

1185 <sup>19</sup> The defendant does not dispute that the sweatshirt was 600 feet away  
1186 from where Martinez’ vehicle was stopped on Hendricssen Avenue at the  
1187 time of the shootings.

1188 <sup>20</sup> The defendant testified that he had once been a member of the Los  
1190 Solidos street gang.