FL v. Dwain Hall - Day 1

(6:41 - 12:14)

All right. So before we begin the Fort Mary County's last session, the Honorable Timothy Deacon, We are here in 2025 CF 4 5 1 6 David Porter versus Dwayne C Hall will counsel to the parties identified for the record. Amy Burke for the state.

Rich Bussman for the state. Junior Barrett representing Mr. Hall. John Ford also representing Mr. Hall.

(12:14 - 12:19)

Good morning counsel. Mr. Hall is present to see if the count is stable. Mr. Hall, raise your right hand for me.

(12:19 - 12:57)

You swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help you God. Yes. Okay, Mr. Hall, put your hand down.

Are you shackled? No. Are you handcuffed? No. Okay, now you stand up, take a couple steps back, so I can describe your clothing from head to toe.

Mr. Hall is in custody, though he does not look it. He's wearing a light purple colored dress shirt, button-down, and a pair of charcoal colored slacks, a belt, and a pair of dress shoes. He's appropriately dressed for the court, and neither handcuffed nor shackled.

You can see his bald neck. Now, state defense, anything else before we bring in the jury from you all? Nothing from the state, Your Honor. Nothing from the defense, Your Honor.

(12:58 - 14:15)

My understanding is that the first witness you all are getting called today is a Stevie Hunt via Zoom? That is correct, Your Honor. I'm going to take a few minutes to get the Zoom platform queued up. Welcome to Zoom.

Please press pound, then enter your meeting ID, followed by the pound sign again. You are in the meeting now. Recording in progress.

(14:34 - 14:53)

Ms. Byrd, I have nobody in my Zoom waiting room. Is anybody from your office in contact with the witness? Yes, but I told them not to be there until 8.30, because we were going to have opening statements. Are we ready to bring in the jury? State's ready, Your Honor.

(14:54 - 16:52)

Yes, Your Honor. And everybody's here, correct? Yes, Your Honor. Everyone can be seated.

Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back. Everybody have a good night.

(16:54 - 17:06)

A couple things I want to go over with you here. First, I need to talk with you. When we separated yesterday, I instructed all of you to not learn about the case or attempt to learn about the case or not to speak about the case or do any research about the case.

(17:06 - 17:18)

Has everybody here been able to follow that instruction? If you have, nod your head in the affirmative, up and down. If you've been able to follow that instruction. Has everybody here been able to follow that instruction? Yes.

(17:19 - 17:31)

See all the heads nodding, yes or no? Yes. Okay, everybody has nodded in the affirmative for the record. Now, you'll notice in the courtroom today we do have cameras here.

(17:31 - 17:38)

I told you this case is attracting some amount of media attention. I do want to let you all know that as jurors, you are not filmed. You are not televised.

(17:38 - 18:04)

Your images are not put on the television, okay? It is, for all intents and purposes, a black void over there, and the camera will not turn toward you or film you if you were wondering that, okay? At this point in time, ladies and gentlemen, the attorneys will now have the opportunity, if they wish, to make an opening statement. The opening statement gives the attorneys the opportunity to tell you what evidence they believe will be presented during the trial. What the attorneys say is not evidence.

(18:04 - 18:08)

You are not to consider it as such. State, you may proceed. You may please report, counsel.

(18:08 - 18:23)

Good morning, members of the jury. Good morning. On Friday, October 10th of 2025, 32-year-old Sonya Exelbe flew from England to the United States.

(18:24 - 18:46)

By Sunday, October 12th, she was dead. She was brutally murdered by a predator, a man who called himself Alpha Sadist, a man who was sexually aroused by the rape and torture of women. That man is the defendant, Duane Hall.

(18:47 - 19:05)

Sonya Exelbe was a beautiful, kind woman who was deeply loved by everyone who knew her. But sadly, she suffered from mental illness for most of her life. She met the defendant online, and he manipulated her for years.

(19:06 - 19:42)

He targeted her because of her mental illness, and he exploited her for his own sadistic pleasure. And when he finally got her alone, thousands of miles away from home, completely incapable of making any rational decisions, he stabbed her to death and buried her body. Now, before you can understand why this happened and how this happened, you have to understand a little bit of the history of Sonya Exelbe.

(19:43 - 19:56)

Sonya was born in England, and she was the youngest of six siblings. She had two sisters and three brothers. Unfortunately, their household was one in which no child should ever have to grow up in.

(19:57 - 20:16)

Both of Sonya's parents were mentally ill, and her father also suffered from a drug addiction. Child social services intervened early on and removed all six siblings from the house. All of the siblings were very close, and they were split up and sent to different places.

(20:17 - 20:37)

Sonya was two years old when this happened, and she and her sister Sara, who was five years old, were placed in a foster home together. And that foster home wasn't much better than what they had at home. They were in that foster home for three years, and then Sara and Sonya were adopted together.

(20:38 - 21:10)

Now, even though during that three-year period, Sonya and her siblings would periodically see each other and spend time together, when Sara and Sonya were adopted, their adoptive parents thought it would be best if Sonya and Sara had no more contact with their siblings. Now, Sonya was unable to escape the trauma of her childhood. And when she was a teenager, around 13 or

14 years old, she began struggling with mental illness.

(21:10 - 21:35)

She started cutting herself, and she developed bulimia, which was an eating disorder. And even though she did go to counseling and therapy, her mental health would decline, and she would struggle with her mental illness for her whole life and be diagnosed with many other disorders. However, when Sonya was 17, there was a bright spot that came into her life.

(21:36 - 21:49)

She was working at a movie theater, and she met a man named Stephen Hunt. She was 17, and Stephen Hunt was two years older than her, and everybody called him Steedy. And he also worked at the movie theater.

(21:50 - 22:07)

They were friends at first, and then when Sonya turned 18, they started dating. Within months of when they began dating, Sonya told him about her mental health struggles. She was very open about the bulimia, being bipolar, having depression.

(22:09 - 22:23)

Steedy had a choice to make. He could stay, or he could go. And Steedy will tell you that he believed with his whole heart that Sonya was the woman for him and was the love of his life.

(22:24 - 22:43)

He told her, we can make this work, and we can have a great life together. And from that moment on, he never left her. In the meantime, when Sonya was 18, she and Sara were able to find their older siblings and reunite with them.

(22:44 - 22:59)

The older siblings were thrilled to be reunited with Sonya and Sara. They hadn't seen them since they were adopted. They thought of them often and wondered where they were, and there was an ache in their heart all those years for Sonya and Sara.

(22:59 - 23:16)

So that was a great time in their life. And over the years, the siblings tried to understand Sonya's mental health and what she'd been going through. They talked about it, but often they would try to spend time with Sonya.

(23:16 - 23:37)

They would plan meetings, gatherings, but due to her mental health, she would not show up many times, and she would cancel. And while they would be disappointed, they still loved her and tried to plan things with her. But over the years, as it happens with mental health, Sonya's mental health was up and down.

(23:38 - 24:01)

There were good times, and there were bad times. And those bad times included two suicide attempts by overdose. And you'll learn that most of the time, Sonya was always trying to find some substitute for the cutting, some outlet that would make her feel alive and feel something again.

(24:03 - 24:19)

Unfortunately, she found another outlet for the cutting about two years before her death. And ultimately, that outlet would lead to her murder. And that began when she got on a website called Motherless.

(24:21 - 24:52)

Motherless was a website that allowed users to upload pornographic videos and photographs. It also allowed the members on Motherless to communicate with each other. But the users of Motherless, over the years, started uploading videos of women actually being raped, women being tortured, women being murdered, as well as child sexual adult material, abuse material.

(24:54 - 25:08)

The website was shut down this year because of those things. The servers were seized, and there's an ongoing criminal investigation. But before it was shut down, Sonya was communicating on Motherless with many different men.

(25:10 - 25:35)

She was trying to find somebody that would kill her. Her mental health was declining, she wanted to die, and she knew that she couldn't do it herself. And unfortunately, there was no shortage of depraved men willing to kill Sonya in the most torturous and vile ways possible.

(25:36 - 25:54)

And they would send her messages and describe to her how they would kill her. Sadly, due to her mental health issues, this was something that Sonya used as a substitute for the cutting. These things made her feel alive when she would read them.

(25:55 - 26:14)

Now, even though there were many men competing for this job, one man went out. One man would manipulate and groom Sonya until he won the job of being her executioner. And that person was the defendant, Dwayne Hall.

(26:16 - 26:40)

Dwayne Hall's username on Motherless, the name he chose, the name he wanted to be called, was Alpha Sadist. And part of his bio on Motherless read, would love to find a domestic pain slut for complete control. That's what he was looking for.

(26:41 - 27:11)

Sonya and the defendant would communicate over Motherless for quite some time, and then they moved to another platform called Sessions, which is a phone app, it's more private, it's encrypted, and the messages would delete automatically. And you'll learn that the defendant lived in Marion County, and he was married to a woman named Ginger Stein. And he owned his own business called Solver Wolf Roadside Assistance.

(27:12 - 27:37)

And what he would do is people would call him, they would say they had a flat tire, something minor wrong with their car, he would respond to where they were and fix their car. Even though he lived in Marion County, he basically serviced Alachua County and the Gainesville area. Now, the first attempt that Sonya and the defendant made for him to kill her happened in March of 2025.

(27:38 - 27:57)

She planned to come here, but then that fell through. After that fell through, the defendant realized, hey, not only can I kill her, but I might as well get some money from it as well. And he told her that she had to bring $4,000 cash with her when she actually came here for him to kill her.

(27:58 - 28:16)

So after the March of 2025, the trip fell through, they planned another one. And that trip was planned for Friday, October 10th, 2025, she would come here to the United States. And in September of 2025, Sonya booked that plane ticket.

(28:17 - 28:31)

She also booked an Airbnb in Reddick, which is just north of Ocala, from Friday, October 10th, to Sunday, October 12th. This was the plan. Everything was booked.

(28:32 - 29:01)

But now Sonya couldn't tell Stevie and her family that she was coming here. It happened to be on that same weekend, her sister Sara, who lived in Australia, was planning to visit their other sister, named Gemma, who also lived in England about 45 minutes away from Sonya. So Sonya, her sister Sara, and Gemma all spoke, and Sonya said, hey, let's make it a sister's weekend.

(29:01 - 29:13)

I'll come visit you guys and we'll spend the weekend together. Of course, her sister Sara and Gemma thought that would be fantastic. They would love to see her and spend that weekend together.

(29:14 - 29:26)

Sonya told Stevie, hey, I'm going to have the sister's weekend with Gemma and Sara. He was also thrilled. Due to her mental health, Sonya did not get out of the house much, and she didn't go many places.

(29:28 - 29:47)

So the plan was she would go Friday to Gemma's and come back on Sunday. Well, she messaged Gemma and said, well, I'm not going to come on Friday, but I'll come on Saturday. And then messaged her later and said, oh, I'm going to come on Sunday at 2 o'clock.

(29:49 - 30:03)

So when Friday, October 10 rolled around, Stevie set his alarm earlier in the morning, because he wanted to make sure that he could tell Sonya goodbye before she left home with him. He got up. She was dressed.

(30:03 - 30:22)

He'll tell you in the dress with flowers, cardigan, sandals, and a black backpack with pink glitter writing on it. She told him she was going to take a taxi to her sister Gemma's house. He kissed her goodbye and watched her walk out the door.

(30:23 - 30:52)

That would be the last time he ever saw her alive again. So on Sunday, when Sonya didn't show up to Gemma's as planned at 2 o'clock, Gemma and Sara were disappointed, but again, they weren't worried, because this was something that was typical of Sonya, for her not to show up once plans were made. So they communicated and texted her and said, hey, are you coming? But she never responded.

(30:54 - 31:17)

And she was supposed to be back to her house that she shared with Stevie that Sunday evening, October 12. And when it got later and she didn't come home, Stevie called Gemma and said, hey, did Sonya leave yet? Because she's not home. And Gemma told Stevie she was never here.

(31:17 - 31:31)

But she never showed up. Well, obviously panic sets in now because nobody has seen Sonya since Friday, October 10, and they don't know where she is. And they know how fragile her mental health is.

(31:33 - 31:55)

Stevie immediately calls the police that Sunday night to report Sonya missing. And while the police are on their way over to Stevie's, he gets on Sonya's computer and he checks and he looks at it. And he sees that Sonya emailed herself a letter from what appeared to be a plane.

(31:55 - 32:11)

She said she was on a plane. And he read this letter, and it was full of sorrow, depression, regret, and death. And it talked about suicide.

(32:13 - 32:32)

Of course, Stevie was panicked. When the officer got to his apartment, he gave them Sonya's computer, he told them about her mental health, and he showed them that letter. They took all of that information, and then Monday morning they gave it to a special unit they had in England for missing people.

(32:33 - 32:45)

And you're going to hear from the head of that unit, Sergeant Detective J.R. Thomas. Monday morning, he was involved in trying to find Sonya. He had the letter, he had her computer.

(32:47 - 33:11)

And early on, he's able to find out that Sonya was on a plane from Heathrow in London, went to Atlanta, and then landed in Gainesville. He confirmed she was on that flight. So now, he contacts Interpol, which helps with international missing person cases like this.

(33:12 - 33:32)

And Interpol contacts the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Gainesville, since that's where she landed. And they assign a case agent, and her name is Special Agent Rebecca McKenzie. So now you have Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Gainesville, and they are communicating with Detective Sergeant Darren Thomas in England.

(33:32 - 33:47)

They're sharing information, they're trying to find out where could Sonya be. Well, they get Sonya's bank records in England. Of course, they want to see where has she spent money, where could she possibly be? And they see that transaction for that Airbnb in red.

(33:48 - 33:57)

So they send out two deputies from the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Agent McKenzie says, can you go out to this Airbnb? Maybe Sonya's there. Crisis averted.

(33:58 - 34:07)

This is on Monday. The deputies go out to the Airbnb, knock on the door, look in the windows. No one's there.

(34:08 - 34:14)

Sonya's not there. Can't find her. They keep trying to look around and see where she could be.

(34:16 - 34:34)

And Agent McKenzie starts doing search warrants for Facebook and other things to try to find out where she is. And then you'll learn that also when they get her bank records on Monday. They see that there was a charge attempted on one of her credit cards that was declined for $1,200.

(34:35 - 34:55)

And this charge was attempted on Saturday, October 11th. And they're like, what is this about? And that charge was attempted by a company called Solver Wolf Roadside Assistance. And so they say, well, who owns this company? Wayne Hall owns it.

(34:56 - 35:08)

So that Monday, agents from FDLE say, well, we need to talk to this guy and see what he knows about Sonya. So they call him on the phone. They say, hey, we're looking for this missing person.

(35:08 - 35:23)

You ran her credit card on Saturday, October 11th for $1,200 and it was declined. He completely lies to them. He says, some lady called me Friday or Saturday, said her car broke down and she needed a ride.

(35:25 - 35:30)

I said, give me your credit card number. She gave me the credit card number. I ran it.

(35:31 - 35:36)

It didn't go through. I told her I couldn't help her. And that was the end of our conversation.

(35:37 - 35:42)

I don't know where she was. I never met her. I don't know where she was going.

(35:44 - 35:51)

And so they say, okay, thank you. And they continue to investigate and try to find her. Again, they're doing search warrants, subpoenas, trying to get records.

(35:52 - 36:10)

Well, as they're doing this, Tuesday, October 14th, they say, you know what? We need to talk to that guy that owns that roadside assistance again and try to get some more information because we still can't find her. They talk to him again. Same thing, lies.

(36:11 - 36:15)

Never met her. Never saw her. Don't know where she's going.

(36:15 - 36:26)

I don't know anything. Okay, this is strange. But they search that Airbnb on Wednesday, the 15th.

(36:26 - 36:34)

They get permission from the owner and they go in there and they search that and they process it. And they say, let's look at the receipts in the trash. They always check the trash.

(36:35 - 36:50)

And in the trash, they find a receipt for a Walmart in Gainesville. And the time on the receipt is right before Sonya's plane lands in Gainesville. And they're concerned by what's on this receipt.

(36:52 - 37:16)

On the receipts, a person bought a shovel, two different kinds of rope, deodorant, and gun oil. This is concerning that this receipt is in the Airbnb where Sonya booked. They're able to run that credit card to see who bought that.

(37:17 - 37:39)

Guess who bought those things? Dwayne Hall. But they want to confirm, is he the one that

actually bought them even though his credit card was used? So they go to that Walmart in Gainesville and look for video footage from that time. And you'll see it plain as day.

(37:39 - 37:44)

There he is. Buying the shovel. Buying the rope.

(37:45 - 37:59)

Right before she lands in Gainesville. Getting all of his supplies. Now based on this, the fact that he ran her credit card, he's obviously becoming their main suspect.

(38:00 - 38:20)

He probably knows where she is. So on Thursday, October 16th, Agent McKenzie calls the FBI and asks them for some help. She's asked for the cell phone tally records from the defendant's phone on an exigent basis, which means it's an emergency, I need these right away.

(38:21 - 38:39)

So she can see where the defendant has been and maybe find Sonya alive. They get those records on the 16th. And they see that he was at the Gainesville airport when Sonya's plane landed, on October 10th of 2025.

(38:40 - 39:09)

But then they find something more concerning on those records. On the morning of October 12th, which was Sunday, the defendant's phone was at a wooded location in Marion Oaks for an hour and 20 minutes. That evening on Thursday the 16th, some deputies from the Marion County Sheriff's Office go out and they search that area.

(39:10 - 39:21)

They don't find anything that night. And they make a plan to come back the next day, which is Friday, October 17th. And they're going to bring out a cadaver dog and a field force unit so they can really search that area.

(39:23 - 39:42)

Also, at the same time they're searching that area with the cadaver dog and field force deputies, Agent McKenzie decides she is going to bring the defendant down to the Sheriff's Office and interview him. A face-to-face interview and find out what's going on. So the defendant does come down.

(39:44 - 40:11)

And Agent McKenzie and Detective Joe Miller from the Sheriff's Office interview him for four hours and 40 minutes. The first four hours of that interview, the defendant lies for four hours, and you'll see it. He makes up a wild, nonsensical story about why he was at the Airbnb and why he was with Sonia.

(40:13 - 40:22)

After he does that for four hours, he changes his mind. They take a break. And he says, hey, come back in here.

(40:23 - 40:32)

I want to recant everything I said for the past four hours. He takes it all back. And he admits it was a made-up story for four hours.

(40:34 - 40:45)

And he admits, I know Sonia. I've been communicating with her for years on Motherless. She came here to die.

(40:47 - 40:58)

He admits that he had sex with her in that Airbnb. He admits he hit her in the face during the sex. He hit her in the breasts.

(40:59 - 41:10)

He hit her on the back. And there was light choking. Ultimately, he says, he helped Sonia get what she wanted.

(41:14 - 41:33)

Agent McKenzie, after this interview, gets a search warrant for the defendant's house. In his house, in the garage, they find that shovel that he bought at Walmart. That shovel is sent to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to be analyzed for DNA.

(41:35 - 42:00)

On that shovel, they find Sonia's body. They also get a search warrant for the defendant's car. And in his car, they find a UPS label that shows that on October 14th, which was Tuesday, the defendant mailed a package to someone named Rick Snyder in Ohio.

(42:02 - 42:17)

Agent McKenzie says, we've got to know what's in this package that he mailed on October 14th,

Tuesday. She goes to Ohio. Detectives from the county in Ohio, Washington County, get a search warrant for Rick Snyder's house.

(42:18 - 42:39)

They go there and say, hey, Dwayne Hall mailed you a package. Where is it? Rick Snyder is uncooperative at first, but eventually he gives them what was in the package. Guess what was in the package? A knife, and a sheath, and a bracelet.

(42:41 - 43:08)

Because at the same time Rebecca McKenzie, the agent, was interviewing the defendant, they found Sonia's body. They found her body in that wooded area, exactly where the defendant's phone was for an hour and 20 minutes. She was naked in the grave, except for a bra, sandals, and a flower dress was laid over her.

(43:09 - 43:32)

She had been stabbed four times on the left side with a knife. Her body was sent to the medical examiner's office for an autopsy. The medical examiner determined that those four stab wounds were all between four and seven inches deep, and they all hit vital structures.

(43:33 - 43:49)

And that she died of sharp force injuries, and it was a homicide. And that knife was also sent to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to be tested for DNA. And guess what was also on that knife? Sonia's blood.

(43:52 - 44:09)

And finally, they get a search warrant for the defendant's cell phone. And they get a forensic cell phone examiner to search it. And you'll learn that the defendant tried to erase every trace of Sonia on his phone.

(44:10 - 44:28)

He had numerous nude photographs of her and the video he had all tried to delete. But the forensic cell phone examiner was able to recover them, and you'll be able to see those. On his phone, they also found something else.

(44:29 - 44:56)

They found numerous images of women being raped, tortured, and murdered. Horrific photographs of women with knives being shoved in their vaginas. Images of women with nails piercing their breasts, and other vile, horrific things.

(44:58 - 45:20)

Evidence that the reason the defendant beat, stabbed, and murdered Sonia was for his own sadistic pleasure. After you hear from all the witnesses, and you see all the evidence, you are going to ask that you find the defendant, Duane Hall, guilty. Thank you.

(45:22 - 45:47)

Counsel, Mr. Barrett, are you prepared to make an opening statement? I'm going to be brief. And the reason I'm going to be brief is because, if you recall, your selection just told you a set of facts that we all agreed on. And again, if you recall, it also said to you that you are to track the facts.

(45:50 - 46:16)

You will need to listen to all the witnesses, and determine what actually happened, what were the circumstances of that thing. Those would be instructions, and it will tell you what the attorney is saying, not evidence. We believe that when you listen to all the facts and evidence in this case, you will arrive at a decision.

(46:18 - 46:36)

That Duane Hall is not murder. And so, the evidence stops now. And that is what you will need to use to determine what happened to this subpoena.

(46:38 - 46:41)

Thank you, Counsel. I'd say you can call your first witness. I say call Stephen Hunt.

(46:42 - 46:46)

Okay. Members of the jury are first. First witness is going to be appearing via Zoom.

(46:46 - 47:06)

So, I'm going to get everything queued up here. Your Honor, there should be someone there to square him in as well. Yes.

(47:24 - 47:32)

Members of the jury, we got the Zoom queued up before we began court. It's been on pause. I'm not able to get it off the pause screen.

(47:32 - 47:41)

So, here's what we're going to do. We're going to take our first recess, okay? So, we're going to do this every recess. All your notepads and pens that you have, fold them up, close them up.

(47:41 - 47:47)

You're going to leave them on your chair. You can go back to the jury room. When you're back in the jury room, if you need to use the restroom, go ahead and use it.

(47:47 - 47:51)

You'll take that opportunity. Get a drink of water. We'll get you back out here as soon as we're able.

(47:51 - 48:59)

I'm going to get some of our IT folks here to help me get off this screen. There is a chance I have to disconnect my Zoom and re-log back in. If I do that, it'll take a couple more minutes, but we'll get you back in as soon as we're able, okay? All right.

Thank you. And again, don't discuss the case with one of them. That's it, right? The jury stays in the courtroom.

(48:59 - 49:43)

You all can be seated. Thank you. Ms. Zeke, if you're listening, can you have somebody from IT come here and see if they can help me with the Zoom screen? Okay.

Well, this may be it. I think I've got it. When it switched back over, it blocked out the top two screens with blue.

(49:44 - 50:21)

And the video feed wasn't working on my screen, so that would be what the other witness would be able to see. Mr. Hunt, can you hear me okay? This is Judge McCourt. Okay, sir, it does appear to me that your microphone is... Okay.

(50:23 - 50:54)

I'll need you to unmute once more. Okay. Can you hear me? Okay.

Are we... How is this being... How is the image being captured? Is it on a camera, a cell phone, something else? Okay. Is it possible for them to zoom in a little closer to you so that we can perhaps have the screen be... Maybe a couple inches to each side. A little more, a little more, a little more.

(50:55 - 51:12)

Down? Okay. That will work. Now, Mr. Hunt, I understand that there's a person there who's going

to administer an oath for you.

Is that correct? That's correct. Okay. Let's go ahead and... Is that person there? Can they get on camera? Yeah.

(51:14 - 51:22)

I'm going to have that person duck down so I can see them a little bit, if they don't mind. All right. Thank you.

(51:22 - 51:33)

What is your name, sir? Well, first, let me place you under oath. Can you raise your right hand? Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help you God? Yeah. I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

(51:34 - 51:37)

Okay. You can put your hand down, sir. What is your name? P.C. Still.

(51:38 - 51:46)

One more time? P.C. Still. P.C. Still? Yeah. S-T-W-L-E.

(51:51 - 52:16)

And P.C., are those initials or is that rank? Oh, that's rank. Sorry, yeah. Okay.

What's your first name? Jake. And you're a police officer in the United Kingdom? Okay. Are you authorized by the law of the United Kingdom to administer oaths? Do you place people under oath in your work? It's not something I've done before, no.

(52:19 - 52:23)

Okay. Yeah. He's an officer.

(52:23 - 52:51)

Okay. All right. Very well.

I will have you in a moment, sir, place Mr. Hunt under oath by asking him if he swears or affirms the testimony he will give will be the truth, the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help him God. I think, Judge, I don't know if it matters to the court, but did they have a separate oath that they do there that I believe they have with them? Do you have a form of oath that you administer? Yes. We've got an affirmation here.

(52:53 - 53:07)

Can you read it to me so I can hear what it is? Okay. All right. Very good.

(53:08 - 56:02)

Are we ready to bring in the jury? Yes, Your Honor. Yes, Your Honor. All right.

Let's go ahead and bring them in. Thank you, Rob. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back.

You all can be seated. Thank you. All right.

Members of the jury, we have via Zoom a witness who's going to be placed under oath. Mr. Steele, can you provide the affirmation for Mr. Hunt to read aloud? Yes. I do solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm that the evidence I shall give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

(56:04 - 56:07)

Thank you, sir. Ms. Burke, you may inquire. Thank you, Your Honor.

(56:08 - 56:25)

Good morning. Officer Steele, thank you. You're done.

Thank you, sir. Can you please tell the jury your name? Stephen Robert Hunt. And do you go by Stevie? I do go by Stevie, yes.

(56:25 - 56:40)

And where do you live? I live in Portsmouth, England. How long have you lived in Portsmouth, England? All of my life, about six years. Thirty-six years? Yes.

(56:42 - 57:03)

And what kind of work do you do for a living? I'm a visual merchandiser and stockroom assistant for Adidas. What does a visual merchandiser do? I make the shop look pretty. I get the new stock out and keep the stockroom as best it can be to support the shop floor.

(57:05 - 57:24)

Did you know Sonia Exelby? Yes. How did you know her? I met her at work 15, 16 years ago. And what was your relationship with Sonia? She later went on to be my fiancée.

(57:25 - 57:29)

Your fiancée? Yes. All right. Ms. Burke, hold on.

(57:29 - 57:40)

Yes. One second. Mr. Hunt, is there anybody there who could perhaps move the microphone or whatever device is capturing the sound a little bit closer to you? Some of your testimony is coming through a little bit garbled on our end.

(57:42 - 58:05)

Is Officer Steele still nearby? It's outside. Yes. Do try to talk a little bit slowly, though, and enunciate your words to make sure we can hear everything, though, in the event that we do get anything else garbled.

(58:06 - 58:08)

But go ahead. Sorry to interrupt. That's not a problem.

(58:09 - 58:29)

How long were you and Sonia together? 16 years. And how old was Sonia when she was murdered? 33. So did you meet Sonia when she was 17 years old? Yes.

(58:30 - 58:52)

And I think you said this earlier. It was a little bit mumbled. You met her at the cinema? Yes.

We both worked at the cinema. And are you older than Sonia? Yes. And how old was she when you started dating? She was 17.

(58:52 - 59:05)

And I was 20. And did you and Sonia eventually live together in Portsmouth, England? Yes. We eventually lived together.

(59:05 - 59:26)

As soon as I saw her at work for the first time, I knew that this was the girl I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. How long did you live together? So we moved in together a couple of years after first going out together. So we've lived together for just over 10 years.

(59:27 - 59:43)

Was Sonia right-handed? She was right-handed. Did Sonia have any brothers and sisters? Yes. How many sisters did she have? She has two sisters and three brothers.

(59:43 - 59:55)

And what are her sisters' names? Gemma and Sarah. And Sarah? Yes. Sorry, it's just that the end of your answer is cutting out a little bit.

(59:57 - 1:00:15)

Where does Sonia's sister Gemma live? She lives in the UK, near Portsmouth. Near Portsmouth? Yes. And how far away did she live from Portsmouth? I think she lived just up north.

(1:00:17 - 1:00:39)

About how many minutes away would that be from Portsmouth? I think about half an hour. And where did Sonia's sister Sarah live? She currently lives in Australia. Did Sonia's brothers live in England? Yes.

(1:00:39 - 1:00:55)

Were you close with Sonia's family? Yes. Now, you first met Sonia when she was 17. At some point, did you become aware that she was struggling with some serious mental health issues? Yes.

(1:00:55 - 1:01:13)

Very early in our relationship, he almost tried to warn me that she had several mental health issues that she was working through. At no point did that ever stop me from looking at her. She was the most incredible woman I've ever met.

(1:01:13 - 1:01:31)

And I knew that we could get through anything together. What kind of mental health issues were you aware that she struggled with? She opened up about various eating disorders. She was diagnosed with bipolar disorder at a young age.

(1:01:34 - 1:01:49)

Were you aware that when she was younger, she was cutting herself? Yes. It was quite painful. Quite what? Quite visible on her legs.

(1:01:49 - 1:02:06)

So you could see the scars from the cutting? Yes. Was Sonia your first love? Yes. And over the years, did you ever go to therapy with her or counseling? Yes.

(1:02:07 - 1:02:27)

For most of our relationship, I went to and from therapy with her. And what was Sonia's personality like? Anyone that met her just fell in love with her. She was the nicest, kindest person I've ever met in my life.

(1:02:28 - 1:02:44)

And her drive to overcome eating disorders and mental disorders still inspires me to this day. She had so much love and talent for music. She was an incredible musician.

(1:02:45 - 1:03:12)

Simply blew me away when she sang and played piano. How was her self-esteem? Her self-esteem wasn't good, so what I'm trying to say to anyone is she just has such a positive opinion of herself no matter what. I think most of the mental problems came from this absolute rock-bottom self-esteem that she always had.

(1:03:14 - 1:03:35)

During your relationship with Sonia, did you learn about her upbringing? Yes. I didn't break the details, but I know she had a very hard life being adopted. Would it be fair to say that it was a traumatic upbringing? Yes.

(1:03:36 - 1:04:09)

Was Sonia able to work a job outside of the house? In the early years when we went out, the last 6-10 years, no. She was very unwell to do anything. Was it rare that she would actually leave the house during those last 6 years or so? Yes.

Incredibly rare. Did she receive money from the government because of her mental health struggles? Yes, she did. She got support.

(1:04:10 - 1:04:36)

Had Sonia attempted suicide before? Yes. How many times? Two attempts. Two attempts.

How long ago was that? Before she was murdered? 6-8 years ago. I'm sorry. Can you repeat that? 6-8 years ago.

(1:04:36 - 1:05:11)

6-8 years ago? And how did she attempt both of those suicides? Overdose and prescribed medication. An overdose with prescribed medication? Yes. Would it be fair to say that over the past 15 years or so, there were good periods and then bad periods with Sonia's mental health? 100%.

100%. There were good times and bad times. We knew that she would never fail all of us.

(1:05:13 - 1:05:35)

We would have it so that there were good days more than bad days. The good days really meant the world to us. About two years before she was murdered, were you aware that Sonia had joined some forums online that had some violent and sadistic themes? Yes.

(1:05:36 - 1:05:58)

And what did you do when you learned that Sonia was on these forums? Straight away, I contacted it. Over in England, we brought in the mental health crisis team. We also went to the police and we got Sonia to a really good therapist.

(1:06:00 - 1:06:12)

Did you say you got her with a really good therapist? Yes. And you went to a crisis team right away as well? Yes. And then I think you had mentioned you also actually went to the police? Yes.

(1:06:14 - 1:06:31)

Now, did you feel that these people online were taking advantage of Sonia's mental health? 100%. I could see a complete change. She went from having good days to bad days, just bad days, bad day after the next.

(1:06:31 - 1:06:54)

She almost became a good person when she started going on websites. And during this time period, was Sonia sent some very violent videos that depicted women being tortured and murdered? Yes. Were some of these sexually based? Yes, I believe so.

(1:06:55 - 1:07:21)

And was that sort of sex a part of your relationship with Sonia? No. And I think you had said it was mostly bad days after she started going on these forums. But how would you describe her demeanor during this time? She was very approachable, wouldn't say one or two words for me.

(1:07:21 - 1:07:43)

She was always in a state of shock, just night and day. It was hard to get her to look after herself and it was challenging time. Did you and the therapist come up with some sort of plan basically to have two different phones to help her get through this? Yes, that's correct.

(1:07:44 - 1:07:57)

Just talk very slowly, please, and describe to us what that was about. Yes. So, first off, if I had it my way, she wouldn't be on these websites at all.

(1:07:58 - 1:08:24)

But to Sonia, this was a type of self-harm because of her self-esteem to go on these websites, open to them and manage it. Her therapist said, have a good phone and a bad phone. The bad phone is the phone that you can go on these websites with and the good phone is for nice, normal things.

(1:08:26 - 1:08:55)

Why didn't you and the therapist just tell her, stop, you can't go on those anymore? Because over the years I learned that with the self-harm that she used to do, you can't just tell someone to stop it, it doesn't work. So, we needed to kind of try and tackle the root issues of self-esteem. If I took all my bad phones and put them away, it would have stopped her accessing these sites.

(1:08:56 - 1:09:19)

Now, at some point after Sonia started talking to these people on these violent websites, did you actually take her passport so she couldn't leave the country? Yes, yes. And when was this, just approximately? Two, three years ago. And at some point did you give her back her passport? Yes.

(1:09:20 - 1:09:51)

And why did you do that? It seemed to me and the people around us at the time that Sonia had stopped going on these sites now and things slowly started to get better. And Sonia had the desire to go and visit Australia to go and see her sister. So, I brought her back to my home because she has her passport back.

(1:09:52 - 1:10:15)

Because she needed it for details and things like that. And I thought talking to these people on these websites was coming up to be like a thing of the past. Now, in October of 2025, did Sonia make plans to travel to her sister Gemma's house to meet her and have a sister's weekend there? Yes.

(1:10:15 - 1:10:43)

And you said that Gemma's house wasn't far from where you and Sonia lived in Portsmouth? That's correct. And was her sister Sara supposed to fly in from Australia at some point as well and join in on the sister's weekend? Yes. When did Sonia start making these plans? A couple of weeks before the weekend that she was meant to meet up with them.

(1:10:44 - 1:10:57)

And when she told you about this, how was her demeanor? She was really happy. She never stops talking about her sister's clothes. She was really happy.

(1:10:58 - 1:11:15)

She started doing her hair. I know that sounds patronizing, but that was difficult for her to do. And the fact that she was going to get help from her family, she was so happy about that.

(1:11:15 - 1:11:39)

So you were also happy about Sonia going to her sister's house for a sister's reunion? 100%. And did Sonia make all of her own travel arrangements? Yes. How was Sonia supposed to get to Gemma's house? A preordinated taxi that was supposed to take her in the morning on Friday.

(1:11:40 - 1:11:57)

You said a taxi? Yes. And so you said that Friday was October 10th of 2025 that she was supposed to leave to go to Gemma's house? That's correct. And when was she supposed to return? Sunday.

(1:11:57 - 1:12:10)

That would be October 12th then? That's right, yes. Was she supposed to be back at any certain time that day on Sunday to you? No, she just said Sunday. Okay.

(1:12:11 - 1:12:31)

Now what happened the morning of Friday, October 10th before Sonia left to go to Gemma's house? Did you see her? Yes, so I wanted to give her a big kiss goodbye. I woke up with her very early. I even showed the front door when the taxi pulled up.

(1:12:31 - 1:13:18)

And then when I pushed the front door, I just went away to look at the window. What was she wearing that morning? She was wearing a brown carpet, a flowery dress, and a super dry backpack. Okay.

You said a flowery dress, a cardigan? Yes. And what kind of shoes did she have on? Open-toed strut sandals. Alright.

And did you say she had a black backpack on? Yes. Were you familiar with the backpack she had on? Yes. Why were you familiar with that? I bought that as a present a few years ago.

(1:13:19 - 1:13:34)

You bought it for her as a present? Yes. Did it have any other coloring on it or glitter on it? Yes, it had pink glitter and a super dry logo. Super dry logo, you said? Yes.

(1:13:35 - 1:14:08)

Now, were you sent a black binder containing images of a black backpack? Yes. And did that binder that you were sent have a blue evidence tag stapled to the back? Yes. Did you recognize the black backpack that Sonya left with that morning in any of those photographs that you were sent? Yes.

(1:14:09 - 1:14:30)

And did you do anything to the photographs in which you recognized the black backpack? Yes, I signed and it should be dated. Signed, initialed, and dated photographs you recognized? That's right, yes. Is September 10th of 2026 the date that you signed those photographs? Yes.

(1:14:30 - 1:14:53)

And did you mail that binder with the photographs you signed, initialed, and dated back to the state attorney's office? I did, yes. Were you also sent a black binder containing four photographs from an airport? Yes. And did that binder also have a blue evidence tag stapled to the back? It did, yes.

(1:14:53 - 1:15:16)

And did you recognize anyone in those photographs? Yes. Who did you recognize in those photographs? My fiancée, Sonya. And was she wearing the same outfit that she had on when she left the house that morning that you described to us with the flowery dress and the cardigan? Yes, exactly the same.

(1:15:16 - 1:15:46)

And what sort of things was she doing in the photographs that you saw her at in the airport? Typical airport things like going through security and forwarding the documents. And were those photographs a fair and accurate depiction of the way she looked the morning of October 10th of 2025? Yes. And did you do anything to the photographs in which you recognized Sonya at the airport? Yes, I signed, initialed, and dated the bottom corner.

(1:15:46 - 1:16:00)

Signed, initialed, and dated. Again, was that September 10th of 2026 the date that you signed those? It was, yes. And did you mail that binder with those signed photographs back to the state

attorney's office? I did, yes.

(1:16:01 - 1:16:27)

Your Honor, at this time we will move State's Exhibit B into evidence at State's 1. No objection, Judge. Without objection, what's the mark for identification of State's Exhibit B will be admitted into evidence at State's Exhibit 1. And Judge, may I publish those? I put them on a board since we obviously can't use the PowerPoint. Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, the state's going to publish some photographs right now which will show you the evidence, okay? During the course of the trial, things that are admitted into evidence will be kept by the clerk.

(1:16:27 - 1:16:36)

When you go back to deliberate your verdict, all the exhibits admitted into evidence will be sent with you when you deliberate. This will not be the only time you have to view the exhibits. Thank you.

(1:16:36 - 1:17:08)

And Mr. Hunt, you said in these photographs you recognized Sonia by wearing the flowery dress. Yes, and obviously her face and ears would clearly help. And did she also have the black backpack on in these photographs as well? Yes.

(1:17:30 - 1:17:50)

Now, after Sonia left that morning, did you ever speak with her again on the phone? Yes. Later that Friday, she messaged me saying she was switching phones because she had put the signal on. So it wasn't actually you didn't hear her voice, it was some other kind of communication? Yes, WhatsApp.

(1:17:51 - 1:18:07)

Okay, WhatsApp. And you said that was Friday afternoon? Yes. Was there anything concerning about the communication you had with her on WhatsApp that Friday afternoon? No, I had no concern.

(1:18:08 - 1:18:35)

Now, you said that Sonia was supposed to return on Sunday, October 12th of 2025. Did she ever come home that Sunday? No, she didn't come home. At some point that Sunday evening, did you become worried? Yes, when it got quite late, about 7 p.m. U.K. time, I messaged her sister to see whether she had left yet.

(1:18:35 - 1:18:54)

And she informed me that Sonia never went there that weekend. And what did you do when you realized that Sonia had never went to Gemma's and you hadn't seen her since Friday? I straight away called the police. And this was the evening of Sunday, October 12th? That's right, yes.

(1:18:56 - 1:19:26)

And while you were waiting for the police to come to your house that Sunday evening, did you look at Sonia's computer? Yes, it was switched on on the side and I checked her email to see whether or not it would work out where she was. And I found a written note that Sonia had written to herself on the end of it. So you checked her email and you found a note that Sonia had written to herself, she had emailed to herself? Yes.

(1:19:26 - 1:19:46)

Now when the officer arrived at your house, did you show him that letter on the computer? Yes, from her wife. And did you tell the officer about Sonia's mental health problems? Yes, yes. And were you sent a black binder containing a photograph of a computer? Yes.

(1:19:46 - 1:20:16)

And did that binder have a blue evidence tag stapled to the back? It did, yes. And did you recognize the photograph of the computer in that binder that was sent to you? Yes. How did you recognize it? It was her laptop.

It was an Asus laptop with the white lights on it. It was her laptop. It was Sonia's laptop? Yes.

(1:20:16 - 1:20:39)

Okay, you said it was an Asus laptop? Yes. And did you have any signatures on it? That's how you recognized it? And did you do anything to the photograph and would you recognize the computer as Sonia's? Yes, I signed and dated it. Same thing you did with the other photographs, signed and dated them? Exactly, yes.

(1:20:39 - 1:21:00)

And did you mail that photograph back to the state attorney's office? I did, yes. Your office probably would move State's Exhibit C into evidence of State's 2? No objection. Without objection, what's the mark for identification of State's Exhibit C will be admitted in evidence of State's Exhibit 2? Did the police officer collect Sonia's computer? Yes.

(1:21:01 - 1:21:18)

And now you said that you found that letter on Sonia's computer that she sent to herself. In that letter, does it reference her being on a plane? Yes. And was the date it was written the day she

was actually on the plane, October 10th of 2025? Yes.

(1:21:18 - 1:21:38)

And was the letter consistent with the way Sonia sounded and consistent with her writing style? Yes. Are you sure that that letter was written by Sonia? 100%. And were you sent a black binder containing a copy of that letter from Sonia's computer that you found? I was, yes.

(1:21:38 - 1:22:00)

And did you recognize that to be the letter that Sonia wrote and sent to herself on October 10th of 2025 as being from a plane? Yes. And what did you do to that when you recognized that letter? Signed and initially typed it off on my computer. And you sent it back to the State Attorney's Office as well? Yes.

(1:22:00 - 1:22:20)

Your office probably would move State's Exhibit D into evidence. No objection, Judge. Without objection, was the marker identification of State's Exhibit D will be admitted in evidence of State's Exhibit 3. And do you have a copy of that letter with you today? Yes, I do.

(1:22:21 - 1:22:34)

Can you please, Judge, we're going to have to publish that letter at this time. And if you can slowly read that letter to the jury, please, that you found on Sonia's computer from October 10th of 2025. Yes.

(1:22:42 - 1:22:51)

I've never heard such a crash. I'm trying so hard not to have a crash like that. I'm scared enough to leave my house with you.

(1:22:51 - 1:23:01)

And don't you forget about me. I mean, it's such cruel irony. This was part of what my father did in an attempt at suicide.

(1:23:02 - 1:23:13)

I haven't really heard it since. As soon as the wheels leave the ground, I wish I was home. But I can't get off the ground and it's moving.

(1:23:14 - 1:23:22)

And I have no Wi-Fi. I'm screaming like I'm trapped. I want to beg for help so badly.

(1:23:24 - 1:23:35)

But there's such a warning if that happens. The virgin intro saying that, oh God, I feel so sick. I can hear it panning up.

(1:23:36 - 1:24:01)

Why am I here? Why? The guy in front of me looks like Barry. If I wasn't numb, I'd never have gotten out of the house. This would be impossible.

(1:24:02 - 1:24:10)

Although I'm hurting more than I ever have done. And that's exactly why. Any worse, I'm not sure.

(1:24:10 - 1:24:22)

I fought. I fought. I know they want to help me.

(1:24:22 - 1:24:32)

I could just tell them. I can't. The crushing realisation that my singing yesterday didn't even record.

(1:24:33 - 1:24:38)

I offended my family. It was everything. I left nothing.

(1:24:40 - 1:24:46)

Fuck my breed. And there we go. The fucking bucket.

(1:24:47 - 1:24:54)

It's too late. Oh, I thought we'd be fucked. I never felt publicly like this.

(1:24:57 - 1:25:06)

Everyone can give me the fuck they want except me. I just take. It almost looks like a perfect day.

(1:25:09 - 1:25:22)

Why do I still... ...feel like I'm going to die? I fucked up so bad. If you could wait till the end. I got too overwhelmed.

(1:25:25 - 1:25:47)

Even if I managed to get in, it would be so easy to find me. I'd be mutilated and disabled for the

rest of my life. Good morning, sir.

(1:25:49 - 1:26:07)

Can you hear me? I can hear you. Okay, I just have some questions I need to ask you. Alright, now... During the time you knew Sonya, when she was still alive, did she have mood swings? Yes.

(1:26:07 - 1:26:25)

So there were times when she would be happy and other times she would be sad? Correct. And would those mood swings last for a while? Yes. Days maybe? Yes.

(1:26:25 - 1:26:55)

Sometime even more than that? Um... I would say a mood swing would last no longer than like a week. Now, you mentioned that you've known her and you've been together for... ...somewhere around 16 years? Correct. And again, those mood swings you would see during those 16 years, correct? Correct.

(1:26:55 - 1:27:18)

And at one point you... ...I guess took her to see a psychologist, psychiatrist, someone in the mental health field, correct? Yes. Okay. Was it something that she would go to on a daily basis, weekly basis, monthly, do you recall? Weekly.

(1:27:18 - 1:27:33)

Weekly? Okay. How long was she doing that for? Um... She was in and out of therapy... ...for probably around about 15 years we were together. Okay.

(1:27:33 - 1:27:47)

And would it be the same therapist? Um... No, they would change over time. Okay. And would you always go with her? Most of the time, yes.

(1:27:48 - 1:28:14)

And during those times when she was seeing a therapist, was she giving medication? Yes. And would you see her take her medication? Yes. When was the last time you saw her take medication? A day... ...a day before I last saw her.

(1:28:15 - 1:28:22)

Okay, just to make sure I understand, it's a little fuzzy. You said the day before she left? That's correct, yes. Okay.

(1:28:29 - 1:28:47)

Are we talking about pills? Yes. Are we talking about more than one pill? Yes. Did you actually see her take the medication? If you don't recall, that's fine.

(1:28:49 - 1:29:05)

Um... Say again? I don't recall. Okay, that's fine, that's fine. But during the time she was with you, she was on medication and at least you would see her take medication at times, correct? Yes.

(1:29:05 - 1:29:27)

Okay. And again, there were some times that she seemed, for lack of a better term, normal and other times when she wasn't, correct? Can you repeat that? There were some times when she seemed normal and other times when she wasn't, correct? Yes, correct. Okay.

(1:29:29 - 1:29:41)

During the time you were with her, did she attempt suicide? Yes. And that was the two times you talked about? Yes. Was she taken to a hospital? Yes.

(1:29:50 - 1:30:05)

Now, at some point, she decided that she was going to stay with her sister? Mm-hmm. Is that a yes? Yes. And the only reason I'm asking you that is because even though you're somewhere else, it's kind of being recorded here.

(1:30:08 - 1:30:26)

So, was this decision made, I think you said something like weeks before? Yes. Okay. And during the time she told you she was going to stay with her sister, did she seem normal? No, she seemed the opposite, full of emotion.

(1:30:29 - 1:31:04)

Around the time she told you she was going to stay with her sister, do you know whether or not she had gone to see a therapist? I don't recall. Okay. But up until the point she left the UK, she was seeing a therapist on a weekly basis? Yes, she was seeing a therapist or had online therapy.

(1:31:06 - 1:31:41)

Do you recall the last time you went with her to a therapist, do you recall? And again, using the day she left as a point, do you remember the last time she went to see a therapist? I don't recall. Okay. Do you even recall if it was within the same month or months before? I want to say about a

month and a half.

(1:31:45 - 1:32:33)

Now, did you ever have contact with the therapist where they would call you if there was something they thought you needed to know? Yes. Did they ever call you and tell you that she wasn't showing up for her appointments? No, they never told me, because most of the time I went to her appointments. Okay.

You went with her most of the time? Yes. Okay. Now, when she told you she was going to stay with her sister, was there anything about the way she was telling you this that seemed like she was making it up? No, nothing.

(1:32:34 - 1:34:08)

Did she do or say anything that gave you any reason to doubt what she was saying? No, no. I completely, fully trusted and believed that that was what she was planning to do going to see her sister. Did you see or hear anything that suggested to you that she wasn't acting normal around that time? Can you repeat that, sorry? Sure.

Did you see or hear anything that suggested to you that she wasn't acting normal around the time she told you that she was going to stay with her sister? No, she was acting very upbeat and normal. Okay. Were you aware, well, I'm assuming you were aware that she had bought a plane ticket, correct? That's correct.

I didn't know she had a plane ticket. You said at one point you took her passport from her? Yes. So it wasn't done by the government or anyone, anything like that, you took it? The police often take it, but I knew it was signed in a form of ID and we had the belief and faith that we would overcome it and then not be able to give our passport back to her.

(1:34:08 - 1:34:19)

I didn't want her to get lost at the police station through pain and work and things like that. Okay. And again, I know it's because of the connection, so I just want to make sure I'm understanding what you're saying.

(1:34:19 - 1:34:32)

Okay. At one point, are you saying at one point the police took the passport or just you took it? They wanted to take it. The option was I take it or the police take it.

(1:34:33 - 1:35:20)

Okay. So it may have been the police or it may have been you? Yes. Okay.

So at this point, you're not sure which one of you took her passport? I took the passport. Okay. How long did you keep the passport before you gave it back to her? A fair few months.

I'd say probably about five to six months. And when you gave it back to her, it was because she was planning to go see her sister in Australia? Yes. And I thought that the threat of her wanting to leave or anything like that was behind us.

(1:35:27 - 1:36:31)

Now, you said she had two phones, correct? Yes. Did you give her the phones or these are two phones she bought? One she bought, one I think a friend gave her. Okay.

Fair enough. Thank you, sir. I don't have any more questions.

(1:36:31 - 1:37:11)

I just have two follow-up questions. Mr. Hunt, you said that when Sonia left that morning, she seemed very happy and was in a good mood? Yes. Okay.

And you had no concerns that morning when she left about her mental health? No. Later on, you found the letter that she wrote to herself from the plane, which would have just been a couple hours after you last saw her, right? That's correct. And did it seem when you read that letter that Sonia was in a good state of mind from that letter? No.

She was crying out for help. Thank you. I don't have any other questions.

(1:37:11 - 1:37:22)

Any recross examinations? Members of the jury, do any of you all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Seeing no hands, State, is this witness released? Yes, sir. We thank you and ask that he be released.

(1:37:23 - 1:37:28)

Defense? No objections. Okay, Mr. Hunt, we're going to go ahead and end the Zoom call. Thank you for your time, sir.

(1:37:29 - 1:37:40)

Thank you. State, you can call your next witness. State calls Gemma Isai.

(1:37:43 - 1:38:23)

Would the court give us a presentation note, please? Yes, sir. Would you like me to engage prosecution? Please, Your Honor. Come on up, ma'am.

Raise your right hand. Face the clerk to be sworn. Good morning, sir.

(1:38:24 - 1:38:36)

Good morning. Can you scoot up and make sure you talk into that microphone? You can pull that down so everybody can hear you a little bit. Is that better? Can everybody hear her? Members of the jury, can you all hear her okay? Okay.

(1:38:38 - 1:38:46)

Can you tell the jury your name? Gemma Isai. Gemma Teresa Isai. How do you spell your last name? I-S-A-J.

(1:38:47 - 1:38:57)

And where do you live? In Fairham, on the outskirts of Portsmouth. And that's in England? That's right. Are you married? Yes.

(1:38:57 - 1:39:15)

Are you employed? I was. I recently took a break. What kind of work did you do before you took a break? I supported the mental health of students with neurodivergent needs in education.

(1:39:16 - 1:40:03)

Do you have any siblings? Yes, I have siblings. Can you tell the jury their names and their birth order and the ages, if you know? I know them, it's whether I remember them in this moment. Our oldest brother is Mark.

He has severe learning disabilities. He's 49. And then I have my other older brother, Luke.

He is 47. And then it's myself, I'm 42. And then it's Barry, he's 39.

(1:40:04 - 1:40:19)

And then Sarah, he's 36. And how old would Sonia be today? She would be 33 today. Would it be fair to say that you and your siblings had a difficult start in life? Yes.

(1:40:20 - 1:41:02)

And why was that? Our mum, she had quite severe mental health challenges and our dad suffered with quite a few different addictions. Did that involve drug addictions with your father? Yes. When you and your siblings were very young, were you taken away from your parents? Yes.

Myself and my brother Luke, we cared a lot for our younger siblings. We were the older ones. We were taken into the care of the state.

(1:41:03 - 1:41:26)

How old was Sonia when that happened? It was just before Sonia's second birthday. And when you and your siblings were taken away from your parents by the state, where did you all go? Myself and Barry, we went to one foster home. Luke was in another and Sarah and Sonia went to another.

(1:41:28 - 1:41:40)

And Sarah was three years older than Sonia? Yes. Now were Sarah and Sonia eventually adopted? Yes. They were.

(1:41:40 - 1:42:16)

And how old was Sonia when she was adopted? I think she was about five years old when the adoption went through. So that would have made Sarah eight? Yes. Now during the three years that you were all living in kind of separate foster homes, before Sonia and Sarah were adopted, did you have contact with Sonia and Sarah? Yes, we did.

Regular contact through family centers. It was a very treasured time for us. As siblings, we helped each other a lot.

(1:42:17 - 1:42:43)

You were very close? Yes. Now after Sonia and Sarah were adopted, did you and your siblings have any contact with them? No. Why not? Once the adoption happened, Mr. and Mrs. Ikelby felt it was for the best for Sarah and Sonia to not have contact during that time.

(1:42:45 - 1:43:21)

Did you and your siblings miss and talk about Sonia and Sarah while you were gone? All the time. Every gathering, we would always talk about the times which we reunited. At some point, did you and your siblings reconnect with Sonia and Sarah? Yes.

When Sonia turned 18, we reconnected. And after you guys all reconnected, did you all become close again? Yes. It was like we'd never been apart.

(1:43:23 - 1:44:04)

During that time when you were reconnecting with Sonia, did you become aware of her mental health issues? Yes. Very early on, Sonia would open up and talk about her struggles. How far away did Sonia live from you as an adult? There was a time when I was living in Portsmouth, so it was very close by.

Maybe 15-20 minutes by car. And then once I moved to Fairham, it was still very similar because

of the traffic. So not that far away? No.

(1:44:04 - 1:44:28)

How often would you get to see Sonia? It would vary. When she was in a better place, she would engage with us more and interact. But when she was really struggling, she felt like she didn't deserve to be seen and would kind of keep us at distance.

(1:44:28 - 1:44:39)

It was really hard because we just wanted to see her no matter where she was at. Did she often cancel plans you had with her or just not show up? Yes. Very frequently.

(1:44:39 - 1:45:10)

Were you mad at her? Did you hold it against her? No, because we knew that she wanted to be there with us. We knew that she wanted to spend that time, but sometimes it was just too much. Now were you aware in the year preceding her murder that Sonia had gotten involved with some people online that were offering to kill her? In November of 2023, did you and your siblings have a family get-together because Sara was moving back to Australia? Yes, we did.

(1:45:10 - 1:45:35)

And was Sonia at that gathering? Yes. Is that when you became aware that she had gotten involved with some kind of violent, dangerous people on the dark web? She said to me that she needed to talk about something. And so we went and sat in another room.

(1:45:42 - 1:46:13)

Sorry. Do you want to take a break? Take a moment. We went and sat in another room and she told me that she had got into something and that she was really terrified.

(1:46:14 - 1:47:09)

That people had been making some horrible threats to her and threats even against the family that they knew where she was and they could locate her. And Sonia said that she had gone on to some suicide forums for support and that on these forums there were people that were preying on Sonia and her friends that she had made online. And Sonia said that she was trying to gather evidence because she couldn't bear that people were being hurt and she said that she needed to do this to gather the evidence so that she could stop these things from happening to other people.

(1:47:09 - 1:47:50)

Were you concerned enough after Sonia talked to you and brought this to your attention that did

you actually contact the police about what Sonia had told you? Yes. I phoned the police in that moment because, especially with the work that I was doing, I know a lot of my job is to try and protect and support vulnerable people and I could see how scared Sonia was. So you and Sonia actually went to the police and they maybe started some investigation? I contacted the police and I contacted the mental health crisis team and got her support.

(1:47:50 - 1:48:10)

For Sonia? Yes. And we spoke, made sure that our siblings were aware so we could try and wrap around that support for her. Now did you, Sara and Sonia have plans to meet up and spend some time together the weekend of October 10th of 2025? Yes.

(1:48:10 - 1:48:53)

Can you tell the jury about what your plans were initially? So, Sara was due to arrive on Saturday the 11th of October and Sonia messaged and said that she was going to come and stay on the Friday and that we would travel up to the airport together and that we would have that weekend together to enjoy. And, you know, when we missed so many times that when we had those opportunities to get together, it was something that we really treasured. So I was very excited at the thought.

(1:48:54 - 1:50:00)

So all of you, Sara and Sonia, were all excited about this? Yes. And how was Sonia going to get to your house? I offered to pick her up, but she was quite adamant about getting a taxi over. Now, I know she initially had told you that she would be there on Friday, October 10th.

Did that change when she was going to come to meet you and Sara? Yes. So initially it was a Friday and then she, as the time got closer, she said, oh, I'll come to the airport with you on the Saturday. And then when it came to the Saturday, she, you know, as we got closer, she said, oh, no, I'm not coming to the airport.

I'll meet you at the Sunday. And she said, I'll see you Sunday at 2 o'clock. And she was very specific about the time.

And again, I offered to pick her up, but she said, I'll get a taxi. In hindsight, that was a bit different. But she was familiar with taxis and I thought maybe she was coming from her friends or something.

(1:50:01 - 1:50:12)

So she left it with you, I'll be there Sunday, October 12th at 2 o'clock. Yes. And when Sunday, October 12th came around at 2 o'clock, did she come to your house? No.

(1:50:13 - 1:51:15)

And what did you and Sara think when she didn't show up as she was supposed to? I didn't think a lot of it because it was quite usual for Sonia to not arrive. Sometimes the plans became too much. So I just sent her a message and said, we'd love to see her if she is able to.

And again, offered to come and pick her up. Did she ever respond to your message? No. Now, on Sunday evening of October 12th of 2025, did you learn that Sonia was actually missing? Yes.

Stevie contacted me to see how Sonia was. Sonia had sent a message over the weekend to say that her phone was broken so she could only communicate through messenger. And when Stevie said that she was, you know, where was she, I only thought that it was for that day because we were expecting to see her on the Sunday.

(1:51:17 - 1:52:00)

And when I phoned and spoke with Stevie and learned that she'd been missing since Friday morning, it was very concerning. Did you agree with the decision to call the police right away that Sunday? As soon as I spoke to Stevie, I said to contact the police because she had already been missing two days at this point. And when you learned that she had actually flown to the United States without telling anyone, what did you do to try to help find her? Then I did a post, I wrote a post and we looked at it together as a family and we put it over all of the Florida missing sites, as many as that we could identify.

(1:52:01 - 1:52:26)

We wanted to make sure that we spread the word far and wide because we knew how vulnerable she was and we wanted to try and make sure that we found her safe and well. John, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'm going to show you a Western Marker identification of State's Exhibit E and ask you, do you recognize that photograph? Yes.

(1:52:26 - 1:52:38)

Who's that picture? Sonja Axelby. Is that a fair and accurate depiction of the way Sonja looked on October 10th of 2025? Yes. John, at this time will you move State's Exhibit E into evidence? No objection, Your Honor.

(1:52:38 - 1:52:56)

Without objection, Western Marker identification of State's Exhibit E will be admitted into evidence of State's Exhibit 4. And may we publish, Your Honor? Yes, ma'am. Is that your sister, Sonja? Yes. I don't have any other questions, Judge.

(1:52:56 - 1:53:00)

Okay. Any cross-examination? Yes, Judge. As soon as the State.

(1:53:01 - 1:53:12)

Thank you. Good morning. Good morning.

(1:53:14 - 1:53:24)

If at some point I ask a question and you don't understand it, just let me know. Thank you. And I know I have an accent, so again, if you don't understand it, just let me know.

(1:53:24 - 1:53:29)

Okay, thank you. If you don't recall something, just let me know. You don't remember, that's fine.

(1:53:29 - 1:53:44)

Okay, thank you very much. No problem. You said at one point when you spoke to your sister, she mentioned to you that there was a website she was going on that she was being threatened.

(1:53:45 - 1:54:04)

Is that correct? Yes. And you said you went to the police? We did, yeah. Do you know whether or not the police had investigated you? When I spoke to the police we contacted, it's called 111 in the UK, it's not an emergency number.

(1:54:05 - 1:54:31)

And they said that they were looking into it when we spoke on the phone. They said about getting her mental health support, which we did. And when I spoke to Sonia the week after, she mentioned that there hadn't been much contact.

(1:54:32 - 1:55:02)

And so I suggested that she sent the evidence because she had shown me some screenshots of some of the threats. And she had said that she had lost friends and that they had confessed to some very violent crimes to her and sent videos. And so I suggested that she sent that information to, there's an online forum where we can send the information to the police.

(1:55:03 - 1:55:31)

Okay. Did you actually speak to any police officers? I didn't, no, they didn't come back to me at that time. Now, when you spoke to your sister about these threats, do you recall whether or not it was one person or several different individuals? She said that there were several individuals that she was talking to.

(1:55:32 - 1:56:14)

And you essentially told her to send it to the police, or do you recall if you were involved with getting that information to the police? I was involved with the initial call and calling the police, but the sending of the information, I wasn't. Do you know whether or not any of those individuals was from the UK? Not to my understanding, no. It was one person in particular that she spoke with more, as far as I remember the conversations, but they all had different usernames, so I don't remember who was who.

(1:56:14 - 1:56:27)

Okay. But you actually saw the messages? I did see the messages. Okay, so when you said you went to the police, you're talking about really just calling the number or physically going? No, I called the police.

(1:56:27 - 1:57:12)

Okay. Now, the plans to meet up with your sister, was that made weeks before or just days before she disappeared? Initially, it was weeks before, and as we got closer, that changed. Now, at that point, was there an actual date you all were supposed to meet up? Well, Sarah was arriving on Saturday the 11th, and I was driving to the airport to pick her up, and initially, Sonia was going to stay the night before and travel with me to the airport to pick up Sarah.

(1:57:13 - 1:57:35)

So, your sister meeting Sonia was supposed to be with you the Friday, the day before the other sister was to fly? Yes, initially. Initially. And then, did she call you and change it? She sent messages as we got closer to the day, and then she said that she'll come to the airport, but not stay over the night before.

(1:57:35 - 1:57:47)

And then, when it come to pick Sarah up, she said that she was just going to come on the Sunday at 2 o'clock. She was very specific about that time. Okay.

(1:57:48 - 1:58:16)

Through the messages, was there anything in the messages that gave you any concern that maybe she wasn't her normal self? I hate to use the word normal, but just that she wasn't her normal self? At that time, there wasn't anything that worried me. She said her phone was broken. Yeah, there wasn't anything that I was particularly worried about with the messages.

(1:58:16 - 1:58:45)

It was quite common for it to become too much for Sonia to carry through with plans. Okay. Did

you ever actually speak to her on the phone? I think maybe a couple of weeks before I had a conversation with her on the phone.

I can't remember the exact date, though. But when you offered, she definitely didn't want you to come and pick her up. She said she would best go find a way to you.

(1:58:45 - 1:59:52)

Yes. Okay. You also mentioned that there were times that the phrase I think you used was a better place.

I'm assuming you mean that she seemed steady in terms of her interaction with you. She seems okay. Is that correct? Yeah.

When she was feeling better, she would engage with conversation and interact with us more than when she was struggling with her mental health. As I said before, she would push us away and make it very difficult because she didn't feel like she deserved to have us contact and have us be around her. She didn't want to put anything extra on us.

(1:59:53 - 2:00:29)

But it's completely opposite to what we wanted. We just wanted to be there and be with her. Understood.

And if I got you corrected, the last time you spoke to her, as opposed to messages, would have been, what, weeks before, correct? Yes. No other questions, just thank you. Any redirecting sentences? No, Your Honor.

I have no further questions. Members of the jury, do any of you all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Seeing no hands, State, is this witness released? Yes.

We'd ask that she be released. Okay. Defense, is she released? No objection.

(2:00:30 - 2:01:10)

Ma'am, you're free to go about your day. Thank you for your time. State, on your lineup for how long you expect witnesses to take or their arrival time, the next witness looks like they may be a little while.

Would now be a good time for a short recess? Probably, Your Honor. Okay. Members of the jury, we're going to take about a 10-minute recess.

It will be long enough for you all to go to the back, use the restroom, get a drink, and come back out, okay? Leave your notepads here on your chairs, closed up, and get them to get back. Again,

on break, do not discuss the case with one another or any other person. Should you happen to use your phones or electronic devices, do not use them to learn about the case, the people or places involved in the case, or anything to do with the case.

(2:01:10 - 2:02:19)

And again, my directive to not access social media or any news site continues to apply. Okay? We'll see you back in about 10 minutes. The jury's exited the court.

We're going to be at recess for 10 minutes. I know we have a lot of folks here in the audience, so that you all know we have restrooms here on the fourth floor. If you go out these double doors to the left, there's restrooms over there.

(2:02:19 - 2:02:32)

There are restrooms in front of courtroom 4A on the other side of the floor. We also have some single-stall restrooms out to the left. Okay? Everybody who is here, if you want to be here for the continuation of the trial, please make sure to be back within 10 minutes.

(2:02:32 - 2:02:41)

I don't want to have witnesses coming and going when anybody's on the witness stand. We need to make sure that the jury hears everything that they need to hear. So just be quick with the break.

(2:02:41 - 2:11:47)

We'll be back in 10 minutes. Okay. Is anybody from the audience we expect to be filtering back in? Let's go ahead and bring in the jury.

(2:11:48 - 2:13:05)

Thank you. Everyone can be seated. Thank you.

(2:13:05 - 2:13:10)

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back. State, you can call your next witness. State, call Darren Thomas.

(2:13:47 - 2:13:55)

Raise your right hand and face the court. Please stand. You can go ahead and be seated.

(2:13:59 - 2:14:36)

Would you please introduce yourself to the jury? I'm Detective Sergeant Darren Thomas of the

Hampshire and I'm a white constabulary based in the UK. You said New Hampshire? Hampshire. Okay.

What do you do as a Detective Sergeant over there? So I've been a police officer for 29 years, Detective Sergeant since 2012. For the last three years, I'm the supervisor on the missing team, one of three missing teams in Hampshire that covers the Portsmouth area. And what do you do? What does the missing team do? Yeah, so our role is primarily to conduct investigations into locating missing individuals.

(2:14:37 - 2:14:51)

Okay. Let me direct your attention to Monday morning, October 13th of 2025. Did you receive a report regarding a missing person named Sonia Exelby taken by Constable Alex Brown the previous evening? Yes.

(2:14:51 - 2:15:23)

And who is Constable Alex Brown? Constable Alex Brown is a response officer who did attend the initial missing person report, take the details off of the reporting person and make an initial risk assessment. I believe he would have undertaken inquiries at the address, searched the address and seized some items as well. Would Constable Alex Brown have been the one to actually go out and make contact with Stephen Hunt? Yes, that would be correct.

(2:15:24 - 2:15:48)

So in the UK, if someone calls in to report a missing person, can you describe for the jury the process that you undergo? Yeah, so someone would be reported missing. An officer would be dispatched to attend that location and speak to the reporting person. They would obtain details as to the circumstances of that missing person's disappearance.

(2:15:49 - 2:16:07)

Like I say, search the address. And then based on all the information that the reporting person is given, make an assessment as to the level of risk and potentially seize any items that could be considered evidence or may give whereabouts. I have no idea as to the whereabouts of the missing individual.

(2:16:08 - 2:16:32)

And again, who made the report, the missing person report in this case? Stevie Hunt. How would you have gotten involved personally? So yeah, I'm the supervisor on the missing person team. When I came on duty the morning after the report had been taken, we agreed to take ownership of the investigation and I directed my staff to conduct a number of inquiries.

(2:16:32 - 2:17:09)

Did Constable Alex Brown's report contain some personal information about Sonia Exelby, such as her social media accounts, passwords, banking information, potential flight information, things like that? Yes, it did. And had a laptop computer also been collected as evidence by Constable Alex Brown the night before you got involved? Yes, it had. And was that laptop brought to the police station? Yes, as in all property in the UK, the seizing officer brings that into the police station to be booked into our secure property store.

(2:17:10 - 2:17:35)

It's allocated a specific unique reference number and then put into an evidence bag and booked into property. When somebody collects a piece of evidence, such as the laptop you described, does the collecting officer write information on the packaging as well? Yes. Like what? They would just write their name, date and time that they took possession of that item and obviously provide a description as to what the item is.

(2:17:35 - 2:17:52)

And you said a label is generated to put on the piece of evidence? Yes, that's correct. What information is on that label? So it's, again, just the description of the item and a unique property reference number. And at some point did you take possession of the laptop that Constable Alex Brown collected from Stephen Hunt? Yes, I did.

(2:17:56 - 2:18:05)

Can I try one? Yes, sir. I'm showing you what the mark that states is an F in the frame. Take a look at that.

(2:18:05 - 2:18:24)

Tell me if you recognize that item. Yes, that is the laptop that was initially seized by Constable Alex Brown that I took possession of. Do you recognize Constable Alex Brown's ID number on that and his information? Yes.

(2:18:24 - 2:18:44)

Okay. And does that laptop also contain the identifying information of where it was collected, what it is, and the case number and things like that? Yes, it does. At this time, Your Honor, the State would move... Is that laptop in the same or substantially the same condition as when it was provided to you and you collected it? Yes, it appears to be.

(2:18:44 - 2:18:49)

Okay. At this time, the State would move F into evidence of States 5, Your Honor. No objection, Judge.

(2:18:49 - 2:19:32)

That objection was to mark for identification that States Exhibit F will be admitted into evidence of States Exhibit 5. Did you eventually transfer custody of that laptop to a special agent from the Thor Department of Law Enforcement named Rebecca McKenzie? Yes, I did. How did that happen? So in November last year, special agent McKenzie came over to the UK and she was provided with a number of pieces of evidence and information, and that laptop was one of them that I handed directly to her. Okay.

(2:19:33 - 2:20:10)

Once you received the missing persons report generated by Constable Alex Brown, what steps did you first take? So initially, I directed my team to conduct some inquiries in relation... The initial information on the report suggested there was a chance that Ms. Ex will be left in the UK. So we made inquiries with the Virgin Airline. We conducted some financial inquiries through our Financial Investigation Unit to identify if there was any relevant financial transactions and identify accounts belonging to Ms. Exelby.

(2:20:11 - 2:20:43)

And we also conducted some inquiries in relation to phone data for devices that phones that we believe to be in Ms. Exelby's possession. Is this all being done on an expedited basis? Yes. So logistically, how do you and your team reach out to the airlines, the financial institutions you've described? So email and phone calls initially, and then with regards to the communications data, that's done through a specialist team.

(2:20:44 - 2:21:15)

We make an application and they go direct to the phone companies. And then, as I said, with the financial records, we go to our Financial Investigation Unit and they make contact with the police liaison departments at the relevant banks and obtain the information. And because it involves a missing person on the exigent basis, do these institutions send you their records pretty much immediately? Yes, although they don't send the formal records at that stage because it's effectively done on an intelligence-only basis because it's expedited at that point.

(2:21:16 - 2:21:46)

So they provide you the information, but not maybe the full record. Is it common then later on for you to follow up with formal legal requests to these companies and have them send you the actual records? Yes. As your team is getting this information from these various companies, the

airlines, the banking institutions, things like that, are you being updated as far as what the information shows? Yes.

(2:21:48 - 2:22:32)

Did you and your intelligence team investigate whether Sonia Exelby did in fact board any flights? So the information we received from Virgin Airline indicated that Ms. Exelby had boarded a flight at London Heathrow and had flown into Atlanta and then had subsequently boarded another flight at Atlanta and flown to Gainesville. Now, at this time, the State would introduce States Exhibit G into evidence as States Exhibit 6, the Virgin Atlantic flight records, their self-authenticating and business record certifications that are attached as well as notice being provided to the defense. Any objections? Without objection, then, States Exhibit G will be admitted into evidence as States Exhibit 6. And first looks? Yes, sir.

(2:22:34 - 2:23:17)

Can you take a look at that exhibit and tell me if you recognize that? Yes, that's information from Virgin Atlantic Airlines in relation to that travel booking. Your Honor, may I publish? Yes, sir. I'm showing you States Exhibit 6. What do we see here? So again, that's the custom record relating to that booking and the method that that booking was made, the payment method and obviously the cost of that ticket as well and the flight itinerary.

(2:23:17 - 2:23:52)

And the left side, is that the full document and the right side just a portion blown up to make it easier to read? Yes, that's correct. So what was determined as far as whether Ms. Exelby actually boarded a flight? So on the itinerary, the information received from Virgin Atlantic, it shows that she physically checked in and checked in at the gate and boarded the aircraft on the flight from Heathrow to Atlanta and then Atlanta to Georgia. However, she had failed to check in for her pre-booked return flight at Gainesville to Atlanta.

(2:23:52 - 2:24:36)

And according to the records from Virgin Airlines, on what date did she fly from Heathrow in England to the U.S.? That was on the 10th of October 2025 and she was due to return back on the 13th of October 2025. And in the upper right box of the right-hand side of the screen, what were the last four digits of the credit card number that was used to book this flight? 8331. And in the middle box on the right, how much did this flight cost? That's £593.92. You mentioned earlier that you and part of your team also investigated Ms. Exelby's financial records? Yes, that's right.

(2:24:36 - 2:24:59)

From the banking institutions? At this time, Your Honor, State would move State's Exhibit H into evidence as State's 7. They are bank records from Lloyd Bank for the victim. A business record

certification is included and notice has been provided to the defense. Without objection, Judge.

(2:24:59 - 2:25:26)

Without objection, then State's Exhibit H will be admitted to evidence as State's Exhibit 7. Do you recognize the document I just handed you? Yes, that is banking records relating to Ms. Exelby's Lloyd Bank account. May I publish, Your Honor? Yes, Your Honor. Showing you State's Exhibit 7, you said they're in the victim's name.

(2:25:26 - 2:25:59)

What do we see in the box up in the top left-hand corner? The victim's first full name and surname and her home address. And we see a column called Date. In the U.K., how do you express Date? In the U.K., Date is written down and expressed as Day, Month, Year as opposed to Month, Day, Year as you do in the U.S. So what month or what period of time do these records cover? The first date on the first column there is the 1st of September 2025.

(2:26:00 - 2:26:08)

So that's December 1st, not January 9th. Understood. Showing you the next page of those records.

(2:26:08 - 2:26:34)

Did you locate – was a charge located on Ms. Exelby's financial data from the Lloyd Bank records for £593.92? Yes. And what was that charge for according to the records? According to the records, that was for the booking of the Virgin Atlantic flights. And does that charge correspond with the amount that was paid for the flight from Virgin Airlines that we saw in the previous exhibit? Yes, it does.

(2:26:34 - 2:26:44)

It's the same amount. Does it also – their entry also include the last four digits of the credit card used to pay for that flight? Yes, it does. It's card 8331, which is the same card.

(2:26:47 - 2:26:58)

Showing you the next page. What month are we looking at now? This is the month of October 2025. Showing you the next page.

(2:26:58 - 2:27:27)

There's a box showing some entries. What did the records show as far as any recent transactions or attempted transactions involving Sonia Exelby's bank or credit card after she landed in the U.S.? So, the financial inquiries identified that on the 11th of October 2025, there were four

attempted transactions. They didn't actually go through, but four attempted transactions from Ms. Exelby's account to Solver Wolf's roadside assistance.

(2:27:27 - 2:27:59)

And for the record, how much were each of those transactions attempted? So, the first two transactions were for the same amount, for £226.28. There was a transaction for £150.85 and a transaction for £75.43, so they were decreasing. Do Ms. Exelby's financial records from Lloyds Bank indicate the credit card that was being used for these attempted transactions? Yes, they do. It's a card 8331, the same as previously.

(2:27:59 - 2:28:19)

Does that correspond with the same last four digits that was used to book the diversion to Atlantic Flights? Yes. Did you learn that there was another bank account associated with Sonia Exelby? Yes, I did. Financial inquiries also identified that there was a Tesco bank account.

(2:28:20 - 2:28:33)

At this time, Your Honour, the State would move States I into evidence as States VIII. It is Sonia Exelby's records from Tesco Bank. A business record certification is attached and proper notice was provided to the defence.

(2:28:33 - 2:28:52)

No objection. Without objection, States Exhibit I will be admitted to evidence as States Exhibit VIII. Can you take a look at those items and call for that item as well? Yes, that is the banking record for Ms. Exelby's Tesco bank account.

(2:28:53 - 2:29:04)

May I publish, Your Honour? Yes, Your Honour. Showing you the first page of States Exhibit VIII, the Tesco bank records. Again, does the left side show the full page and the right side just show a blow-up of that section? Yes.

(2:29:05 - 2:29:43)

And in whose name are these records? Again, in the name of Ms. Sonia Exelby with her home address as well. Did her bank records from Tesco Bank reflect usage of her credit card around the same period as the attempted transactions we just talked about involving Lloyds Bank? Yes, they did. What did they show? They showed one confirmed transaction that had gone through and cleared, with the transaction clearing date being the 12th of October, 2025, and that was a payment made to Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance.

(2:29:43 - 2:30:02)

Is that Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance the same company that tried to access her credit card with the other bankers we just looked at? Yes, that's correct. And when did the actual transaction take place, according to the records? The transaction card payment was made on the 11th of October. And it cleared the bank the next day on the 12th? That's correct.

(2:30:02 - 2:30:52)

How much was that transaction for in pounds? That transaction was for £905.11. Do the records indicate how much that would equate to in U.S. dollars? The records show that based on that currency transaction rate, that that would have been $1,200 U.S. dollars. So at this point, did you know that Ms. Exelby's bank accounts were involved in transactions with Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance in the U.S. after she apparently landed in Gainesville? Yes. At this point, did you know who was associated with Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance? So based on that information, just from a basic Google search, I identified that Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance was a roadside recovery business.

(2:30:53 - 2:31:32)

And open source research just on Google identified that that was owned and run by Duane Hall. Did Sonia Exelby's bank records give you any information about where Sonia Exelby may have been staying once she landed in the U.S.? So the banking records indicated that she may have booked an Airbnb. I'm showing you States Exhibit 7. What do we see here in the red box? So again, that's a transaction from the 22nd of September, 2025, showing a booking for Airbnb.

(2:31:33 - 2:32:02)

And how much was that booking for, according to the records? For £218.95. Was there a confirmation associated with the booking of that Airbnb, a confirmation number? Yes, the confirmation number is the HMSYBX5JN reference number on there. Is it possible to track that confirmation number to figure out where that Airbnb is located? Yes, via an application to Airbnb. And was that done? Yes.

(2:32:07 - 2:32:19)

At this time, State would move States Exhibit J into evidence and States Exhibit 9. These are the Airbnb reservation records. A business record certification is attached and proper notice has been given to the defense. No objection to that.

(2:32:20 - 2:32:47)

Without objection, States Exhibit J will be admitted to evidence and States Exhibit 9. May I approach? Yes, sir. Showing you States Exhibit 9. Can you take a look at that and tell me if that

looks familiar? Yes, that is the application requesting the guest reservation details from Airbnb. May I publish that? Yes, sir.

(2:32:49 - 2:33:14)

Showing you States Exhibit 9. Can you explain to the jury what we see here? So that is the confirmation code, the booking reference number HMSYBX5JN4. And does that confirmation code correspond to the confirmation code we just looked at from her Lloyd Bank records? Yes, it's the same reference number. Is that what we see here? Yes, that's correct.

(2:33:20 - 2:33:44)

According to the Airbnb guest reservation details, what date was the reservation to begin? The reservation was scheduled to commence from the 10th of October 2025. And is that date consistent with the flight information showing that was when she was coming to the U.S.? Yes. How long was the reservation for according to the records? For two nights.

(2:33:45 - 2:34:13)

Did the reservation details also give you the address of the Airbnb? Provided the location as 1623 Northwest 122nd Terrace. Did the Airbnb records also show you the name of the person who booked that Airbnb? Yes, it shows that that reservation was made by Sonia Exelby. And was there a phone number associated with the reservation? There was a contact phone number and an email address provided.

(2:34:13 - 2:34:54)

So I'm showing you states 6 and 9. Does that phone number correspond with the phone number used according to the Virgin Atlantic records to book that flight? Yes, it's the same phone number. Was this information that we just talked about and was obtained by you and your team provided to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement officers in Gainesville? Yes, it was. Although it is quite a complicated and bureaucratic process to transfer information, provide information across borders.

(2:34:54 - 2:35:40)

You can't just pick up the phone and call a colleague in another country. So yes, I completed a report detailing the information that we'd ascertained to that date requesting that the U.S. authorities start making investigations into trying to locate Ms. Exelby. And then that was transmitted via our international liaison officer in our force, via the National Crime Agency based in Manchester in the UK, to the NCB, which is the Interpol office in Washington, D.C. And then it was obviously passed to local state law enforcement and ultimately to Special Agent McKenzie at the FDLE.

(2:35:41 - 2:35:59)

So this is a complicated, long process to exchange information between the U.S. and the UK. It can be, yes. Did you and your intelligence team also request surveillance footage from Heathrow Airport around the time Sonia Exelby would have arrived and boarded the plane to travel to the U.S.? Yes, we did.

(2:35:59 - 2:36:16)

And where is Heathrow? Heathrow Airport is in London. It's in West London. Were you provided such surveillance footage? Yes, we were provided footage from the security area at Heathrow that passengers have to transit through before they get to a departure gate.

(2:36:18 - 2:36:42)

So at this point, your information has gone through the process to get to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement here in Gainesville, right? Okay. Moving ahead a few months later, you mentioned earlier, did Special Agent Rebecca McKenzie come to the UK? Yes, she did in November 2025. And did you assist her in her doing some additional investigation and some interviews and things like that? I did, yes.

(2:36:43 - 2:36:53)

Did you also transfer the laptop that was introduced earlier over to her custody? At that time, I did, yes. Thank you, sir. No other questions, Your Honor.

(2:36:53 - 2:37:21)

Any cross-examination? Good morning, sir. Good morning. Just to make clear, the flight as well as the Airbnb were booked on Ms. Exley's account, correct? That's correct, yes.

(2:37:21 - 2:37:31)

Her credit card? Her credit card, yes. Did your investigation indicate or suggest that someone else may have used her credit card to do the booking? We found no evidence that that was the case. Okay.

(2:37:34 - 2:38:02)

And again, both the account on the Airbnb as well as the flight itself, do you recall whether or not that was booked the day before or the month before, do you recall that? The banking records will show, but I believe it was booked, they were both booked prior to Ms. Exley traveling to the U.S. in October 2025. I believe they were booked in September. In September.

(2:38:15 - 2:38:21)

I don't have any other questions. Any redirect examination? No, Your Honor. Members of the jury, do any of you all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand.

(2:38:23 - 2:38:27)

Okay, seeing no hands, State, is he released? He is, Your Honor. Defense? No objections, Your Honor. Sir, you're free to go about your day.

(2:38:28 - 2:38:30)

Thank you for your time. Thank you. State, call your next witness.

(2:38:30 - 2:39:40)

State calls Riley Artman. Ms. Burke, can you come up to the exhibits? Raise your right hand, face the court, please swear. Good morning.

(2:39:40 - 2:39:46)

Good morning. Can you please tell the jury your name? My name is Riley Artman. And where do you work? The Marion County Sheriff's Office.

(2:39:46 - 2:39:58)

How long have you worked for the Marion County Sheriff's Office? I have worked there for 10 years. And what is your position with the Marion County Sheriff's Office? Currently, I am a patrol deputy. How long have you been a patrol deputy? For 10 years.

(2:39:59 - 2:40:16)

I want to direct your attention to Monday, October 13th of 2025. On that date, did you respond to 16293 Northwest 122nd Terrace in Reddick, Florida? I did. Approximately what time did you arrive there? Sometime in the morning.

(2:40:16 - 2:40:43)

I don't remember the specific time. Would the incident detail report help you recollect the time you arrived? Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. It was around 8.26 in the morning.

(2:40:43 - 2:40:45)

Okay, so 8.26 Monday morning. Yes, ma'am. All right.

(2:40:45 - 2:40:57)

And did any other deputies arrive on the scene shortly after you? Deputy Linnell. All right. And why did you and Deputy Linnell go to this address? We were dispatched there to conduct a well-being check at the location.

(2:40:57 - 2:41:03)

There's a small Airbnb on the front part of the property. All right. And who were you looking for? Sonya Exelby.

(2:41:03 - 2:41:12)

All right. Was she a missing and endangered person from New England? Okay. And you said there was an Airbnb at this address? Yes, ma'am.

(2:41:12 - 2:41:26)

All right. And what did you do once you arrived at the address? We walked up, conducted a security check of the property. I looked in the windows, knocked on the door, tried to see if there was possibly anybody inside, which there was not at that time.

(2:41:26 - 2:41:30)

All right. So nobody answered the door? No, ma'am. And you were able to look inside? Yes, ma'am.

(2:41:31 - 2:41:49)

Did you actually go inside? No, ma'am. Did the Airbnb appear to be vacant? It did. Did you or Deputy Linnell speak with some neighbors next to the Airbnb to see if they had any information about Sonya Exelby? We did talk to a neighbor directly next door to where the Airbnb was located.

(2:41:49 - 2:41:55)

All right. Were you able to get any relevant information from the neighbor about the whereabouts of Sonya Exelby? No, ma'am. Okay.

(2:41:56 - 2:42:09)

And did you locate Sonya Exelby anywhere near the property that morning? No, ma'am. Did you or Deputy Linnell let an agent from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement know that you could not locate her? Deputy Linnell was the one who made contact with them. All right.

(2:42:09 - 2:42:21)

And were you wearing body camera that morning? Yes, ma'am. Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'm showing you what's been marked with an indication that states exhibit K. You can look at that.

(2:42:22 - 2:42:28)

Tell me, do you recognize that? I do. Okay. How do you recognize it? It has the date and my initials on it.

(2:42:28 - 2:42:39)

All right. What is that? It is a copy of the well-being check camera footage from that night, or that morning. And is that a fair and accurate depiction of the relevant portions of your body camera from October 13th of 2025? Yes, ma'am.

(2:42:39 - 2:42:46)

Your Honor, at this time we have moved states exhibit K as evidence. No objections, Your Honor. Without objection, states exhibit K will be admitted to evidence as states exhibit 10.

(2:42:47 - 2:42:54)

And this is just a small portion of your body camera that shows you going up to the Airbnb? That's correct. Yes, ma'am. Your Honor, at this time may I publish? Yes, ma'am.

(2:42:54 - 2:43:02)

Would you like me to read instruction 2.2? Yes, Your Honor. Please. Members of the jury, you're about to view and listen to an audio-video recording.

(2:43:02 - 2:45:19)

The court instructs you that the recording has been edited to eliminate irrelevant portions that would not add to your understanding of the case. The fact that the recording has been edited should not concern you in any way and must not impact the way you view, listen to, and consider this evidence. And that's all the questions I have, Judge.

(2:45:20 - 2:45:28)

No questions, Your Honor. Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Okay, is this witness released? No, Your Honor, he will be recalled at a later time.

(2:45:28 - 2:45:35)

Okay, sir, just remain in contact with the state, okay? Okay. Thank you. State, you can call your next witness.

(2:45:35 - 2:46:40)

State calls Calvary. Face the clerk, raise your right hand if you swear. Do you swear to hold firm the testimony you're about to give to the truth, the whole truth, and the goodness of your soul, dear God? I do.

(2:46:40 - 2:46:46)

All right, you can go ahead and be seated, sir. Thank you. Good morning.

(2:46:46 - 2:46:54)

Good morning. Can you please tell the jury your name? Calvin Lee. Where do you work? With the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, also known as FDLE.

(2:46:55 - 2:47:12)

How long have you worked for FDLE? Since October 2019. And where did you work prior to FDLE? I was with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office from March of 2013 until October 2019. And what is your position with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement? I'm a special agent.

(2:47:13 - 2:47:35)

And what are your duties as a special agent with FDLE? We conduct violent crimes, crimes against persons, property, such as fraud, crimes against children. I'm in a field office, so we work generally everything. Where is the field office located that you're in? It's called the Gainesville Field Office, but it's actually in the city of Alachua.

(2:47:35 - 2:47:56)

I want to direct your attention to Monday, October 13th of 2025. On that date, did you become involved in assisting the United Kingdom in locating a missing and endangered woman named Sonia Exelby? Yes, I did. And did you learn that a business in Marion County called Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance had attempted to run one of Sonia's credit cards? Yes, I did.

(2:47:57 - 2:48:11)

And through what processing company was Sonia's card ran? It was Talent Processing, which is ultimately maintained in records housed by Elavon Bank. Elavon Bank. Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am.

(2:48:13 - 2:48:22)

Your Honor, I would move into evidence, States Exhibit L. It's the Elavon Bank records. We have provided notice to the defendant, and there is a business record certification. No objection, Judge.

(2:48:23 - 2:48:40)

Without objection, States Exhibit L will be amended to evidence in States Exhibit 10. I'm sorry, 11. If you could look at States 11 and tell me, do you recognize those? Yes, I do.

(2:48:41 - 2:49:12)

Are those the bank records associated with Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance that attempted to run one of Sonia Exelby's credit cards? Yes, through Elavon. Your Honor, may I publish the records? Yes, ma'am. Is this the merchant profile? Yes, it is.

(2:49:14 - 2:49:25)

And does this tell you who the owner of Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance is? Yes, it is. Duane Hall. And that would be right here where it says the owner? Yes.

(2:49:26 - 2:50:09)

All right. And do these records also give you the phone number of Duane Hall? Yes, they do. All right.

Can you tell us what the phone number of Duane Hall is? That would be 330-575-4894. And does this also give you an email address that's associated with this company? Yes, it does. Okay.

And what's the email address? It is darkwolf44646 at gmail.com. So this comes with those bank records from Elavon and kind of tells you who owns the company and information about the person that owns the company? Correct. Which is Duane Hall. And now these are the actual records pertaining to Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance? Yes.

(2:50:09 - 2:50:28)

Okay. And we have here, these all seem to be from October 11, 2025. What are these records showing? They are showing transactions that were processed through TALIC, which is the processing company used by Duane Hall's business.

(2:50:28 - 2:50:41)

And those are declined and an approved credit card from two out-of-country credit cards. Okay. So we have a credit card ending in 8331 and one ending in 0804.

(2:50:42 - 2:51:20)

Were both of those credit cards associated with Sonya XLB? Yes, they were determined later on to be. And did one of these transactional actions per card ending in 0804 actually go through? Yes, and that would be the $1,200 charge that was highlighted there. Okay.

And then what was the date of that transaction? October 11, 2025 at 110.32 p.m. And these are different from some attempts that were made on another credit card of Sonya XLB's? Correct. And those attempts did not go through? They did not. And are these in Eastern Standard Time? Yes, they are.

(2:51:20 - 2:51:46)

These records? They are. Now, even though you knew that the Solver Wolf's business attempted to run one of Sonya XLB's credit cards, at the time you spoke with him, did you actually have these records? And did you know that one of these transactions had actually gone through? I did not. So when you first spoke with Duane Hall, you only knew that he had attempted to run one of her cards four times? Correct.

(2:51:46 - 2:51:59)

All right. Now, once you knew that he owned the business, Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance, did you attempt to make contact with Duane Hall to ask him about that attempted charge? Yes, I did. All right.

(2:52:00 - 2:52:12)

And did you actually speak with him? Yes, I did. All right. When is the first time, the date of the first time you spoke with him? It would have been October 13, 2025 at 11.03 a.m. I contacted him by telephone.

(2:52:12 - 2:52:26)

All right. What number did you call him on? That would be the 330-575-4894. The number that was associated with his Solver Wolf's Roadside Assistance business that we just saw? Yes.

(2:52:27 - 2:53:00)

And when you called him, did he identify himself as Duane Hall? Yes. And generally, what did he tell you? I explained to him that we were helping out Interpol or the United Kingdom with a missing person who was reported missing to them and possibly suicidal. And that information passed to me was that he attempted to use her card, or her credit card was declined by his business at some point after she had landed in Gainesville, Florida.

(2:53:01 - 2:53:14)

And so I was trying to establish a timeline. So the purpose of that call was to figure out what was surrounding, the circumstances surrounding that while the payment was declined. Okay.

(2:53:14 - 2:53:37)

Did he admit that he had ever met Sonia Axelby when you spoke with him? No. He said he couldn't remember the exact day or date, but either on that Friday or Saturday night he received a call from a female that he believed to be Axelby who said she had a flat tire. He never went out there because he was taking payment first before he responded out there.

(2:53:38 - 2:53:56)

And when the card declined, he never went out there and that ended the contact. You want me to approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'm going to show you what's the mark of identification of state's Exhibit M. You look at that and tell me you recognize that? Yes, I do.

(2:53:56 - 2:54:19)

How do you recognize that? This is the interview recording of my phone call with Duane Hall from October 13th, 2025. How do you recognize it? It has my initials here, CL, and the date of 10-27-26 from when I reviewed this specific disk that has a copy of that recording on it. Is that a fair and accurate depiction of the interview you did with Duane Hall on October 13th of 2025? Yes, it is.

(2:54:19 - 2:54:28)

Your Honor, at this time we have moved state's Exhibit M into evidence. No objection, Your Honor. Without objection, state's Exhibit M will be admitted into evidence as state's Exhibit 12.

(2:54:29 - 2:55:14)

And Your Honor, may I publish? Yes, ma'am. Hello, you have reached Silver Wolf Roadside Assistance. This is Duane, the owner.

(2:55:15 - 2:55:26)

If you have reached this message between our regular business hours, please hang up and call back again. If you have reached this message otherwise, we're closed. I thank you and have a nice day.

(2:55:29 - 2:55:50)

At the tone, please record your message. When you finish recording, you may hang up. Hello? Hello, this is Duane, Silver Wolf Roadside.

How can I help you? Hey, my name is Calvin Lee. I'm a special agent with the Florida

Department of Law Enforcement out of the Gainesville area. And here, we got a weird request.

(2:55:50 - 2:56:10)

So, we are helping out the United Kingdom Police with a missing person. And looking through her banking records, it looked like she called your business for assistance probably two or three days ago. And the payment was declined.

(2:56:11 - 2:56:22)

Her name would have been Sonia Exelby. Is that ringing a bell? Um, yes and no. Okay.

(2:56:24 - 2:56:40)

So, I guess the easiest... Does the decline payment, is that... Yeah. Okay, what was the deal with that? If you don't mind me asking. Because basically, she's reported missing and suicidal.

(2:56:40 - 2:56:52)

So, we're trying to track her down. And we know that three days ago, she landed at Gainesville Airport and got in a rental car. And was heading south.

(2:56:53 - 2:57:10)

So, like I said, through the banking records, it shows that there was a decline charge from your company. So, we're assuming that, I guess, she needed assistance? Yeah, she broke down, needed a tire change. Okay.

(2:57:12 - 2:57:20)

Um... And was requesting to be transported the rest of the way to her location. But the decline payment ain't going to touch that. We have to pay for our services.

(2:57:21 - 2:57:35)

Right. So, she did... So, you did change the tire and the payment got declined? Or that payment went through? We never showed up. Oh, okay.

Okay. So, she said she had a flat tire. Yeah.

(2:57:35 - 2:57:46)

And so, before y'all show up there, y'all do... They have to pay over the phone? Yeah. Okay. And that declined, so y'all never actually showed up? Right.

(2:57:46 - 2:58:09)

Did she say where she was wanting to go to, her final destination? Did not say. Okay. She was very, very, very, very secretive about everything.

I don't know. Okay. Did she ever provide her name? Does that name Sonia or Sonia Exelby? Does that... Was that the name she provided? Okay.

(2:58:10 - 2:58:27)

Yeah. What day was this? Do you remember? Not off the top of my head. Maybe Friday evening? Friday evening.

So, it was evening time? Maybe. I think so. Okay.

(2:58:27 - 2:58:34)

It was either Friday or Saturday. Okay. Days tend to blur together.

(2:58:34 - 2:58:43)

Right, and I understand this is a weird phone call you weren't expecting, but... We're just trying to track her down. Yeah, I don't have any idea. Okay.

(2:58:44 - 2:59:03)

So, you never went out there or anything? Do you remember where she said exactly she was? Like, where her vehicle was burnt down at? Not exactly. Somewhere out around Reddick. It was out of our service area anyway.

(2:59:03 - 2:59:22)

Reddick? So, out of your service area? Yeah. Okay. All right.

Well, I appreciate it. You said you're Dwayne, right? The owner? Yeah. Okay.

What's your last name, just for my record? Say I spoke with you. It's Paul. H-A-L-L.

(2:59:22 - 2:59:25)

H-A-L-L. All right. Well, I appreciate it.

(2:59:25 - 2:59:39)

If you come across or remember anything, this is my cell phone number. If you could just, like I said, if something jogs your memory or anything, if you could give me a call back or shoot me a text, I'd appreciate it. All right.

(2:59:39 - 2:59:52)

Have a good one. Thanks. Now, I want to direct your attention to the following day, which would be October 14th of 2025, which would be Tuesday.

(2:59:53 - 3:00:04)

On that date, did Special Agent Rebecca McKenzie attempt to contact Dwayne Hall and his residents? She did, yes. Was she successful in contacting him and his residents? No, she was not. All right.

(3:00:05 - 3:00:33)

Did she leave a message for him at his home to contact her? Yes. And later that same day, did you speak with Dwayne Hall again? I did. How did that happen? Special Agent McKenzie contacted me and said she had spoken with Dwayne, that he was, I guess, in the area of the Gainesville field office where I was located at, and that he was willing to stop by and speak with me further about our investigation, so that he was on his way.

(3:00:34 - 3:00:41)

He came to the FDLE Gainesville field office. Correct. Do you see the person you know to be Dwayne Hall in the courtroom today? I do.

(3:00:41 - 3:00:54)

Can you please point to him and describe something he's wearing? He's wearing the purple shirt right here with his hands folded. Your automated record will reflect the witness has identified the defendant. Without objection, the record will also reflect the witness has identified the defendant.

(3:00:54 - 3:01:04)

And so did you interview the defendant again once he came to the Gainesville field office? I did. Was it recorded? It was audio recorded. So there was no video, just audio? Just audio.

(3:01:04 - 3:01:19)

Did you attempt to get more information about his interactions with Sonja Exelby during this interview? Yes, I was. I was trying to determine a better timeline of her movements that we knew of. Was anyone else present with you during this interview? Yes.

(3:01:19 - 3:01:33)

Who was that? It was a crime intelligence analyst, Kendall Osteen, that's assigned to the Gainesville field office. Your automated photo is the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'm going to show you

what's in bar identification.

(3:01:34 - 3:01:45)

This dates to the 10th, as in Nancy. You can tell me, do you recognize that? Yes. How do you recognize it? This is the disk with the recording of my interview with Dwayne Hall on October 14th, 2025.

(3:01:45 - 3:02:04)

It has my initial CL and the date, 10-27-2026, showing that I reviewed this disk. Is that a fair and accurate depiction of the relevant portions of your interview with the defendant on October 14th, 2025? Yes, it is. Throughout this time, we've moved State's Exhibit N into atlas.

(3:02:04 - 3:02:15)

No objection, Judge. Without objection, what's been marked for identification as State's Exhibit N will be admitted into evidence as State's Exhibit 13. Now, the beginning of this recording kind of starts mid-sentence.

(3:02:16 - 3:02:37)

Why is that? When I made contact with Mr. Hall outside of our office secure facility and I was showing him in, he immediately started talking about why he was there and our investigation. So, instead of interrupting him, I just started recording as soon as we got into the interview room. Your Honor, I would ask to publish, but if you could read the edited recording instruction before we publish.

(3:02:38 - 3:02:50)

Yes, ma'am. Members of the jury, you're about to listen to an audio recording. The court instructs you that the recording has been edited to eliminate irrelevant portions that would not add to your understanding of this case.

(3:02:50 - 3:03:07)

The fact that the recording has been edited should not concern you in any way and must not impact the way you listen to and consider this evidence. Thank you. They're gone.

(3:03:08 - 3:03:11)

They're gone. The call logs are fucking gone. Okay.

(3:03:11 - 3:03:20)

Like, there's a whole bunch of stuff from this weekend that's just missing out on my call logs. All

right. So, let's just, from the start.

(3:03:20 - 3:03:23)

From the start. Tell me what you need. Ask your questions.

(3:03:23 - 3:03:29)

Okay. Pause. And then we can continue, okay? All I'm going to say is be direct with your questions.

(3:03:29 - 3:03:31)

Yes. You're going to get a direct answer. Yeah.

(3:03:32 - 3:03:36)

I don't appreciate sneaky shit and I'll just show it. Yeah. I don't appreciate that shit.

(3:03:36 - 3:03:42)

Right. I'm not here to try to trick you for anything. Like, we are not looking at you like it's a suspect if that's what you're thinking.

(3:03:43 - 3:03:48)

Yeah, that's exactly what I'm thinking. Okay. We would probably do things a little bit differently if that was the case.

(3:03:48 - 3:03:52)

All right. Okay. So, I'll let you know.

(3:03:52 - 3:03:56)

From one businessman to law enforcement. From a businessman who works with law enforcement. Right.

(3:03:57 - 3:03:59)

That's why I'm telling you this. Just be direct. You're going to get it right.

(3:04:00 - 3:04:08)

So, and with this, it's very frustrating for us working this because we're having to deal with the UK. Yes. Okay.

(3:04:08 - 3:04:19)

So, what we have that started yesterday was an email request from Interpol. Sorry. It's from an old school date.

(3:04:19 - 3:04:26)

Right. Saying that this girl was missing. She was reported missing in the UK.

(3:04:27 - 3:04:40)

Supposedly from her boyfriend. She's suicidal and that they last found where she landed in Gainesville last week and then Right. Through banking records.

(3:04:40 - 3:04:47)

That's how you came up. They said through her banking records there was a decline payment. Yeah, there was a decline payment.

(3:04:47 - 3:04:58)

Because she sounded absolutely fucking panicked. I couldn't hear what was actually going on in the background, but she kept saying, I swear, there's money on the card. I swear.

(3:04:59 - 3:05:03)

I swear. Okay. It was really stupid suspicious and it was at night and I wasn't trying to.

(3:05:04 - 3:05:09)

Okay. So, and we're just trying. What we are doing in the whole point of this is building a better timeline.

(3:05:10 - 3:05:14)

Okay. Because we're about a day behind on everything that we. A day ahead on everything.

(3:05:15 - 3:05:25)

So, and that's why we're trying to get to the specifics with this. So, help me understand. You have the roadside assistance.

(3:05:25 - 3:05:28)

I'm the owner and solver of the roadside assistance. Okay. Right.

(3:05:28 - 3:05:38)

Yes. So, how does it work? Walk me through the process for this process. How does it work normally for somebody to call you? Just like you would think.

(3:05:38 - 3:05:43)

Just like you would think. If you're, in her case, she's a foreigner, she could have found my number. I am on Yelp.

(3:05:44 - 3:05:51)

She could have found my number on Yelp. Okay. Even though the area that she said she was in is out of our service area.

(3:05:51 - 3:05:59)

We still would have probably pinged and it was pretty late at night. Okay. So, I mean, late at night for me.

(3:05:59 - 3:06:08)

I'm 53 years old and I work my ass off all day. Sun was down at least, right? Sun was fucking down, man. And I typically don't drive at night if I can not help it.

(3:06:09 - 3:06:20)

Okay. Just because I'm getting old and I can't see shit no more. So, do you remember specifically what she said her issue was? I don't remember.

(3:06:20 - 3:06:30)

I'll be honest with you, I don't remember. I just remember she called and she wanted help with her vehicle. Did she ever describe what kind of vehicle? Do you remember? There was no description of the vehicle.

(3:06:30 - 3:06:39)

It's so brief with me. I'll give you a good example. Hey, I need help with my vehicle.

(3:06:39 - 3:06:42)

I answered the phone. Hey, this plane is sold with roadside. Oh, good, good.

(3:06:42 - 3:06:46)

I need help with my vehicle. I'm over here. In most cases, this is how we do it.

(3:06:46 - 3:06:52)

I'm over here by Lowe's. Okay. What do you need help with? All right.

(3:06:52 - 3:07:00)

How do you intend to pay? All right. Let me get that card number. I'll run the card number and it's going to tell me right then and there whether or not it's declined.

(3:07:01 - 3:07:08)

She tried to pay an exorbitant amount for what I was trying to help her with. Yeah, because it was around $700. Yeah, it was around $700.

(3:07:09 - 3:07:13)

Okay. I ran it and I was like, you know what? I don't give a shit. It's the middle of the night.

(3:07:13 - 3:07:20)

It's out of my service area. I don't really want to do it. If you want to give me $700, that's a week's pay to come change your tire, look at your car.

(3:07:21 - 3:07:24)

Because we do all kinds of stuff. We change tires. We do batteries.

(3:07:24 - 3:07:31)

We do part repairs. We do repairs, on-site repairs. You don't remember specifically what she said was wrong? Not specifically.

(3:07:32 - 3:07:41)

Not specifically. And then is there like a call-out fee for you? Call-out. Like after hours or is it just one lump sum? It's usually one lump sum.

(3:07:41 - 3:07:52)

What we normally charge, okay, during regular business hours when it's me with the sign-up and I'm not going out after night, typically in-service area calls are only $25. Mm-hmm. Just to get there.

(3:07:53 - 3:07:58)

Five. No, 25 period. Now if you tell me you need repairs done, we're going to jump that up.

(3:07:59 - 3:08:08)

Depending on the repair that needs done, it could be $100 with the $25 rolled in. Mm-hmm. Because we don't do anything that takes longer than 45 minutes.

(3:08:08 - 3:08:15)

If it takes longer than 45 minutes, one, we're probably not going to do it. Two, we're going to double our rate. Okay.

(3:08:15 - 3:08:28)

So I've never charged anybody over $150. So how did the $700 come? Like how did they get that number? She said that she had given me X number of dollars because I tried to refuse. It's after hours, it's out in my service area.

(3:08:29 - 3:08:34)

Please, I can give you $700 to come out here and help me. Okay. All right, whatever.

(3:08:34 - 3:08:40)

Like I said, that's over a week's pay for me. All right. So and then she kept swearing.

(3:08:40 - 3:08:55)

They kept declining. Then she kept swearing, there's money, there's money, I have money, there's money, I'll pay you, come get me, or something along those lines. So when they pay you so you run it, how do you run it? I run it through a, I have a business banking app.

(3:08:56 - 3:08:59)

Okay. So it's on your phone? Yeah, something like Square. Okay.

(3:09:00 - 3:09:10)

Are you able to access that? Tell me the credit card number she gave you that declined. I cannot tell you the declined numbers. I can't even tell you like a good example.

(3:09:11 - 3:09:17)

Okay. I mean, I'll kind of show you, but mind you, this is business and confidential. That's what this is.

(3:09:17 - 3:09:24)

I don't care. This is voluntary. This is not, this is something you'd normally need a warrant for

because it's being tied to a business.

(3:09:24 - 3:09:30)

So what is your business account? I will pull this up. Because what I'll just go do is I'll do a subpoena. I'll pull this up.

(3:09:31 - 3:09:39)

It's like this, and I'm cooperating with you. Yeah, I understand that, but I'm just. But if this will actually load, because you have absolutely zero service here.

(3:09:39 - 3:09:45)

Talic, is that the name of the, like the Marine? That's just the name of the processing company. Okay. Okay.

(3:09:48 - 3:10:00)

And, yeah, if it will pull up, if you've got Wi-Fi, can we step somewhere where I can get service? Do we have public Wi-Fi? We'd have to step outside. Do you mind? Because, like I said, I'll happily show you. Yeah.

(3:10:00 - 3:10:15)

And I'll show you how it comes up. Once we run a card, this is one of those secure things where once we run a card, it deletes all that information. Still with me? Yeah.

(3:10:19 - 3:10:24)

This is metal roofs. Yeah, yeah, exactly. Okay, so we're going to shut it off, and we're going to try to reload it here.

(3:10:28 - 3:10:41)

Are you able to at least tell me, like, the date and time that it will show you the date and time it was ran? The client calls typically don't show up, but if you let me work with the system a minute, I might be able to. And I'm asking because I don't know, so I'm just. No, no, no.

(3:10:42 - 3:10:45)

Absolutely. We're timeline. And I'm trying to help you out as much as I can.

(3:10:45 - 3:10:48)

Yeah, I understand. Because this is a missing person that called my company. Right.

(3:10:48 - 3:10:53)

And I run a respectable goddamned company. I've worked my ass off to get to this position. Yeah.

(3:10:53 - 3:10:59)

And it's not wanting to load it. Well, I mean, they're calling for a reason. I mean, they obviously needed help, and you've got a business to run.

(3:10:59 - 3:11:06)

We get that, but I'm not wanting to know insides and outs. No, no, no. If I can see it.

(3:11:06 - 3:11:10)

If it helps me. Yeah, that's what I'm saying. I don't know why this isn't loading.

(3:11:11 - 3:11:18)

We might need to get it out of the metal building. You guys are already tagging up on my phone, man. I wish it was that easy.

(3:11:18 - 3:11:22)

Man, I'm going to tell you right now. I'm going to tell you though. Last night.

(3:11:23 - 3:11:31)

No, it's even worse over here. I need public Wi-Fi. You got a hotspot on your phone? If you got service on your phone and you got a hotspot, I can do it that way too.

(3:11:34 - 3:11:44)

Because like I said, I'm trying to help you guys out as much as possible. But yeah, something real wonky happened last night too after I got done talking to you guys. Like the GPS.

(3:11:44 - 3:11:55)

It started spinning like mad, and then it pinged me up here on Archer Road, and I was in Ocala. Yeah, I was down by my house in Ocala. God damn it.

(3:11:55 - 3:11:58)

No, it's not. I have no service. I don't know what the hell is up with this.

(3:12:00 - 3:12:07)

Hotspot? I have hotspot on. Okay, let's see if I can find you here. It should say like Galaxy S22.

(3:12:07 - 3:12:13)

Galaxy S22. Scanning for network. S22-66-something.

(3:12:13 - 3:12:24)

You got a password? Y-A-Z-M-8-4-8-0. 8-4-8-0. Yep, there's you.

(3:12:24 - 3:12:42)

There's me. Until we're not sitting outside, we can probably go back in there since you're just hotspotting off of this because I have service. Like I said, I'll go through it and see if I can find it, but typically, it's not loading.

(3:12:43 - 3:13:08)

Normally, we program these things in, and once we program them in, even if they ping, they actually drop the card number and everything else is just gone. And it's replaced with like a four or five digit code. Okay, so how do you do, like, how does that work with your business keeping or like records keeping? It just shows stuff coming in.

(3:13:08 - 3:13:15)

It's on us to keep up with it. That's where it came from and whatnot. I also use another thing called Toebook.

(3:13:16 - 3:13:23)

So we'll go, I don't have a laptop here. I can log into it and whatnot because it has, it couldn't log in. There's a problem.

(3:13:25 - 3:13:33)

So it took me back here. Try this again. Sit down here and let her go.

(3:13:34 - 3:13:40)

What the hell? Okay, set it down and let it go. Damn it. Something went wrong.

(3:13:47 - 3:13:59)

So yeah, basically, we use this company and they are the processing company for everything. And when that happened, something went wrong. It's not letting me log in whatsoever.

(3:13:59 - 3:14:03)

I'm going to drop your hotspot. That's all right with you? Yep. Okay.

(3:14:03 - 3:14:15)

We'll just let it sit here and spin until it loads up or something. Who's your service provider for? Verizon. Okay.

(3:14:18 - 3:14:26)

Do you have Verizon? Yes. Okay. It says something went wrong and it's absolutely just not letting me in.

(3:14:27 - 3:14:35)

I do not, like I said, this all happened. These weird coincidences with my phone started happening this past weekend around Sunday. Okay.

(3:14:36 - 3:14:44)

Because some of the business stuff that I've had on Sunday that should have left a digital record are erased. They're gone. I didn't erase them.

(3:14:45 - 3:15:02)

And so your call logs, you said those are gone? Not all of them, okay? Okay. But if I ever hear the recents and there are certain numbers that should pop up from like, you know, see I'm on the phone with all kinds of people all day, every day. And that was Monday or whatever.

(3:15:02 - 3:15:07)

And then I get all, look how many calls I get. Okay. Sunday.

(3:15:07 - 3:15:11)

Okay. There are calls missing. There are calls missing.

(3:15:12 - 3:15:24)

There are calls that happened before noon from about eight o'clock on that are gone. Same thing, same thing for, well, I guess. Saturday.

(3:15:25 - 3:15:27)

Saturday. At night. Yeah.

(3:15:28 - 3:15:31)

So. I had calls all day. They're gone.

(3:15:31 - 3:15:35)

I'm going to grab that number there real quick. Whoa, whoa, whoa. Which number? The four, two, the seven, four.

(3:15:35 - 3:15:39)

Oh, that's your mom? Okay. So I was like, whoa, whoa, whoa. Yeah, I wasn't just grabbing that yet.

(3:15:39 - 3:15:46)

No, that's my mom. So can you go to Friday for me since you're, because I'm just trying to see if there's like a weird number that popped up in Chicago. They're gone.

(3:15:48 - 3:15:53)

So you know who this LA number is? That was a client. Okay. That was a client, that's a student.

(3:15:53 - 3:16:03)

Okay. If I'm not mistaken, that was a student. But yeah, pretty much everything on there is all students except for the weird ass telemarketers that are the three, three O's.

(3:16:04 - 3:16:13)

And on Sunday, I should have had a slew of the three, three O's. They're just gone. You can, I can show you in here almost every day where I'm getting three, three O numbers.

(3:16:13 - 3:16:31)

Well, maybe not every day, but regularly getting, see, that's like today or whatever, coming out of Akron. I'm getting calls all day from three, three O's, all telemarketers or scammers. And I get down here to Sunday and I have three calls, the rest of them are gone.

(3:16:33 - 3:16:47)

So you didn't complete an invoice or anything like that for this? No, no, nope, nope. First thing we do in a situation like that, like I said, primarily A, you're out of our service area. B, sketchy as shit.

(3:16:48 - 3:16:58)

C, card declined. I'm not even going to start, I'm not even going to start an invoice. As a matter of

fact, those are called cash calls.

(3:16:59 - 3:17:08)

I'm not the business police. Well, like I said, I don't keep invoices for cash calls anyway. Because I feel like we'll turn that in at the end of the year as undisclosed income.

(3:17:09 - 3:17:30)

And my CPA will go get my, I'll print him out 12 pages of my income for that month and he'll figure out my taxes. So she offered around $700, that's what she offered. Yeah, I'd never say that because like I said, it was weird because she tried to get that and she had me run it for lower and lower amounts.

(3:17:31 - 3:17:39)

I think it was seven, six, and then a hundred. And it all declined and I'm like, I'm sorry man, it declined. I can't help you.

(3:17:39 - 3:17:53)

It all declined. Yesterday on the phone you told me that she said something about trying to get to her final destination. She never, okay.

(3:17:54 - 3:17:58)

Explain that to me. She never explained that. Okay.

(3:17:58 - 3:18:10)

She just said, I have somewhere, I need to be there. Okay, so it wasn't like, hey I need you to, can you get me to Miami? Or something like as direct as that. Now if I would have showed up or something, that might have been something more along those lines.

(3:18:11 - 3:18:33)

Okay. But the GPS where I had her at was... Where did she say? It was, I don't have an exact, she didn't have an exact location. If I remember right, what is that, you're going down the interstate here, exit 368, what is that road right there? 368, I don't know.

(3:18:34 - 3:18:49)

That exit 368, whatever exit that is, there's a road that's right there. She was on that road about a mile or two from the interstate. So either in Micanopy or like around that area? Micanopy is 374.

(3:18:50 - 3:18:55)

Okay, so it's south of that. Yeah, like I said, it was closer to Riddick. Okay.

(3:18:55 - 3:19:07)

It was down in there around the Riddick area. Our service quits at exit 358 and don't pick up again until about 374. It's a little further north technically.

(3:19:07 - 3:19:21)

Okay. And I don't even have anybody down there running a cattle right now. I closed it the fuck down because it went so bad down there business-wise that I couldn't afford to pay anybody to keep it open down there.

(3:19:21 - 3:19:49)

Okay, so y'all determined she was around the 368 area? Exit 368 within about a mile or two of the interstate is where I had her at. Based on what she was trying to describe to me because that's the first thing I asked basically under normal circumstance is, okay, what kind of vehicle you got and where are you? Okay. Do you remember what she said about as far as vehicle? You know, I can't really remember off the top of my head.

(3:19:49 - 3:20:05)

Like I said, I had a lot going on that I was tired of shit already. I didn't want to be on the phone so I wasn't taking it too serious, especially after the car declined. Are you sole owner or owner-operator? Sole owner-operator.

(3:20:05 - 3:20:13)

I do have one employee though and he doesn't work that late at night either. Okay. And he definitely does not work on the weekends because it's the only time he has his kids.

(3:20:14 - 3:20:19)

Okay. So try to think. I know when we talked about yesterday, you said nighttime.

(3:20:20 - 3:20:28)

It might have been Friday or it might have been Saturday. So having to think that. Thinking Friday was not the day.

(3:20:28 - 3:20:31)

I'm thinking it was Saturday. Okay. I'm thinking it was Saturday.

(3:20:36 - 3:20:45)

But we know at least time frame why the sun was down. It was later than I work and it was out of my service area on a Saturday night. Okay.

(3:20:46 - 3:21:02)

And nothing good happens after night and the sun goes down on the weekend. They're either drunk or aggressive and I don't like dealing with either one of them at my age. And plus I just had a car accident not too long ago up here in Gainesville and my back is all kind of switched up.

(3:21:02 - 3:21:10)

I want to be on my muscle relaxers and I want to be asleep at that time of night. Right. That's another reason why things are a little bit hazy and a little bit foggy.

(3:21:11 - 3:21:15)

I don't know. Okay. I've drugged up and ready to go.

(3:21:15 - 3:21:22)

Gone for the day. Lay on the heat pad or the ice block or whatever the heck it's going to be that's going to make me feel better. All right.

(3:21:25 - 3:21:41)

I'm pretty sure that was in fact Saturday night. Kendall, is there anything? Just ask away. It's the only way we're going to get to the bottom of this shit.

(3:21:42 - 3:21:45)

Right. Yeah. I'm just trying to I don't want to keep bothering you any more than I have to.

(3:21:46 - 3:21:58)

So I'm just trying to make sure that we're covering everything that we need. Because like you said, the biggest thing we're trying to figure out is A, because we don't know what vehicle she's in. You know, and we don't.

(3:21:58 - 3:22:09)

I got the sense that it was a smaller vehicle, like maybe a small sedan of some kind. Okay. What makes you think that? Because it's a woman and it's a rental.

(3:22:10 - 3:22:22)

She told you it was a rental? No, but if she came here from somewhere else, that's based on

that's just making an educated guess based on what you told me. Look, she flew in. She flew in.

(3:22:23 - 3:22:27)

She's from the UK. She's not going to have her own vehicle here. She had to have picked up a rental somewhere.

(3:22:28 - 3:22:48)

And that rental, more than likely, would be a small sedan. Other than normal big name rental companies, do you know of any other rental companies that do not have her in her system? Unless she's using a fake name or something. But there's nothing in her banking account of getting rentals.

(3:22:49 - 3:22:55)

Maybe she brought cash. I've tried all over. No, no, you know what? You can't rent a car without having a credit card of some kind.

(3:22:55 - 3:23:00)

Right. You know what? I don't know. You've already been to the airport and everything and done all that.

(3:23:01 - 3:23:06)

Yeah. Trying to figure it out, huh? No, man. It keeps just putting me back on this screen.

(3:23:06 - 3:23:15)

Basically, if I can get into this, what it does is I have my charge history. I have open accounts. And I have closed accounts.

(3:23:15 - 3:23:28)

Now, I've already tried to do some homework for you so I can try to get back with you, but there's nothing there. My open accounts, obviously, because it's declined, it's not going to be there. My closed accounts are the only things that's been paid, so it's not there neither.

(3:23:28 - 3:23:36)

Okay. And then I try to check and see if I had any history of things that have run. And because of the way security runs with this company, it's deleted immediately.

(3:23:37 - 3:23:44)

Okay. Like, as soon as I close out the invoice or whatever, it's gone. And there might be something on the back end with the company? There might be.

(3:23:45 - 3:24:00)

So, do you mind giving me your email? Because it's associated to your email. So, I'm going to have to subpoena those records through this company and subpoena this through the company. And it's going to be based off of your name or email or phone number.

(3:24:01 - 3:24:09)

Okay. So, do you mind? I have your name and your phone number. I kind of don't really like you poking around in my business, but at the same time, if it closes this shit up and gets it closed.

(3:24:09 - 3:24:26)

Well, I'm not poking around. I mean, all I care about is trying to get this time frame. So, if there is something that shows me through the company that shows me, like, hey, on this date and time, that way I can sit here and say, on this date and time, she was speaking to him based off of the records when he tried to run this at the time.

(3:24:26 - 3:24:30)

That's all I'm trying to look for. Okay. That's all I want is because I'm building my time frame.

(3:24:30 - 3:24:32)

Yeah. You just understand, though. Right.

(3:24:32 - 3:24:37)

I get it. Nobody trusts the government. Personally, I don't give a shit about that right now.

(3:24:37 - 3:24:40)

I care about a missing girl. Hey. Florida is awesome.

(3:24:40 - 3:24:43)

You guys are fucking awesome. This is our first time ever meeting. So, don't take it back.

(3:24:43 - 3:24:47)

I understand that. It helps me make it easier. Dark wolf.

(3:24:48 - 3:24:51)

Dark wolf? Mm-hmm. D-A-R-K. Can't spell it here.

(3:24:53 - 3:25:01)

Wolf. W-O-L-F. Four, four, six, four, six, at G. Four, four, six, four, six, at G. Okay.

(3:25:01 - 3:25:05)

All right. So. I gave you my disclaimer.

(3:25:05 - 3:25:10)

Yeah. All right? I understand. You have my full cooperation in trying to figure this shit out.

(3:25:10 - 3:25:13)

Mm-hmm. But at the same fucking time. Right.

(3:25:13 - 3:25:19)

But so, what's going to happen to do is I'm going to reach out to this company. I'm going to say, hey. Hang on.

(3:25:19 - 3:25:28)

Let me see if I can, let me see if it'll pull something else up here. Let me see. It'll pull up anything.

(3:25:28 - 3:25:34)

It's just terms and service, blah, blah, blah. Not a salesperson. Share.

(3:25:35 - 3:25:43)

Third party. Attention. So, yeah.

(3:25:44 - 3:25:48)

Okay. So, pal, T-A-L-E-C-H dot com. Mm-hmm.

(3:25:48 - 3:25:53)

It's support at. Yeah. If you want to, you know, that way you know who you're trying to deal with.

(3:25:55 - 3:25:59)

Here it is. Any information regarding them right there. Okay.

(3:25:59 - 3:26:00)

Yeah. We have all, we can get all that. Okay.

(3:26:00 - 3:26:02)

Because we have the databases. Like I said. Yeah.

(3:26:02 - 3:26:17)

You know, whatever helps you guys out. And you see what I'm going to be doing is I'm going to be subpoenaing the records of like, hey, and specifically asking for decline payments on this date or this date. I know it's either got to be Friday.

(3:26:17 - 3:26:19)

It's either got to be Friday. Or Saturday. Or Saturday.

(3:26:19 - 3:26:23)

So, that's, I'm looking specifically for one thing. I'm thinking Saturday. Right.

(3:26:23 - 3:26:26)

I'm honestly thinking Saturday. Right. So.

(3:26:26 - 3:26:38)

Because I wasn't doing any dispatching that evening. So, I was already hit deep in some muscle relaxers. Because if I had to do, because Fridays I'm open until 9 p.m. Okay.

(3:26:39 - 3:26:43)

In Gainesville. And I have to dispatch the calls. Because you know how it is.

(3:26:43 - 3:26:46)

It's a small business. You wear all the hats. Right.

(3:26:46 - 3:26:48)

Right. So. So, you know.

(3:26:48 - 3:26:53)

Because. I wouldn't have been on anything. I mean, we already know the, we already know the amount.

(3:26:53 - 3:26:54)

Because we have her. Yeah. We have her banking.

(3:26:54 - 3:26:56)

Like I said. Like I said. It was.

(3:26:56 - 3:27:01)

I think. I think we went to. I think it was 7. 7, 6. And maybe 100.

(3:27:01 - 3:27:06)

700 or 600. Maybe 100. And she kept offering these different amounts.

(3:27:06 - 3:27:08)

Try it again. Try it again. I tell you.

(3:27:08 - 3:27:13)

I will tell you. She seemed super fucking desperate. And my.

(3:27:14 - 3:27:19)

My impression was she wasn't alone. Because she kept swearing up and down. That there was money there.

(3:27:20 - 3:27:24)

And she seemed way too nervous to just be broke down. I deal with a lot. Kids.

(3:27:26 - 3:27:33)

That don't know the first thing about the first thing of nothing. And they break down. And they break down in an unfamiliar area.

(3:27:34 - 3:27:37)

There's a different nervousness. Right. Okay.

(3:27:37 - 3:27:40)

This. I've heard people on the phone. That's what I do.

(3:27:40 - 3:27:46)

That's what I've been doing for a living for a decade now. Could you. Recalling back to those

phone calls.

(3:27:46 - 3:27:51)

Could you hear anybody? Did it sound like anybody was there? There was everybody there. It was too damn quiet. Which is how she reacted.

(3:27:51 - 3:27:54)

It was too damn quiet. For being broke down. Literally broke down.

(3:27:54 - 3:27:58)

Okay. Way too quiet. I didn't even hear crickets man.

(3:27:59 - 3:28:03)

There was no sound. There was no motor noise. That's the other thing.

(3:28:03 - 3:28:06)

There was no motor noise. There was no crickets. Or nothing like that.

(3:28:06 - 3:28:11)

Natural ambient sound that you would hear. From somebody sitting in a dead car. Unless you're sitting on the side of the interstate.

(3:28:11 - 3:28:13)

You're hearing semis blow by. Yeah. Yeah.

(3:28:14 - 3:28:19)

There was none of that. Because you're going to hear them semis at 10 o'clock at night. That's about all you're going to hear.

(3:28:19 - 3:28:23)

Is the commercial vehicles. It was just too damn quiet. Okay.

(3:28:24 - 3:28:28)

Okay. And that keyed in my immediately. That's some fuckery.

(3:28:28 - 3:28:35)

I need to steer clear of it. Now what would have happened if the money went through? I'd have

showed up. I'd have showed up.

(3:28:36 - 3:28:38)

You're paying me. I'd have showed up. And I'd have been shit.

(3:28:38 - 3:28:46)

I'd have been armed. I'd have been armed. Do we have an open carotid law here? I don't fuck around with shit like that.

(3:28:46 - 3:28:49)

Especially at night. Anyway. Yeah.

(3:28:49 - 3:28:58)

That had all my danger sense things in there. You still have my phone number in there? You still have my phone number in there? You know what? I would not be able to find that. I'll get you my card before I leave.

(3:28:58 - 3:29:02)

Yeah. Absolutely. If you can get that back up or something comes up and you find something.

(3:29:02 - 3:29:09)

I'm just going to show you how that normally runs. And how that normally works. Because there's nothing there.

(3:29:09 - 3:29:17)

If a card doesn't decline for some reason, it doesn't keep a record of it here. Okay. So it's a card decline.

(3:29:17 - 3:29:19)

It's gone. Okay. It's like it never happened.

(3:29:19 - 3:29:23)

Well, if you get to messing around with it and come across it, you'll at least have my number. I'll screenshot it. Yeah.

(3:29:23 - 3:29:24)

At least send it to me. Yeah. You can text me.

(3:29:24 - 3:29:35)

I mean, we're going to subpoena it anyway. Right. But if I can get away from it, because I'm dealing with major businesses here, sometimes they take longer than we would like for them to take.

(3:29:35 - 3:29:40)

Well, you know, they've got to protect their clients too. Yeah. They've got to make sure everything's on the up and up.

(3:29:40 - 3:29:55)

And it's nothing for me to... Especially in my line of work. You know, I don't even tell shops half the time who I've serviced and who I haven't serviced unless I'm already there. Like, if you came to me and said, hey, I need you to service my car, I'd be happy to do it.

(3:30:20 - 3:30:34)

But if you came to me and said, hey, I need you to service my car, I'd be happy to do But if you came to me and said, hey, I need you to service my car, I'd be happy to do Well, you got anything else, Kendall? Do you need anything else from me today? Nope. I think that's it. Hopefully, this will be the end of it, of having to bother you with it.

(3:30:35 - 3:30:39)

And... Now, you look here. I hope we find her. Well, that ain't going to be the end of it.

(3:30:39 - 3:30:44)

Well, I hope so. Hopefully, it is. But you know, I hope we find her down the road somewhere.

(3:30:44 - 3:30:53)

And she's fine. And this is just the whole... Because, I mean, unfortunately, we have it all the time. If they're suicidal, though, you never know where the fuck they might have ended up.

(3:30:53 - 3:30:57)

With who. You never know. Or where we are in Florida.

(3:30:57 - 3:31:06)

We can't get a... The bad thing is, is we're having to deal with a whole other country. Not another state, a whole other country. Their law enforcement over there is different than how we're in the business over here.

(3:31:06 - 3:31:10)

Their law enforcement over there is shit. Right. I'll take you guys over there, man.

(3:31:10 - 3:31:21)

Yeah, so we're having to manage that. Like, I mean, and a lot of this stuff is... Like I said, it's coming through them, through Interpol, through an email. So it's not like I can... Telephone.

(3:31:21 - 3:31:29)

Dumb child getting telephoned. Well, I wish. I wish I had felt like they would pick up the phone and I could ask them direct questions and get direct answers.

(3:31:29 - 3:31:31)

They don't have that. You have to catch them like two in the morning. Yeah.

(3:31:31 - 3:31:35)

Talking to them directly. Let me get you my card real quick. Just so you have that.

(3:31:36 - 3:31:42)

And we'll get you out of here. Yeah. If you guys need anything, I can figure it out.

(3:31:42 - 3:31:46)

I'm kind of finicky about you guys going to my... Just hang tight. Yeah. Yeah.

(3:31:46 - 3:31:53)

And I know that they were down there, because we're kind of working this jointly. And I think they just stopped by there, because they were down there. Okay.

(3:31:54 - 3:32:08)

Yeah. When the defendant left your field office in Gainesville, were you able to see what kind of car he was driving? Yes, I was. Can you tell the jury what kind of car it was? It was a black Jeep Cherokee.

(3:32:08 - 3:32:19)

And it was missing the rear bumper. And it had in big letters on the back window, emergency roadside. And then I was able to get the tag number as well.

(3:32:19 - 3:32:27)

Your Honor, may I approach? Yes, ma'am. Showing you what's the mark of identification of Stacey. Is it O? You can look at those two photographs and tell me if you recognize those.

(3:32:30 - 3:32:39)

I do. Where are those? Those are Dwayne Hall's vehicle that was registered to him, but also that he was driving on the 14th when I interviewed him at my field office. All right.

(3:32:39 - 3:32:53)

Those are a fair and accurate depiction of Dwayne's vehicle on October 14th of 2025? Yes, it is. Your Honor, at this time, will you move Stacey's exhibit O into evidence? No objections, Your Honor. Without objection, what's been marked for identification as Stacey's exhibit O will be admitted into evidence as Stacey's exhibit 14.

(3:32:54 - 3:33:03)

May I approach, Your Honor? Yes, ma'am. And what are we looking at in photograph number one? Dwayne Hall's Jeep Cherokee. Okay.

(3:33:03 - 3:33:15)

And then photograph number two? The same vehicle as his Jeep Cherokee. And he had this sticker on the back, emergency roadside assistance? Yes. And you had mentioned something wrong right back here? Yeah, the rear bumper was missing.

(3:33:17 - 3:33:20)

I don't have any further questions, Your Honor. No questions, Your Honor. Okay.

(3:33:22 - 3:33:34)

Counsel, will you all approach? All right. Is this witness? Oh, real quick. Members of the jury, any of you all have questions of this witness? Seeing no hands, is he released? He'll be recalled later this afternoon.

(3:33:35 - 3:33:39)

So he's released. You can step down, just remain in contact with the state for your recall later. Thank you.

(3:33:39 - 3:34:04)

Thank you. Yes, sir. Deputy Cabrera, have lunches arrived? Okay.

(3:34:04 - 3:34:08)

All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we are done with the morning. This is what we have scheduled for the morning.

(3:34:08 - 3:34:16)

We plan to break around noon, so we're a little ahead of schedule. So we're going to take a break for lunch. Your lunches are set to arrive at 12 noon.

(3:34:16 - 3:34:28)

They're typically here within five minutes of that. Now, over the lunch break, your notepads will remain here in the courtroom. On the lunch break, you cannot speak with one another about the case or anything having to do with the case or any testimony that you've heard.

(3:34:28 - 3:34:47)

You can use your phones or electronic devices. You can use them, but again, do not access social media or anything where you may encounter news on your phone and do not use your phone or electronic device to communicate about the case or to any other person about the case. I think what we're going to do, do we have any smokers on the jury? We've got one.

(3:34:47 - 3:34:52)

Okay. That's good because it's an excuse to get everybody outside. I don't know how the weather is.

(3:34:52 - 3:35:21)

We're in a room without windows, so do we know how the weather is outside? Deputy Cabrera? Deputy Cabrera? I'm getting a thumbs up from one of our bailiffs. What we're going to plan to do, everybody, we're going to plan to reconvene at 1245 to resume the trial. This will give you all time to either go down and get a breath of fresh air before you all eat or afterward.

(3:35:22 - 3:36:12)

We'll come back around. Okay? Any questions for me? Enjoy your lunch. I guess James is wrong.

(3:36:14 - 3:36:21)

Hold on one second. Lawyer, who's out in the audience speaking? Ms. Rockland? Yes, Your Honor. Okay.

(3:36:23 - 3:36:30)

You're talking loud enough that I can hear you up here. Court is in session still. I'm still doing things here for the benefit of the record.

(3:36:30 - 3:36:39)

I'd appreciate the volume in the audience, especially for members of the bar to be kept down. Now, for the benefit of the record, the jury has now left the courtroom. You all can be seated.

(3:36:44 - 3:36:50)

Is there anything, lawyers, that we need to take up before we recess for lunch? No, Your Honor. No, Your Honor. Okay.

(3:36:52 - 3:37:09)

All right. We will come back at 1245. Corporal, Deputy Cabrera, can you make sure that if they go down for an outside break after lunch that we just make sure we have them up here ready to go and begin receiving evidence at 1235? Will do.

(3:37:09 - 3:37:12)

All right. And make sure to keep all 12 together. All 14 together.

(3:37:13 - 3:37:15)

Okay. Thank you, Counsel. Thank you, Your Honor.

(3:37:15 - 3:54:24)

Thank you, Your Honor. Testing, one, two, three. Andy, do you hear me? Nope.

(3:54:26 - 3:54:44)

Hey, Andy. I may not be able to hear you. I hear you and teams.

(3:54:46 - 3:55:22)

Okay. Okay. Yes.

(3:55:26 - 3:56:08)

Yes. Should I get Steven to go down there? He is, I think. Yeah, let me see if he's available.

(3:56:09 - 3:56:32)

I'm not sure if he's doing lunch quite yet. He should be. Is there somebody in 3A currently? Like a bailiff? He told me he was going to leave for lunch.

(3:56:32 - 3:56:42)

Yeah. Oh, yeah, I'm sorry. I've been talking this whole time.

(3:56:44 - 3:56:50)

Testing, yeah, audio is on and everything. Testing, testing. One, two, three, four, five.

(3:56:50 - 3:57:17)

I'm talking directly into the microphone. Oh. Yeah.

(3:57:17 - 3:57:45)

I think the ECR is just turned on recording. Yeah. He said he's done eating.

(3:57:52 - 3:58:14)

Oh, we've got to jump on these opportunities. Yes. That's perfect.

(3:58:23 - 3:58:28)

Yeah. I'm just hoping this isn't. I don't know.

(3:58:28 - 3:58:38)

Have I said this? Correct me if I haven't said this. I'm sorry. But I was not promised the same courtroom for each day.

(3:58:41 - 3:59:09)

Yeah. Fourth or third floor. Yeah.

(3:59:10 - 3:59:45)

I'll let Christine know that. And then we'll get it all working. And then the next time we'll need it is like.

(3:59:46 - 3:59:53)

Oh, you know what? We'll probably get the investiture for the new judge. How about that? I'll plan on. We've got to get it ready before then.

(3:59:53 - 4:00:05)

So at least have an action plan. That would be cool. Because what I see is the trend of this all gets swept under the rug after the need is gone.

(4:00:15 - 4:00:21)

Yeah. The last two years, they didn't have one. They just had one.

(4:00:25 - 4:00:39)

Well, hopefully that one will be important to AQB. Yeah. Oh, is Stephen.

(4:00:41 - 4:00:52)

Great. Stephen, hopefully you can hear me. If you can hear me, Stephen, and the overhead speakers and 3A, I want you to wave your hands around like crazy so we know that the overflow room is working.

(4:00:56 - 4:01:00)

Well, I'm just interested to see what his idea of crazy is. I can't even see it. So I'm relying on you to.

(4:01:03 - 4:01:06)

Oh, great. Very crazy. Okay, great.

(4:01:12 - 4:01:25)

Yes. Okay. Yeah, as soon as the blue man turned off, the sound came on over there.

(4:01:26 - 4:01:59)

I was like, that was a little too bright. Yes. Yes.

(4:02:03 - 4:02:27)

All right. I am. Did you get what I said? I did.

(4:02:29 - 4:03:09)

That should be AQB. Okay, so currently, yeah, currently it is set to presentation mode, that's how it looks when I arrive, it's presenting from... Oh my gosh, yes, you're right. Yeah, so it's currently connected to the prosecution laptop, presentation mode.

(4:03:09 - 4:04:12)

So, I can switch it to standard mode, is that what you want? Alright, switching to standard mode. Okay, you can hear me, testing 1, 2, 3. Nice. Alright, so, we've all approached.

I better take this... Alright, so I'm going to go to sidebar now. I've ended sidebar, testing 1, 2, 3.

Fair enough, fair enough. I realize that now I'm going to mute my phone now and go into sidebar.

(4:04:14 - 4:04:34)

Alright, I'm going to go into sidebar, starting now. Alright, I've ended sidebar and I'm going to unmute my phone. Dang it, you heard me in the detail.

(4:04:44 - 4:04:54)

No, I didn't. I'm going to go on the screen. You can take them out now.

(4:04:55 - 4:05:04)

You can take them out now. It's all recorded. It's all recorded.

(4:05:04 - 4:05:08)

Oh. Okay, you guys taking them out? I think so. Okay.

(4:05:17 - 4:05:27)

So, what do you get to see? All I've seen is I've seen the guy on the video. And the start of the first lady. Okay.

(4:05:28 - 4:05:43)

So, to what? It's about 2 hours. We're getting this speed working down there as an open floor room. We have failed to do so properly so far because in order for it to be an open floor room, we do not want the sidebar on you as you go through.

(4:05:43 - 4:05:48)

Which is our biggest hang-up. So, we're trying to... So, nobody's out there. No one's out there.

(4:05:48 - 4:05:53)

Just you. Just me and... Me and everybody. Aww.

(4:05:53 - 4:05:57)

And whoever else is out there. Look, you've seen so many of these big trials. This is nothing for you.

(4:05:58 - 4:06:06)

I've never seen a trial like this. Really? Not with me. Well, did you see like Bargo? You were here for Bargo, right? I was.

(4:06:06 - 4:06:21)

I was here for a jury selection, but then I didn't get to be a part of the trial. He was, and he's still here. Brandon, weren't you in Bargo? You in Bargo? Michael Bargo.

(4:06:21 - 4:06:26)

The one that killed the kids. The Seth Jackson? Oh, no, no, no. I wasn't here yet.

(4:06:26 - 4:06:47)

So, who would have been it? Who was the judge? Hope, maybe? Not that judge. Yeah, he's been retired for a minute this time. No, Bargo would have been... Gosh, that was a while ago.

(4:06:47 - 4:06:53)

Almost. I think it's been at least ten. Yeah.

(4:06:54 - 4:07:03)

Might have been 2011. I think... St. Bush? I think it was 2012. 11 or 12? Yeah.

(4:07:06 - 4:07:14)

But you were here then? With the SRO then. I was with the SRO. I told you when you came to Bargo.

(4:07:15 - 4:07:20)

Oh. And we had him there for two weeks. I told him, you need to get rid of this kid.

(4:07:21 - 4:07:26)

He's gonna hurt somebody. Took me two weeks. They got rid of him.

(4:07:27 - 4:07:34)

Picked up a chair in the cafeteria trying to hit a kid with a chair. Yeah, and psyched him. Psyched, yep.

(4:07:34 - 4:07:50)

And then a year later, killed Seth. Wow. The judge's wife? Maybe the one who killed his wife.

(4:07:58 - 4:09:24)

Well, I mean, it's... Or it could be you, the judge, and witness Mike, and then try it. Just you guys

and BRT. Just you, Brandon, BRT, and... Oh, and Max.

(4:09:24 - 4:09:31)

We were gonna say they gotta have a third person. Yeah, they got Max. I did love it.

(4:09:32 - 4:09:38)

Yeah, it was a big storm. Well, Brer got his day off. Yep.

(4:09:40 - 4:09:49)

He's not in the show. Yep. Max is leaving September.

(4:09:49 - 4:09:54)

Yep. Oh, they got a problem with me. Oh, you think so? No way.

(4:09:54 - 4:10:09)

Because I would beat all that. Well, what do you think happened? I mean, it's a first name, so... I would assume that, but that's what that's supposed to mean. It's so corny.

(4:10:10 - 4:10:13)

And we got emotional during the day, too. But it would be his problem. No, it's not his problem.

(4:10:14 - 4:10:24)

Yeah, because his ass hair was falling. No, it's... It was falling. Because it's what he does? No, I guess I was... Or it's you, because it's not my problem.

(4:10:24 - 4:10:43)

I love it. Yeah, because you just gotta... Yeah, it was... Max was... I had to go look for a guy, and... I walked into... I broke his hand, so it would fall down. And I didn't have a clue what the problem was.

(4:10:45 - 4:10:50)

But he had, like, a shoulder bag underneath his arm. So it definitely had a gun in it. It was sketchy.

(4:10:51 - 4:10:57)

Yeah. And I was in the back. I just... I don't know.

(4:11:00 - 4:11:07)

No? I mean, the fade was good. The fade is good. Yeah, it just... It's not what you... Oh, okay.

(4:11:08 - 4:11:16)

So I had a funeral, like, a few Saturday nights. I went before him. And... And he, like, sprang the bag down and gave it to me.

(4:11:16 - 4:11:27)

And I was like, you know what? He just threw the bag right at the top of me. What did your girlfriend say? She... Well, I told her I didn't. I said it.

(4:11:27 - 4:11:31)

I was like, I was the worst part about it. And she's like, oh, I couldn't do that. Yeah, I know.

(4:11:32 - 4:11:37)

So I get to the house. I take my hat off. She's like... Oh... And I'm like, yeah.

(4:11:38 - 4:11:43)

I don't like it. I'm like, you can't do that. Oh... It'll be grown.

(4:11:44 - 4:11:46)

This will be grown. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:11:46 - 4:11:51)

She's wearing a hat for a while. Whatever. Yeah.

(4:11:51 - 4:12:00)

I'm going to pour it today. I'm not going to be... How long have you been on the TV all day? The week that I got here. I got horrible haircuts.

(4:12:02 - 4:12:14)

I did all that stuff. You ready? Yeah, I'm ready. You look flustered.

(4:12:14 - 4:12:20)

What's that? You look flustered. Yeah, because I came by the time I got in the elevator. I went down.

(4:12:21 - 4:12:29)

I told mom to submit me with a favorite show. That's going to happen anyway. I'm just glad I'm on.

(4:12:34 - 4:12:43)

All right. You got to take your shirt off now. Okay.

(4:12:43 - 4:12:48)

I'm going to stay here with you. Okay. I just want to go pee pee before we start.

(4:12:49 - 4:13:00)

No. I'll be here for a little bit. Are you going to be here? Are you going to be in my shoes? No, I'm going to sit down.

(4:13:01 - 4:13:18)

I know. I know. What did you do? Did you get a spot on your hair? It was a... I was trying to reduce a bunch of heat.

(4:13:19 - 4:13:29)

So it became... I had a flat head. So... You had a little bone in the middle of it. Yeah.

(4:13:35 - 4:13:43)

Yeah. So it wasn't curved when you got it out. It's cured.

(4:13:44 - 4:14:03)

Yeah. So... It doesn't have to be that way. Does a tan have to be cured or something? It's what's called... It's that portion of it.

(4:14:05 - 4:14:08)

It's that portion of it. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:14:09 - 4:14:17)

It's kind of like a portion. Yeah. How did it feel? Good.

(4:14:18 - 4:14:35)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:14:36 - 4:15:06)

Yeah. Yeah, I sat over there. I did.

(4:15:07 - 4:15:09)

I'm sure people did. Yeah. There's instructions.

(4:15:09 - 4:15:20)

Instructions. When you need to... Yeah. I'm going to just... I'm going to get my white monster.

(4:15:20 - 4:15:38)

I'll do the bottom. Testing. One, two, three.

(4:15:38 - 4:16:11)

Testing. Okay. Sidebar? You didn't hear me talking about shit.

(4:16:29 - 4:16:55)

Yes, it is. Okay. Well, I can try recording enabled, disabled.

(4:16:55 - 4:17:23)

So I'm going to... Right now I'm going to disable it. Now you should be able to hear me again now that I've re-enabled the audio. Okay, great.

(4:17:24 - 4:18:06)

Are you talking about changing actual ECR recording? Andy? Yeah, I think so. Oh, great. Okay.

(4:18:06 - 4:18:25)

Did you hear all that? Pretty easy loud. Yeah, it was crazy loud in here too. Looks like he turned it off because the guy from England or whatever that was zooming in, he was really quiet.

(4:18:29 - 4:18:46)

Yeah, I'm turning it down to a reasonable volume. How about we try that again? Yeah. Welcome to Zoom.

(4:18:46 - 4:19:06)

Please press pound. Then enter your meeting ID, followed by the pound sign again. Well, I don't want to adjust it too much beyond what the judge already said.

(4:19:07 - 4:19:43)

So, do you hear it? Okay, let's take a second. Okay. I'm talking into the podium mic right now.

(4:19:44 - 4:21:14)

Testing 1, 2, 3. Testing 1, 2, 3. Thank you. Yeah. I talked to them yesterday.

(4:21:14 - 4:21:37)

They had me turn up the video send, or I turned up the video send audio output in the touch panel because the victim on the video that they were trying to play was very, very soft-spoken. And we had to find them through. So, that could be something to do with it too.

(4:21:40 - 4:21:59)

Now that I'm realizing, yeah, it's like a home install. Yeah, the audio is there. Oh, yeah, yeah.

(4:21:59 - 4:22:53)

This is me. Like a speaker. All right.

(4:22:58 - 4:23:29)

I'm going to make a Zoom call now. Welcome to Zoom. Please press pound.

(4:23:29 - 4:23:38)

Then enter your meeting ID, followed by the pound sign again. Perfect. That's even better than that.

(4:23:40 - 4:23:56)

A little loud and perfect. I'm going to exit this call, and I'm going to put it back in the state it was when I arrived. Presentation.

(4:23:58 - 4:24:10)

Prosecution laptop. Awesome. Cool.

(4:24:33 - 4:25:13)

You are absolutely correct. Andy and I talked about that a moment ago. Okay.

(4:25:14 - 4:26:03)

I'm going to go talk to somebody right now. Go ahead. It probably makes sense to do it.

(4:26:26 - 4:26:43)

It's so much different now. Yes, yes. I do.

(4:26:43 - 4:27:22)

I ask confusing questions, apparently. I didn't even look at it. It's better than me.

(4:28:23 - 4:29:00)

Come on, Joe. I think we can manage. Perfect job having everything ready.

(4:29:00 - 4:29:04)

Thank you. You guys rock. Dang, she even handed me.

(4:29:04 - 4:29:09)

She was handing it to me. I was like, cool. Yeah, I know, because CDs, hard to get out of memory.

(4:29:10 - 4:29:14)

Oh, man. I was up there, and she was like, no, you want to introduce this one. No, all right.

(4:29:16 - 4:29:27)

I'm like, this is making sense. Put this one in. Careful.

(4:29:36 - 4:30:06)

Thank you. Yeah, this one. The big one? Yeah.

(4:30:06 - 4:30:38)

This one. This one's trouble. Okay.

(4:30:40 - 4:30:54)

Did I go too far? Is that the one? Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:30:55 - 4:31:05)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:31:07 - 4:31:12)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:31:17 - 4:31:26)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:31:26 - 4:31:35)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:31:35 - 4:31:44)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(4:32:39 - 4:32:47)

Yeah. Oh, yeah, yeah. Mm-hmm.

(4:32:55 - 4:32:58)

Oh, that's right. I don't know. They were working with Robert.

(4:32:58 - 4:33:02)

Yeah. I remember now. George.

(4:33:02 - 4:33:06)

Yeah, I didn't take it. I object to stay getting special privileges. I can walk through the door.

(4:33:07 - 4:33:11)

Go to your table, Bill. He wasn't even in here. He didn't know anything about it.

(4:33:11 - 4:34:29)

I was outside talking to you. Thank you. We're back from lunch, it's 12.42 in the afternoon, the record should reflect counsel to the state defense are present as well as the defendant.

(4:34:29 - 4:34:43)

Is there anything else we have to bring up members or lawyers before you bring them in? Briefly, your honor, this afternoon the last thing we're going to do is start to play the defendant's interview. It's lengthy. How long? It's about 4 hours and 40 minutes.

(4:34:43 - 4:34:53)

So we're going to probably split it up a little bit this afternoon into more tomorrow morning. Well, we tested the audio yesterday using the court system. The audio wasn't great.

(4:34:54 - 4:35:03)

We tried to mess with the sound a little bit and it's still a little muffled. So our plan was we have our large smart board with a sound bar, which provides much better quality of sound. Yes, sir.

(4:35:03 - 4:35:19)

We're going to bring that in here and play it over the sound, the smart board, if that's okay. Yes. We're going to try to figure out how to situate it so everybody can see, but our hope was that we would be able to take a break, like a 10, 15 minute break to be able to bring it in here and hook it up.

(4:35:20 - 4:35:26)

All right. And if your timeline holds for the afternoon, that would be shortly before or around three o'clock. Yes, sir.

(4:35:30 - 4:35:44)

It's probably be a little after three. Okay. How, I know y'all have had the smart board in here, the smart board, but y'all have had the laptop and screen that don't connect to the internet in here before for other trials.

(4:35:45 - 4:35:52)

I remember it being a pretty large setup. It's large. That's why we need a few minutes to just move it around and make sure obviously everybody can see.

(4:35:52 - 4:35:58)

Yeah. All right. Can we, have we given the jurors a two minute warning? Let's give them the two minute warning.

(4:36:00 - 4:36:06)

Hashing this out a little bit. All right. We'll need to move the podium, obviously.

(4:36:06 - 4:36:17)

And then Mr. Hall, if later when we play the video, uh, you want to watch it, you'll be permitted to change your location in the courtroom. Okay. And sit somewhere that you can do the video if you wish to view it.

(4:36:17 - 4:36:26)

What we have done in the past, there's a, the smart board would face the jury, but the laptop is

also, would be facing the defendant and it'll play on the backside as well. Okay. So that's how you see it.

(4:36:26 - 4:36:28)

Just a smaller screen. Yeah. That would work.

(4:36:28 - 4:36:30)

Okay. Thank you. Okay.

(4:36:31 - 4:36:36)

Anything else in the defense before we bring in the jury? No, Your Honor. Mr. Hall, uh, you were given lunch. Yes.

(4:36:36 - 4:36:42)

What'd they, what'd they have for you today? Same old, same old. Bologna and apple slices? Yep. Fair enough.

(4:36:42 - 4:36:45)

Okay. Are we ready for the jury now? Yes, Your Honor. Yes, Your Honor.

(4:36:45 - 4:38:10)

Bring them in. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back, counsel, everybody can be seated. How was lunch? Very good.

(4:38:11 - 4:38:24)

Looking forward to having you again tomorrow, right? We may have something different on Thursday. I'll talk to you all a little bit about that toward the end of the day today and, um, give you all some options for Thursday that may be a little different than Jimmy John's. All right.

(4:38:24 - 4:39:07)

State and call your next witness. State calls Marina Andreoli. Come on in, ma'am.

(4:39:07 - 4:39:15)

If you could raise your right hand, face the clerk to be sworn. Do you swear or affirm that the testimony you're about to give be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, said by God? Yes, I do. All right.

(4:39:15 - 4:39:25)

You can go ahead and be seated. Thank you. Good afternoon.

(4:39:25 - 4:39:32)

Good afternoon. Will you please introduce yourself to the jury? My name is Maria Andreoli. Can you spell your last name for us? Yes.

(4:39:32 - 4:39:49)

A-N-D-R-E-O-L-I. Where do you work? I am employed with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, also known as FTLE. What do you do for them? I am a crime laboratory analyst supervisor over the crime scene investigation team.

(4:39:49 - 4:40:05)

section and the evidence intake section. How long have you been with FDLE? A little over seven and a half years now. What do you do on a day-to-day basis? On the day-to-day, I supervise both the crime scene investigation and evidence intake sections and the members within them.

(4:40:05 - 4:40:26)

I am also a proficient analyst, which means I process crime scenes. How long have you been processing crime scenes? Since 2020. What is meant by the phrase processing a crime scene? That is the act of responding to the scene, documenting it through notes, photographs, sketches, or three-dimensional laser scans.

(4:40:26 - 4:40:58)

I will then search the scene for items of evidence and collect those items for future processing by the laboratory. Can you describe to the jury your educational background and training that allows you to do that? Yes, I have a bachelor's of science in biology from the University of Central Florida and a certificate in crime scene technology from Miami-Dade College. Now, often when you respond to a scene and begin to process that scene, do you always have the benefit of a full and complete investigation at that point? No.

(4:40:58 - 4:41:14)

Oftentimes when I am responding to a crime scene, it's at the beginning stages of an investigation. Because of that, do you often, as a crime scene analyst, document things and collect things that end up having no relevance to anything whatsoever involving the case? That is possible. Okay.

(4:41:16 - 4:41:35)

Are you trained in the different ways to collect evidence? Yes, I am. And what precautions do you and other crime scene technicians from FPOE take when entering a crime scene? Depending on the scene, we will use different types of personal protective equipment, or PPE. Every scene, without a doubt, there is going to be gloves involved.

(4:41:36 - 4:41:56)

And then for this particular scene, I also used crime scene booties, which are covers that go over my crime scene boots. And other individuals who were at the scene also used gloves and crime scene booties. Let me direct your attention to October 15th and October 16th of 2025.

(4:41:56 - 4:42:17)

Did you respond to a residence located at 16293 Northwest 122nd Terrace in Reddick, Florida? Yes, I did. Generally, where is that located? It was in a more rural area. On the way there, I noticed a few houses, but it was mostly farm-ish land.

(4:42:18 - 4:42:41)

And can you describe to the jury that residence, that house, generally would look like? It was a two-bedroom, two-bathroom manufactured home. So it was located east of Northwest 122nd Terrace, and the front door was on the north end of the manufactured home. In the back were the bedrooms and the bathroom.

(4:42:41 - 4:42:56)

Was it your understanding that this residence was basically being used as an Airbnb? Yes. Okay. So why'd you go there? I was requested to process the crime scene for a missing persons report that our special agents had received.

(4:42:56 - 4:43:18)

And had you, had the owner of the Airbnb given you and other law enforcement officers permission to go inside and look around and do what you had to do? Yes. While you were there, did you take photographs of both the inside and outside of the residence? Yes, I did. May I approach you, sir? Yes, sir.

(4:43:18 - 4:43:50)

Showing you a mark that states that a D is an all for identification. Can you take a look at those photos and tell me if you recognize them? Yes, I do. And how do you recognize them? I took these photos during the documentation of the crime scene.

(4:43:50 - 4:44:02)

Did they fairly and accurately depict the residence and the items of interest that you located within that residence or around that residence? Yes. This time state would move states P as in Paul into evidence as 15. No objection to this.

(4:44:03 - 4:44:13)

Without objection, states exhibit P will be introduced or admitted into evidence as exhibit 15. May I publish? Yes, sir. Showing you photograph one from states 15.

(4:44:13 - 4:44:29)

Explain to the jury what we see here. This is the north side of the two bedroom, two bathroom manufactured home. There was a patio on the north end of that and towards the back of the patio was the door to the residence.

(4:44:30 - 4:44:39)

Showing you photo two from states 15. Did you document the numerical address of the location? Yes, I did. And what was it? It was 16293.

(4:44:40 - 4:44:52)

Photograph three of states 15. Did you locate a garbage can on the outside beneath the porch area? Yes. Did you search that garbage can? Yes, I did.

(4:44:53 - 4:45:03)

Showing you photograph four of states 15. What does it show? This is an overall photograph of the garbage can that I searched. Photo five of states 15.

(4:45:03 - 4:45:27)

What'd you find when you looked inside? Inside the garbage can, well, the garbage can was lined with a black garbage trash bag and then within that trash bag was a white trash bag. What'd you do with the white trash bag? I took the white trash bag out and then I laid a tarp out and photographed the trash bag and its contents. Showing you photograph six of states 15.

(4:45:27 - 4:45:42)

What does it show? This is the tarp that I laid out and an overall photograph of the white trash bag. Photograph seven of states 15. What about this? This is an overall photograph of the white trash bag and all of the contents within the white trash bag.

(4:45:43 - 4:46:03)

And the blue tarp that everything is laying on top of, that was something you provided? Yes.

Generally, what types of things did you find in the trash? I found food containers, wrappers, and some receipts, some wipes, toiletries, and suspected hairs. Showing you photograph eight of states 15.

(4:46:04 - 4:46:32)

You mentioned receipts that were found. Specifically, what kind of receipts did you find? I found two Walmart receipts. And on photograph eight of 15, what types of items were purchased according to the Walmart receipt? There was a paracord that was purchased, an aerosol spray, a Lume spray, and a Uline utility rope.

(4:46:33 - 4:46:52)

And can you tell from the receipt what date and time that purchase occurred? Yes, it's dated October 10th, 2025 at 1747. That's 547 p.m.? Yes. Showing you photograph nine of states 15, did you locate a second receipt from Walmart? Yes, I did.

(4:46:52 - 4:47:11)

And what was purchased based on that receipt? A shovel. How much was the shovel according to the receipt? It was $20.39 with tax. And was there a date and time for that purchase for the shovel? Yes, it was dated October 10th, 2025 at 1754.

(4:47:12 - 4:47:19)

So, 554 and 30 seconds. So, just a few minutes after the items in the previous receipt were purchased? Yes. Okay.

(4:47:20 - 4:47:31)

Did you collect those receipts? Yes, I did. May I approach? Yes, sir. Showing you a Walmart stasis that is queued for identification.

(4:47:32 - 4:47:56)

Can you take a look at that and tell me if you recognize that? Yes, I do. And how do you recognize it? It has my initials and our FDLE laboratory case label on it. Can you open it up, look inside, and tell me if you recognize the contents? Is that item currently sealed? It is, yes.

(4:48:31 - 4:49:12)

What's inside? So, in one of the envelopes is the Walmart receipt dated October 10th, 2025 at 1747. And the other envelope is the Walmart receipt dated October 10th, 2025. And are those the same receipts that we saw in the photographs that we just looked at? Yes.

(4:49:12 - 4:49:24)

Are they in the same or substantially the same condition as when you collected them that day? This time, state would move Q into evidence as state 16. No objections, Your Honor. Without objection, state's exhibit Q will be admitted into evidence as state's exhibit 16.

(4:49:25 - 4:50:02)

And on those receipts, is there a store number such that an officer could go back and track down what store those receipts came from? Yes. And you mentioned on one of the, showing you photographs 10 of state's 15, you mentioned on one of the receipts there were purchases of a paracord and a utility type rope or line, right? Yes. What do we see in photograph 10? This is an overall photograph of the wrappers that I found within the trash can.

(4:50:06 - 4:50:18)

Did you collect that wrapping? Yes, I did. May I approach, Your Honor? Yes, sir. Showing you what's been marked as state's exhibit R as well as state's S. Take a look at those items and tell me if you recognize them.

(4:50:24 - 4:51:46)

Yes, I do. And what are they? They are the Ozark Trail 100, well, 1100 paracord 50-foot wrapper and the Ozark Trail twisted utility line wrapper that I collected. Can you please open those up, look inside, and tell me if you recognize the contents of each? Yes.

(4:51:47 - 4:53:02)

And what's in that first package you looked at? This first one is the wrapper for 1100 paracord from Ozark Trail. Okay, thank you. Within this envelope is the wrapper for the twisted utility line from Ozark Trail.

(4:53:03 - 4:53:17)

And both of those exhibits I just showed you, state's R and state's S, are those the wrappers that we see in the photograph here? Yes. And are both of those wrappers in the same or substantially the same condition as when you collected them? Yes. This time, state will move R into evidence as 17.

(4:53:18 - 4:53:34)

No objection. Chair, I'm just gonna ask, which one is which so I can know just from my notes? And you can answer. 16A is the Ozark Trail twisted utility line.

(4:53:34 - 4:53:52)

Okay, there should be a blue tag on the back that has a letter R. Oh, I'm sorry. So, S is the Ozark Trail twisted utility line and R is the Ozark Trail 1100 paracord. Thank you.

(4:53:54 - 4:54:02)

Without objection, then state's exhibit R will be admitted to evidence as state's exhibit 17. The state will move S into evidence as state's 18. No objection.

(4:54:02 - 4:54:38)

And without objection, state's exhibit S will be admitted to evidence as state's exhibit 18. Are the pieces of the paracord label and the utility label that we just looked at and were in the pictures, are those consistent with the purchases that you saw on the Walmart receipt we talked about earlier? Yes. Did you find the actual utility rope or cord anywhere during the search? I did not.

(4:54:43 - 4:55:03)

Showing you photograph 11 of state's 15. Did you locate some plastic food containers during your search of that garbage can? Yes, I did. What did you find and what does this photograph show? This is a photograph of a PB&J white grape sandwich container that I found and collected from the trash can.

(4:55:03 - 4:55:23)

Photograph 12 of state's 15, what does this show? This is a photograph of a food container that was labeled as strawberries that I collected from the trash can. And did you collect these food containers along with other items that you found in the garbage? Yes, I did. May I approach? These are showing you a mark of state's 15, it's in time.

(4:55:24 - 4:55:33)

Take a look at that item, tell me if you recognize that. I do. What is it? It is several items that I collected from the trash can.

(4:55:34 - 4:57:37)

Can you please open that up, look inside, and tell me if you recognize the contents? Yes. Recognize the, are there multiple packages inside the box? Yes. Specifically, can you pull out the two food containers that you talked about? Yes.

(4:57:38 - 4:58:30)

Open that one up, take a look inside, and tell me if you recognize the contents. Yes, I do. What is that? This is the strawberry plastic container and the PB&J white grape container that I collected.

(4:58:30 - 4:58:43)

And the rest of the items in the box, were those just the remaining items we saw in the photographs, like the drink cans and things like that? Yes. Is that in the same or substantially the same conditions when you collected them? Yes. This time state would move T as in Tom and the evidence is 19.

(4:58:44 - 4:59:04)

No objection, Your Honor. Without objection, state's exhibit T would be admitted to evidence, state's exhibit 19. Did you also search the inside of the residence? I did.

(4:59:04 - 4:59:26)

Describe the inside, was it clean, was it cluttered? It was sparsely furnished and relatively clean, but there was quite a bit of bedding that appeared that it had been used. Did you find anything in the residence of obvious evidentiary value? Yes. Like what? I collected several items of bedding.

(4:59:26 - 4:59:45)

The scene was also processed for friction ridge detail and multiple swabs were also collected from the scene. Showing you photograph 13 of state's 15. What does this show? This is an overall photograph of the living room and kitchen area.

(4:59:45 - 5:00:09)

So this photograph was taken right as I walked in through that north front door of the manufactured home and towards the back of the photograph is where the bedrooms and bathrooms were located. Showing you photograph 14 of state's 15. Did you locate an internet router in the bedroom? Yes, it was labeled as a modem router hybrid.

(5:00:10 - 5:02:11)

And photograph 15 of state's 15, what does this show? This is the backside of the router labeled kinetic Wi-Fi 6 modem. So this picture is the back of the previous picture of the router modem? Mayor Progenow. Yes, sir.

(5:02:11 - 5:02:25)

Showing you this marked the state's exhibit II. Do you recognize the area that that map depicts? Yes, I do. And is that, does that map fairly and accurately depict the location of the Airbnb that you processed those days? Yes.

(5:02:26 - 5:02:42)

Thank you, ma'am. And what I hand it to the state's II for the record. No further questions, Your Honor.

(5:02:42 - 5:02:49)

Thank you. Any cross examination? No questions. Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hands.

(5:02:51 - 5:02:56)

Seeing no hands, state is she released? She will be recalled, Your Honor. Okay, ma'am. You're free to step down.

(5:02:56 - 5:03:00)

Thank you. State, you can call your next witness. State calls Christopher Perryman.

(5:03:45 - 5:03:47)

One answer. Raise your right hand. Face the court.

(5:04:01 - 5:04:06)

Good afternoon, sir. Good afternoon. Can you please introduce yourself to the jury? I'm Christopher Perryman.

(5:04:07 - 5:04:15)

I work for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. I'm a special agent at the Gainesville field office. How long have you worked for FDLE? A little over two years.

(5:04:15 - 5:04:26)

Where'd you work before that? I worked for Levy County Sheriff's office. Before that, anywhere? No, sir. Okay, how long were you with Levy County? From 2014 to 2024.

(5:04:26 - 5:05:02)

What type of work did you do for Levy County Sheriff's office? So for Levy County, I was a patrol deputy for several years, promoted into criminal investigations division, later promoted back out to a corporal position, which is a line supervisor for patrol, back in as a line supervisor for criminal investigations division. While you were in Levy County, did you do any work involving crimes against children and kind of internet type related crimes? I did. What type of things did you do? Worked many different crimes, specifically crimes against persons.

(5:05:02 - 5:05:16)

So shootings, homicides, property crimes, and then also internet crimes against children. So cyber type of crimes. Let me direct your attention to October 15th of 2025.

(5:05:16 - 5:05:30)

Did you respond to an Airbnb located at 16293 Northwest 122nd Terrace Road, or Terrace in Reddick, Florida? Yes, I did. Showing you photograph one from States 15. Do you recognize that location? Yes, sir, I do.

(5:05:31 - 5:05:51)

And why did you go here? We were working a investigation with a missing person identified as Sonia Exelby. We knew that she had rented this Airbnb, so we went there for further investigation. Was there a crime scene technician from Florida Department of Law Enforcement named Maria Andreoli also there processing the scene? Yes, sir, there was.

(5:05:52 - 5:06:03)

While there, did you perform something called a router interrogation? Yes, sir, I did. First of all, what is a router? So a router essentially is kind of what it says it is. It routes information.

(5:06:03 - 5:06:18)

So it's something connected to your home network that sends and receives information from other devices. And we've also heard the term modem. What's a modem? A modem basically is what connects to your ISP or your internet service provider.

(5:06:18 - 5:06:36)

So if you have AT&T or something like that, it would connect externally, bring internet into your house and connect into a router to help create wireless internet. So the modem brings the internet signal into your house and the router disperses it amongst the devices that need it? That's correct. It disperses it and also sends messages back out.

(5:06:36 - 5:06:58)

Okay. So if I go to your house and I pull out my cell phone and connect to your internet system, will the router store the information from my phone somehow? Yes, sir, it will. Do you, briefly and generally, can you explain kind of how that works? Yes, sir, so when you connect to a router, typically there's different ways it can store it.

(5:06:58 - 5:07:30)

Some routers store information internally through a memory system, like a memory card. And secondarily, it can store it through a cloud-based system so it'll store things like a MAC address,

IP addresses, names, devices, connected devices, things like that. What's a MAC address? So a MAC address essentially is a 12-bit hexadecimal number that identifies a specific electronic device.

(5:07:31 - 5:07:50)

So for example, a cell phone when it's manufactured, a manufacturer will put a special serial number, which is basically a MAC address, into it that is unique to it, kind of like a fingerprint. It never changes. And what is an IP address? So an IP address is basically, it's an internet protocol address is what it's called.

(5:07:51 - 5:08:02)

But basically what it does is it kind of acts like a home address. So when you get your mail delivered from a postmaster, it goes to your home. An IP address is where the internet would provide the data packages, basically, too.

(5:08:03 - 5:08:33)

And you said you perform what's called a router interrogation. What is that and what does it involve? So router interrogation basically means that I'm looking at the administrative side or the admin side of a router. So earlier when I mentioned that there was some stored information on the router, that's what I'm looking for, is plugging in externally from my computer through an ethernet cable into the router and then accessing logged information.

(5:08:33 - 5:08:50)

So MAC addresses, connected devices, prior connected devices, things like that. Specifically in this case, at this Airbnb, what were you looking for when you did this router interrogation? So specifically for this one, I'm really looking for everything, anything. There's so much information there.

(5:08:50 - 5:09:10)

But the most important thing was trying to see what connected devices were on the system or had been on the system previously. Showing you photograph 14 of states 15, what does this show? That's showing the router. Okay, and photograph 15 of states 15, what does this show? Showing the, I guess, the side or the back of the router.

(5:09:10 - 5:09:20)

And on the back of the router, we see a whole bunch of information. Yes, sir. Is that the information that you used in part to perform this router interrogation? Yes, it is.

(5:09:20 - 5:09:31)

What internet service was being used to provide internet to this Airbnb? It was a WinStream. How do you know that? Well, a few different ways. A, the router itself is a kinetic router.

(5:09:32 - 5:09:47)

I believe on the other side, if you look, it actually says kinetic by WinStream. And secondarily, through the router interrogation, I was able to observe that it was a kinetic WinStream router. And then there was a subsequent subpoena that was sent to WinStream, which later confirmed that it was a WinStream router.

(5:09:47 - 5:10:01)

And what information do we see in the back of the router here that is important to you? So there's a few things there that are important. First, if you look up top, it says the make model. Below that's network name, network password.

(5:10:02 - 5:10:15)

And then the bottom right shows the serial number to the router and then the MAC address, which is its unique identifier. To the left are the admin settings, username and password. So the admin settings side is what I was really focusing on.

(5:10:16 - 5:10:47)

Is that admin setting the information that allows you to actually get inside the inner workings of the router? Is it? It is. So can you explain to the jury what you did and what you logistically, from a practical standpoint, did to get into the router? Yeah, so basically what I did was, after determining where the router was, I use a work laptop and I take an Ethernet cable and plug it from my work laptop into the router using the admin private IP address. You can see on the top of the bottom left side, it says admin setting.

(5:10:47 - 5:11:04)

There's a URL there. I use that to access a admin page, which I then use the admin username and password to access the information I was looking for. And did you download the relevant information from the router doing that process? Yes, I did.

(5:11:04 - 5:11:11)

May I approach you, Ryan? Yes, sir. Showing us the mark that states it's a U for identification. Take a look at that item and tell me if you recognize it.

(5:11:11 - 5:11:19)

Yes, sir, I do. What is it? This is information from the router interrogation. Is that the information you downloaded from the router? Yes, sir, it is.

(5:11:19 - 5:11:33)

Is it the same or substantially the same condition as when you downloaded it and, is that just a printout of it? Yes, sir, it's just a printout. This time, the state would move U into evidence as 20? No objection to this. Without objection, states exhibit U will be admitted into evidence as states exhibit 20.

(5:11:35 - 5:11:50)

May I publish? Yes, sir. Show me the first page of that document called connection status. Kind of what information do we see here? Looks like the IP address, just kind of basic information to the router itself.

(5:11:51 - 5:12:03)

And we see some information like a serial number and a MAC address. Do those numbers reflect the same numbers that were on the back of the actual modem you looked at? Yes, sir, it does. Okay.

(5:12:06 - 5:12:23)

Showing you states 20 along with photograph 15 of 15. Is that what this shows? Yes, sir. Showing you the next page of the states 20, what does this show? This shows a log of connected devices.

(5:12:25 - 5:12:50)

And the part in the bottom, the bottom half of this, are those the actual devices that are connected to the router? Yes, sir. Show me the next page of that printout. Referring to the last two entries, what do we see there? The last two entries are myself connecting via ethernet cable with my computer and then a device named Sonia-S-S22.

(5:12:50 - 5:13:03)

Okay, so the 93753JROC, is that you? That's me, yes, sir. What is JROC? JROC stands for the Jacksonville Regional Operations Center. So we have several different operations centers, that's the one I'm on.

(5:13:04 - 5:13:23)

So when you logged into the router using your computer, the router recognized your computer as JROC? That's correct. Okay, what's the previous entry in the log before you? Just prior to me was

Sonia-S-S22. And is that the name of the device that would have hit the router before you did? Correct.

(5:13:23 - 5:13:37)

How can you name a device? It's pretty simple through your settings. So a lot of people who have phones, not everyone names their devices, but it's pretty common in a new setup to name your device. But you can do it at any time.

(5:13:37 - 5:14:02)

So for example, if you get into your car and you connect to Bluetooth, it typically will say iPhone or whatever device. If you want to change that to Christopher's device, you could change it to Christopher-S22 and it would connect and show you. Okay, and the device reference Sonia-S-S22, that was the device that came to the router before you did? That's correct.

(5:14:03 - 5:14:22)

Does S22 have any significance? Yes, sir, it does. What is it? There was Google information from Sonia that showed that she had a S22 device. So I'm showing you the network device report from stage 20.

(5:14:22 - 5:14:47)

What do we see here? Looks like connected devices again. And same information, the bottom two entries, are those consistent with the last two logins to the router at the Airbnb? Yes, sir, they are. Did you later, you mentioned earlier, did you later send a subpoena to Windstream Internet Service for their official records related to this router? Yes, sir, I did.

(5:14:47 - 5:15:02)

The first time you were in the state would move state to you into evidence at stage 21. It's the records from Windstream regarding the router at the Airbnb? I thought we did that. It's V, it's V. It may be V? V, it's been Victor, I apologize.

(5:15:04 - 5:15:15)

It's the records from Windstream of business records certification is attached and proper notice has been given. No objection to us. Without objection, state's exhibit B will be admitted into evidence at state's exhibit 21.

(5:15:21 - 5:15:29)

May I approach? Yes, sir. Showing you states 21 now. Yes, 21.

(5:15:29 - 5:15:39)

Do you recognize those records? Yes, sir, I do. May I publish? Yes, sir. Showing you page two of the actual Windstream records.

(5:15:39 - 5:16:11)

Does the information on the Windstream records reflect the same information that you downloaded from the router itself? Yes, sir, it does. Is the MAC address the same as on the router? Yes, sir, it is. And according to the information from Windstream, well, first of all, what time zone are these records in? I believe they're in central time.

(5:16:11 - 5:16:32)

Okay, so they're an hour behind? Yes, sir. Did the records indicate that the authorized user of the router was Dane Miller? Yes, sir, they did. Who did you determine that to be? The owner of the Airbnb.

(5:16:33 - 5:16:42)

Okay. Showing you photograph or image three from states 21. What do we see here? Connected devices.

(5:16:43 - 5:17:00)

And what is Cottage 500 and Roku TV? Based on the name, I know that Cottage was a name used for the Airbnb. Roku TV, likely what that is is there was a smart TV there at the house, which would show connection to the internet. So I believe that's what it's gonna be.

(5:17:00 - 5:17:27)

Okay, and then do we see the entries reflecting Sonia SS22? Yes, sir. And towards the end of those records, what does this show in the red box against state 21? It shows the JROC computer that I was using. Does this subpoenaed information from Windstream correspond and confirm the information you did from your router interrogation process? Yes, sir, it does.

(5:17:29 - 5:17:52)

And when was the last connection made by Sonia SS22? What period of time? The last connection was October 12th of 2025. Okay. Thank you, sir.

(5:17:52 - 5:18:01)

No other questions. Any cross-examination? Thank you. Good afternoon, sir.

(5:18:02 - 5:18:18)

Just a few questions. Yes, sir. For those of us not as sophisticated with routers as you are, can you tell from the device itself the information you get from the router? What type of device was actually connected? No, sir.

(5:18:19 - 5:18:35)

Okay. What about how long it was connected? You can see timeframes. So specifically, the Sonia-SS-S22 device was connected from October 10th of 2025 to October 12th, 2025.

(5:18:35 - 5:18:57)

So you can see some time indications there. Okay. Any redirect examination status? No, your honor.

(5:18:57 - 5:19:05)

Members of the jury, do any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Okay, seeing no hands, status he released? He is not. He'll be recalled.

(5:19:05 - 5:19:07)

Okay. All right, sir, you can step down. Sir, thank you.

(5:19:10 - 5:19:17)

Oh, exhibits? Yes, sir. Thank you. All right, state, you can call your next witness.

(5:19:17 - 5:19:55)

State calls Vincent Moore. Come on in, sir. Raise your right hand.

(5:19:55 - 5:20:02)

Face the clerk to be sworn in. I swear or affirm the testimony I'm about to give be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God. All right, you can go ahead and be seated, sir.

(5:20:05 - 5:20:10)

Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Can you please tell the jury your name? My name is Vincent Moore.

(5:20:10 - 5:20:23)

Where do you work, Mr. Moore? I work at Walmart as a asset protection investigator. Which Walmart do you work at? The Walmart in Gainesville, Florida. It's 5700 Northwest, 23rd Street.

(5:20:24 - 5:20:37)

How long have you worked for Walmart? Been working for Walmart going on 10 years. And I think you said your position was an asset protection officer? Yes, ma'am. All right, and how long have you been an asset protection officer? Going on four years.

(5:20:38 - 5:20:52)

What are your duties as an asset protection officer? Pretty much just focused on the safety of the store as well as catching shoplifters. All right. Do your duties also include assisting law enforcement that may be investigating a crime? Yes, ma'am.

(5:20:53 - 5:21:06)

Does the Walmart you work at in Gainesville have a surveillance system? Yes, ma'am. Does it continuously record? Yes, ma'am. Approximately how many cameras are there throughout the entire store? I can't make a number, but hundreds.

(5:21:06 - 5:21:13)

Okay. Are they located inside and outside of the Walmart? Yes, ma'am. Does it basically cover the whole store? Yes, ma'am.

(5:21:13 - 5:21:27)

Where is the recording system for the cameras kept? It's kept in the asset protection office. Is the asset protection office kept locked? Yes, ma'am. All right, who has keys? Upper management in the store.

(5:21:30 - 5:21:38)

So a regular cashier does not have keys to get into this office? No. All right. I wanna direct your attention to October of 2025.

(5:21:39 - 5:21:56)

During that timeframe, did you meet with an agent from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement who requested to view some video from October 10th of 2025? Yes. And how did the agent gain access to the system, the surveillance system? He gained it through me. You let him in? Yes.

(5:21:56 - 5:22:07)

All right. Is anyone able to delete or tamper with the video footage on the surveillance system? Not at all. And was everything with the surveillance system working fine at that time? Yes.

(5:22:08 - 5:22:20)

Was the date and timestamp on the system working correctly? Yes. And did you locate the video that the agent was requesting? Yes. Now, did you let the agent pull up the video on his own or did you do it for him? I did it for him.

(5:22:21 - 5:22:29)

And did you make a copy of the video and provide it to the agent? Yes. So you gave him an actual physical copy? Correct. Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am.

(5:22:30 - 5:22:37)

Showing you what's been marked in the case in the state's exhibit. Done with you. If you could look at that and tell me, do you recognize that? Yes.

(5:22:37 - 5:22:49)

What is that? This is the surveillance video that I watched on November 2nd. This is the video that you pulled up for the agent? Oh, yes. Yes, correct.

(5:22:50 - 5:22:58)

And you did watch it on November 2nd? Yes. Of 2026? Yes. How do you know that that's the video that you watched? Because I see that I initialed it and dated it.

(5:22:58 - 5:23:12)

And is this a fair and accurate depiction of the video from Walmart that you gave the officer from October 10th of 2025? Yes, ma'am. I don't have any other questions, Your Honor. No questions.

(5:23:12 - 5:23:22)

Any cross examination? Members of the jury, do any of you all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Seeing no hands, is he released state? We'd ask that he be released, thank you. Defense, is he released? No objection, Your Honor.

(5:23:22 - 5:23:25)

All right, sir, you're free to go about your day. Thank you for your time. Thank you.

(5:23:26 - 5:24:32)

State, you can call your next witness. State recalls Calvin Lee. All right, come on in, sir.

(5:24:32 - 5:24:34)

You can have a seat. You remain under oath. All right.

(5:24:37 - 5:24:43)

Welcome back. Thank you. Can you please state your name again for the record? I'm Special Agent Calvin Lee with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

(5:24:43 - 5:24:59)

When we last left you, it was October 14th of 2025, and you had just interviewed the defendant for a second time. I want to move on now to the next day, Wednesday, October 15th of 2025. On that date, did you respond to a Walmart to obtain some video surveillance footage Yes, I did.

(5:24:59 - 5:25:22)

Where was the Walmart located? It's 5700 Northwest 23rd Street in Gainesville, Florida. And what were you looking for at that Walmart? Video surveillance pertaining to two receipts that were recovered at an Airbnb in Reddick, Florida. What was the date of the video surveillance that you were looking for? October 10th, 2025.

(5:25:23 - 5:25:40)

And was the date and time of the video you were looking for based on those two receipts that were found at that Airbnb? Yes, they were. Who did you meet with at Walmart about obtaining the video? Vincent Moore. And who was Vincent Moore? He's the loss prevention specialist that was on duty at that time.

(5:25:40 - 5:25:56)

All right, and where did you go with Mr. Moore once you arrived at the Walmart? In one of the, just inside one of the entrances of the store, there's a little room that you have to go through through a locked door. That's where their loss prevention office is. So the door was locked? Yes, it was locked.

(5:25:56 - 5:26:06)

And did Mr. Moore let you in? He did. And did Mr. Moore actually work the camera to obtain the video that you were looking for? Yes, he did. Was the date and time stamp accurate on the system? Yes, it was.

(5:26:06 - 5:26:20)

Did the Walmart have multiple camera views? Yes, they did. Were you able to find video from that date and time from those receipts that were found? Yes, we were. And who was on the video that you found? Dwayne Hall.

(5:26:22 - 5:26:46)

Can you briefly describe for the jury what video footage you located? So it was from several different angles throughout, but the loss prevention specialist was able to take from the point of sale on the receipt and track it backwards. So we were able to track it backwards and then from there moving, it was Dwayne Hall entering into the store. He goes into the bathroom, comes out, he's maneuvering around.

(5:26:47 - 5:27:00)

He purchases some items from the sporting good register. Let me just stop you right there. Would that be deodorant, two different kinds of rope and a gun cleaner? Yes.

(5:27:00 - 5:27:40)

Okay, that was an initial purchase. Where did he buy those things? From Walmart, but the purchase was instead of coming back out through like the self checkouts and the normal checkouts on Walmart, he went to the point of sale register at the sporting goods store or sporting good area of the store. So then from there, he leaves and exits out the garden center towards that exit, but then diverts from there before actually exiting the store and goes into the secure area where the garden, like the plants and shovels and things of that nature are.

(5:27:40 - 5:28:02)

He's there for a few moments, comes back out with a shovel, pays for the shovel. So the second transaction there at the garden center and then exits the store, able to follow him back to where his vehicle is and see his vehicle leaving Walmart facility parking lot. Were these two transactions back to back? Within a few moments.

(5:28:02 - 5:28:17)

One was at 5.47 p.m. and the other one was at 5.54 p.m. So he doesn't leave the store and then come back in. He purchases the first items and then goes to the garden center, gets the shovel and purchases that. Correct.

(5:28:19 - 5:28:39)

Now, the area where the defendant goes and purchases the shovel in the garden center, is there an exit in there to leave the store if you actually wanted to leave the store? No, there's not. You have to exit or enter back into the indoor garden area where the cash register is and the main exit

doors, entry doors are. All right.

(5:28:40 - 5:28:48)

Now, were you able to obtain the video footage that you were looking for? Yes, I was. And did Mr. Moore give you an actual physical copy of that? Yes, he did. Your Honor, may I press the witness? Yes, ma'am.

(5:28:49 - 5:28:54)

I'm gonna show you what the market indication states. It's in the W and ask you if you recognize that. Yes, I do.

(5:28:54 - 5:29:04)

What is that? It's a disc that's labeled Walmart video. Has my initials CL and the date 10-27-2026 from when I viewed this. All right.

(5:29:04 - 5:29:19)

And does that have five clips from all the videos that you looked at from the Walmart on October 10th, 2025? Yes, it does. And does it cover the areas that you know are in the Walmart since you have been there? Yes, it does. Throughout this time, we knew State's Exhibit W is evidence? No objection, yeah.

(5:29:20 - 5:29:27)

Without objection, State's Exhibit W would be admitted into evidence as State's Exhibit 22. And Judge, I would ask to publish, please. Yes, ma'am.

(5:29:34 - 5:31:26)

And are these all running together, all five clips? They are. And who is that that we see in the video? That is Dwayne Hall. And is this the garden center that we talked about earlier? Yes, that's the outdoor area.

(5:35:16 - 5:35:19)

Thank you. I don't have any further questions, Your Honor. No questions, Jury.

(5:35:20 - 5:35:28)

Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. I see no hands. State, is he released? We would ask that he be excused, finally.

(5:35:28 - 5:35:31)

Okay, it depends. No objection, Your Honor. All right, so you're free to go about your day.

(5:35:31 - 5:35:35)

Thank you for your time. Thank you. Members of the jury, we've been back now for about an hour.

(5:35:35 - 5:36:18)

Does anybody need a bathroom break? Are you good with going to another witness? Next witness it is. State? State calls Daniel Busser. Come on, sir, raise your right hand if you could.

(5:36:18 - 5:36:25)

Face the clerk, and you can place your merit. I do swear or affirm the testimony about to give be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God. I do swear.

(5:36:25 - 5:36:31)

All right, you can go ahead and be seated, sir. Good afternoon, sir. Good afternoon.

(5:36:32 - 5:36:46)

Will you please introduce yourself to the jury and spell your last name? Hi, my name is Daniel Busser, last name B-U-S-E-R. Where do you work? I work at BP, Travel Centers of America, Petro. And what is that? That is a truck stop chain.

(5:36:46 - 5:37:03)

How long have you worked there? 15 years. What's the address of the business that you work at now? 7401 West Highway 318, Reddick, Florida. And generally, where is that located in relation to I-75? I-75, right off the exit.

(5:37:04 - 5:37:12)

As soon as you get off, it's on the right-hand side. Is there a Wendy's also in that same area? Yeah, there's a Wendy's as well. We direct your attention to October 16th, 2025.

(5:37:13 - 5:37:29)

Did a Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent come to your store and show you several photographs of some items? Yes. Showing you photograph 11 of states 15. Do you recognize the container? I do.

(5:37:29 - 5:37:45)

And what would normally be in this container? To the right, the PB&J white grape would be actually a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on white bread. Okay, and showing you photograph 12 of states 15. What does this show? That is a container that we usually chop our strawberries up and put in that.

(5:37:46 - 5:38:01)

Did your store sell those two items in these containers? Yes. Okay. When the Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent came to your store and met with you, did he ask you to search recent transactions for purchases of these two items? Yes.

(5:38:02 - 5:38:15)

And were you able to do that? I was able to find the receipt, yes. How do you go about doing that kind of a search? We go into the back office system to search any past electronic logs that are usually older than a few hours. And we search through that.

(5:38:15 - 5:38:34)

We go through the logins and all that and get that electronic statements from those back office systems. Who has access to that system that you use to search? Anybody has a username and password, usually management or leadership, like a lead or something of that nature will usually have access. And you indicated you need a username and password to even access the system? Correct.

(5:38:36 - 5:39:00)

When you did that search, were you able to find a transaction of those two items at the same time? Yes. Were you able to pull up a transaction history or a receipt showing the date and time of purchase of those items? Yes, I printed a receipt for those items. Does your system create those records, those transaction records, in the normal course of your business? Yeah, as they occur, when they ring up, it creates a receipt.

(5:39:00 - 5:39:20)

Okay, so right when the item is scanned and the purchase is made, it regenerates a record in the system? Yeah, as soon as you, even if you voided it, it still would show as a voided thing in the system, but it would show as a receipt when it's complete sale. Okay, does the system maintain those records for a period of time as a normal course of your business? For a period of time. I don't know for exactly how long, but definitely not.

(5:39:20 - 5:39:38)

Do you have the ability to go into your system and alter those records in any way? No, there is no

way to do that. May I approach? Yes, sir. Showing you some market states, is it a dex for identification? Do you recognize that document? Yes.

(5:39:38 - 5:39:51)

What is it? It's a clarification on receipts used with a debit card and to purchase PB&J wheat and strawberries. Does that fairly, is that the receipt you pulled up and provided to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement? That is. Yeah, it is.

(5:39:51 - 5:40:00)

Does it fairly and accurately depict the transaction that you found in your system? Yes. This time, state would move X into evidence as states 23. No objection, judge.

(5:40:00 - 5:40:12)

Without objection, states exhibit X will be admitted into evidence as states exhibit 23. May I publish? Yes, sir. Showing you states 23, can you explain to the jury what we see here? Well, you see a transaction receipt.

(5:40:13 - 5:40:40)

You got the date on the top with the time of the transaction. The registered number it was done on, the transaction number it is, what store number, the employee ID who rang up that transaction, as well as all the information of all the things purchased with the total and the debit card information showing the last four and the first six. And does this purchase receipt for PB&J wheat and strawberries, is that consistent with the two photos of the containers that the FDLE agent provided? That is correct, yes.

(5:40:41 - 5:41:01)

And what were the last four digits of the debit card used to make the purchase according to the receipt? 8343. Does the travel center also have a surveillance system within and around the business? That's correct, yes. And are part of your duties to kind of to check and monitor that surveillance system and pull footage if need be? If need be.

(5:41:01 - 5:41:14)

To provide footage, anything like that, it requires our loss prevention team. But other than that, I am able to, yes, review it and look at it. Okay, so you would review it and if it needed to be burned, you'd have to get permission from the loss prevention team? Yes.

(5:41:17 - 5:41:37)

What kind of surveillance system is it? Is it a DVR-based system or a cloud-based? A DVR. And

is that system motion activated or is it recorded continuously? It has the ability to do both. Where is the hub of that surveillance system located in the TA patrol? My manager's office.

(5:41:37 - 5:41:50)

Is it kept in a locked room? Yes, and in a locked box as well, in that room. Who has access to that surveillance system? Usually anything from a system manager to above. They have a login ID that they can utilize.

(5:41:54 - 5:42:30)

Generally, what areas of the store does the surveillance system cover? Most inside, some outside. Yeah, that's right. Were you also asked by that same Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent to review surveillance footage to capture the purchase of the PB&J and the strawberries reflected in the receipt? Were you able to pull surveillance footage reflecting that purchase? Yeah, we were able to find the transaction time and the camera system as well.

(5:42:35 - 5:43:00)

At some point, were you given permission to provide that footage to the agent? Yeah, I had to contact loss prevention in order to get something like that and they would burn it for us, send it either to us in a zip file or even to the officer or whoever requested it to their email as well. I can't recall exactly what transpired during that, but we provided it to them, I know that. Would you have reviewed the footage prior to sending it out? Yes.

(5:43:01 - 5:43:13)

Was the timestamp on the footage accurate? Yes. Any problems with the DVR system? No. Was there any indication that the footage had been altered or tampered with in any way? No.

(5:43:13 - 5:43:23)

Do you have the ability to go into the system and alter or tamper with the footage? No. May I approach, Your Honor? Yes, sir. Show me most of the mark of the station to the Y for identification.

(5:43:24 - 5:43:35)

Do you recognize that disk? Yes, I do. How do you recognize it? I reviewed it with you and we initialed and dated on the top there the date. It was 11-4-26.

(5:43:36 - 5:43:48)

And that was the date you watched it? Yes. And did you initial it? Yes. Okay, does that fairly and accurately depict the surveillance footage from inside the store that you've discussed and that

you've provided to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent? That is correct, yes.

(5:43:48 - 5:43:55)

At this time, state would move Y into evidence as 24. No objection, Your Honor. Without objection, State's Exhibit Y will be admitted into evidence as State's Exhibit 24.

(5:43:56 - 5:44:03)

Thank you, sir. No other questions? No questions, Your Honor. Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand.

(5:44:04 - 5:44:12)

Seeing no hands, is he released, State? He is, Your Honor. Yes, Judge, no objection. May we approach after the court is released? All right, sir, you're free to go about your day.

(5:44:12 - 5:44:15)

Thank you for your time. Thank you, appreciate it. Yes, lawyers, y'all can approach.

(5:44:29 - 5:44:40)

We're gonna take a little bathroom break here. It's about 1.52. This will be about a 10-minute break, so use the restroom, get a drink of water. We'll give you the two-minute warning as we've been doing.

(5:44:41 - 5:44:49)

Again, leave your notepads here. Keep your binders closed up and leave them on your chair. On the break, don't discuss the case with one another.

(5:44:49 - 5:45:41)

And again, if you use your phones or electronic devices over the break, don't use them to research the case or look up anything about the case or communicate with anybody about the case. See you all back shortly. The record should reflect the jury's courtroom.

(5:45:41 - 5:45:54)

Just a quick word to the folks in the audience. I want everybody here to remember that court is in session, but even when the jury is filing out, okay? And if the judge is on the bench, court is in session. That's usually a good indicator.

(5:45:55 - 5:46:13)

It got a little noisy right before the lunch break, so just make sure that as you all are filing in and out at recess, just remember there may be other things we have to take up before we recess, so we need to make sure the volume of the audience is down. Be back in about 10 minutes. We'll see you in about 10 minutes.

(5:54:57 - 5:55:59)

Bring him in. All right, Nash. You all can be seated, thank you.

(5:55:59 - 5:56:03)

Welcome back. Say you can call your next witness. State calls Patrick Vittalaro.

(5:56:41 - 5:56:49)

Come on in, raise your right hand, face the clerk to be sworn. I swear it one more time, that I swear by the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God. I swear.

(5:56:50 - 5:56:55)

Okay, you can go ahead and be seated. Thank you, Your Honor. Thank you, Your Honor.

(5:56:55 - 5:57:03)

Good morning, good afternoon, sir. Good afternoon, sir. Could you please introduce yourself to the jury? My name is Special Agent Patrick Vittalaro with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

(5:57:04 - 5:57:18)

How long have you been with FDLE? About four years. Where did you work prior to that? Prior to that, I was with the Clay County Sheriff's Office. And what did you do for Clay County? My last assignment for the last eight years I was there was a robbery homicide detective.

(5:57:18 - 5:57:47)

What do you do for FDLE now? I'm part of the major case squad, investigate officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths, and assist other agencies with cold cases and homicides. Did you become involved in the investigation into the murder of Sonya Axelby? I did. Were you asked to try to track down the location of the purchase of some items found in the garbage located at an Airbnb in Reddick? Yes.

(5:57:48 - 5:58:17)

Were you also tasked with trying to recover any surveillance footage that reflected that purchase?

Yes. Showing you photograph 11 of state's 15, do you recognize the container in this photo? I do. And how do you recognize it? Well, the two, well, the one on the far left is a Dunkin' Donuts cup, but the two that I was tasked with tracking down is the cylindrical container, which was strawberries.

(5:58:19 - 5:58:40)

And the other one is like a triangle-shaped container for PB&J, or peanut butter and jelly sandwich. And photograph 12 of state's 15, just a close-up of the strawberry container. So what did you do to try to find out where these items were purchased from? So the items look like they came from a convenience store.

(5:58:41 - 5:58:57)

We knew that there was a truck stop approximately seven miles away from the Airbnb, so I went there. Did you bring the photos with you that we looked at? I did. What'd you do when you got there? I looked around the store to find these items to start with, and these are right by the front, by the counters.

(5:58:57 - 5:59:23)

Okay. At some point, were you able to obtain, did you ask the loss prevention officer there to look for purchases recently for these two items? Yeah, so we identified those items the night we were out there. The loss prevention was not at the business, so I left my business card and spoke to him the next day.

(5:59:23 - 5:59:52)

Okay. And did you eventually go back to the travel center and collect the information that you asked him to provide? Yes. What happened when you got there the next day? So I actually sent a formal request to their loss prevention headquarters on our letterhead, and then they looked for these items in recent sales, and they found one specific with only the strawberries and the peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

(5:59:53 - 6:00:04)

Did you ask loss prevention to provide you a copy of the transaction for those purchases? Yes. Showing you what's been introduced into evidence at stage 23, is that familiar? Yes. All right.

(6:00:08 - 6:00:51)

Were you also provided surveillance footage from the travel center reflecting this purchase? I was. May I publish at this time, stage 24, your honor? Yes, sir. According to the surveillance, what's the timestamp footage? October 11th, 2025 at 12.06 p.m. Okay.

(6:00:54 - 6:01:02)

Were still shots also generated of this surveillance footage? Kind of zoomed in a little bit. Yes. May I approach your honor? Yes, sir.

(6:01:02 - 6:01:12)

Showing you statements with a Z for identification. Take a look at those two photos and tell me if you recognize them. Yeah, I recognize them.

(6:01:12 - 6:01:30)

What are they? That is the transaction where Dwayne Hall purchased the peanut butter and jelly sandwich and the strawberries. Those fairly inaccurately depict, are those still shots from the video that we just looked at? Yes. This time, state would move Z and evidence is 25.

(6:01:31 - 6:01:40)

No objection, judge. That objection was to mark identification as state's exhibit Z will be emitted in evidence of state's exhibit 25. May I publish? Yes, sir.

(6:01:40 - 6:01:53)

Showing you image one from that surveillance footage and image two. Thank you, sir. No other questions at this time, your honor.

(6:01:53 - 6:01:57)

No questions, judge. Members of the jury, move on. Agent, have a seat.

(6:01:58 - 6:02:06)

Yes, sir. This court allows its jurors to ask questions. So, members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? With that being said, now may he be released.

(6:02:07 - 6:02:09)

Yes, your honor. No objection, judge. He'll be recalled, but yes, your honor.

(6:02:09 - 6:02:12)

Okay, you're free to step down, sir. Thank you. State, next witness.

(6:02:12 - 6:03:14)

State calls Riley Artman. Come on in, sir. You can go ahead and be seated.

(6:03:14 - 6:03:18)

You remain under oath. Hello again. Hello.

(6:03:19 - 6:03:26)

Can you please tell us your name again? Riley Artman. All right. Remind us again where you work.

(6:03:26 - 6:03:32)

I work for the Marion County Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy. All right. Let me direct your attention to October 17th of 2025.

(6:03:33 - 6:03:45)

Did you conduct a traffic stop on a black 2019 Jeep Cherokee with tag JMIQ49? Yes, sir. Showing you photograph one of state's 14. Does that vehicle look familiar? Yes, sir.

(6:03:46 - 6:03:56)

Is that the Jeep you stopped? Yes, sir. Was anyone with you when you performed this traffic stop? Special Agent Esquivel was in the passenger seat. All right, of your car? Yes, sir.

(6:03:56 - 6:04:07)

Were you driving? I was driving, yes, sir. About what time and date did this traffic stop happen? Around 7.50 in the morning. And where was the traffic stop actually done? On I-75 northbound.

(6:04:09 - 6:04:29)

Did you have information beforehand that this vehicle was traveling on I-75 northbound? Yes, sir. Had other officers been doing kind of surveillance on this vehicle to let you know kind of its location? Yes, sir. Were you in a marked patrol car? I was in a marked patrol car, yes, sir.

(6:04:29 - 6:04:50)

Were you in uniform and wearing some kind of Marion County Sheriff's Office insignia? Yes, sir. Can you explain to the jury how the traffic stop was done? We were both traveling northbound on I-75. When I was told to, I initiated a traffic stop, called out on the radio, activated my emergency lights, and we pulled over on the soft shoulder of the interstate, still going northbound.

(6:04:50 - 6:05:00)

Did the vehicle in the photograph pull over properly? Yes, sir. All right. Who was the driver of the vehicle? Mr., or Mr. Duane, Mr. Hall.

(6:05:01 - 6:05:07)

Member's last name? Yes, Hall. Hall, okay. Do you see Mr. Hall in court here today? Yes, sir.

(6:05:07 - 6:05:25)

Can you please point him out and tell me what he's wearing and where he's sitting? He is sitting in that chair right there, wearing the purple button-up shirt. Your Honor, may the record reflect the witness has identified the defendant? Without objection, the record will reflect the witness has identified the defendant. Was anybody else in the vehicle with the defendant? I believe his wife was in the passenger seat.

(6:05:25 - 6:05:35)

Do you remember her name? I do not. Okay. While at the traffic stop, were you made aware of a firearm located inside the Jeep? Yes, sir.

(6:05:35 - 6:05:54)

And what was done with the defendant's wife? She was given transport up to her doctor's appointment in Gainesville, I believe. And how was, did the patrol unit take her up there? Yes, sir, another marked unit responded and gave her a ride to her appointment. You guys didn't want her to miss that medical appointment? Of course not, sir.

(6:05:55 - 6:06:13)

Yes, sir. What was done with the defendant? He volunteered to go for an interview at our interview rooms at the main office. How did he get from the location of the traffic stop to the Marion County Sheriff's Office? I provided him with a ride to that office.

(6:06:13 - 6:06:36)

Was his vehicle also towed to the Marion County Sheriff's Office? Yes, sir. At some point during your interaction with the defendant, did you recover a knife from his body, his possession? I was provided a knife that was recovered from this person, yes, sir. Okay, and how did that come about? I was inside my car, but one of the other units on scene was speaking to him.

(6:06:37 - 6:06:47)

I guess they were asking if he had any weapons or anything like that on him. He provided the knife to them, and the knife was then provided to me. Okay, so you're all around, and another officer takes it and hands it to you.

(6:06:47 - 6:06:54)

Yes. May I approach? Yes, sir. Show me those marked cases, is it an AA for identification? You open that up, look inside, and I hope you recognize the contents.

(6:06:56 - 6:07:11)

Does it matter where I cut on the back, sir? Not really. Okay. I do recognize it.

(6:07:12 - 6:07:21)

Okay, what is it? It is a foldable pocket knife. Is it the same or substantially the same condition as when it was taken off the defendant and given to you? Yes, sir. At this time, state would move AA into evidence as 26.

(6:07:22 - 6:07:30)

No objection, Judge. Without objection, state's exhibit AA will be admitted into evidence as state's exhibit 26. Did all this happen in Marion County? Yes, sir.

(6:07:34 - 6:07:37)

No further questions at this time. Thank you, sir. No questions, Judge.

(6:07:38 - 6:07:46)

Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? Okay, go ahead and write it down. Wait, wait, wait. Remember how we're gonna do the questions, okay? So I'll go ahead and explain it again to everybody.

(6:07:47 - 6:08:05)

If you have any questions of the witness, you can write it down. Write it down on a clean piece of paper with nothing on the paper except the question that you would wish to ask or for the court to ask, and you need to write the question verbatim like you would like me to read it. Again, I remind you that rules of evidence apply regardless of whether a question is posed to a witness by the jury, by the court, or by the lawyer.

(6:08:06 - 6:08:31)

So there may be a legal reason why I cannot ask your questions. Once I have it, though, we'll go over it with the lawyers and we'll see what we can do. Lawyers, if you wanna preemptorily approach, you can.

(6:09:06 - 6:09:23)

Detective, I'm gonna ask you the question that the jurors have written. Yes, sir. What was the

purpose of the traffic stop? Routine, speeding, et cetera, or was he looking for that specific vehicle? They were looking for that specific vehicle and they had questions related to another matter that I was not a part of.

(6:09:24 - 6:09:29)

I was just instructed by the special agents who were on scene to stop the vehicle. Okay. State any follow-up.

(6:09:30 - 6:09:35)

No, Your Honor. Defense, any follow-up? No, Your Honor. Members of the jury, any additional questions of this witness? If so, raise your hand, please.

(6:09:36 - 6:09:40)

All right, seeing no hands, state is he released. He is, Your Honor. Defense? No.

(6:09:40 - 6:09:45)

Okay, sir, you're free to go back, go about your day. Thanks, sir. State, you can call your next witness.

(6:09:47 - 6:09:56)

I'm not positive if the witness is here yet. I believe she probably is, but I don't know. Ashley Bidot? I'm being informed she's a few minutes out, Your Honor.

(6:09:56 - 6:10:06)

We're about 20 minutes ahead of schedule. Yes, sir. What about the witness after her? They had the same arrival time? They're coming together.

(6:10:06 - 6:10:09)

Okay. They're both going to be short. Okay.

(6:10:15 - 6:10:28)

Ladies and gentlemen, how about a five-minute break? Take your notepads, fold them up, leave them on your chairs, face down. Don't discuss the case with one another. Use electronic devices to learn about the case or do research about the case, okay? See you back shortly.

(6:10:44 - 6:11:14)

Y'all can be seated. We call it a last break to move everybody up, so I apologize. It's okay, it

happens.

(6:11:15 - 6:11:32)

I'd rather this than be behind. Do you have somebody back here to advise y'all to make a good ride? Yes, we have somebody in contact with the witnesses. Okay, is there anything we can use this couple minutes for to address that we have to do later, eventually, anyway? Let's talk about the video.

(6:11:33 - 6:11:46)

You said it's a four-hour, 40-minute video. If we start playing it at roughly three o'clock, are there any logical stopping points or breaks in the interview? I would not want to stop the interview for the day. Big question, obviously.

(6:11:46 - 6:12:05)

There really is not a logical stopping point until about four hours into it, so I think we're gonna just have to stop it whenever the court sees fit. We could do that and just back it up a couple minutes tomorrow morning when we restart it. Yes, sir.

(6:13:07 - 6:13:34)

State your tomorrow's schedule. It looks like you start off with a still-playing defense statement, and then you have a Ms. Ost that arriving at 11.30. She'll be moved up accordingly? Yes, sir. And the witnesses that you have coming tomorrow afternoon, if we believe that we are capable of getting to them in the morning, will you be able to move them up as well? Depending on how long we get through the interview today, we'll know exactly how long tomorrow morning will take, and we'll move up accordingly.

(6:13:55 - 6:14:02)

The second witness is here. The first one is not quite here yet. They're both Marion County Sheriff's Office employees coming from the Sheriff's Office.

(6:14:03 - 6:19:44)

Yes, sir. Thank you for your patience. Yes, sir.

(6:19:44 - 6:21:21)

Let's go ahead and bring in the jury. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back. State, you can call your next witness.

(6:21:21 - 6:22:00)

State calls Ashley. Ashley Vaudot. Come on, ma'am, raise your right hand, face the clerk, and be sworn.

(6:22:01 - 6:22:07)

Be sworn or affirmed that this morning I took the truth, the whole truth, and I will love to do so today. Thank you. You can go ahead and be seated.

(6:22:12 - 6:22:18)

Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Will you please introduce yourself to the jury and spell your last name for them? I'm Ashley Vaudot.

(6:22:18 - 6:22:28)

My first name's A-S-H-L-E-Y. Last name is V as in Victor, I. D as in Delta, O-T as in Tango. Where do you work? I work at the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

(6:22:28 - 6:22:40)

What do you do for them? I'm the Assistant Forensics Director, so I oversee all the forensics, which includes the DNA lab, firearms, latents, the evidence property room. I think that's it now. Nope, crime scene as well, sorry.

(6:22:41 - 6:22:56)

Did you also used to process crime scenes? Yes, I'm cross-trained. I used to, actually came from the DNA lab, so I was a DNA technician, cross-trained in crime scene, and I'm a certified crime scene analyst. Trained in the proper ways of collecting evidence and things like that? Correct.

(6:22:56 - 6:23:08)

Okay. Let me direct your attention to October 17th of 2025. Were you made aware that a black Jeep Cherokee belonging to Duane Hall had been brought to the Marion County Sheriff's Office today to be processed? Yes.

(6:23:09 - 6:23:34)

All right, and how did you come to learn that? Detective Carla Santana-Palau contacted me, advising that she needed something out of the vehicle that just came into the bay. And what were you asked to do? I was asked to get a cell phone, as well as a bag that had medications for somebody that needed it. And had law enforcement obtained a search warrant that would allow you and other officers to go inside that vehicle to process it for evidence? Yes.

(6:23:34 - 6:23:40)

All right. So what did you do? I documented the vehicle. I took photographs of the vehicle.

(6:23:41 - 6:24:09)

I then noticed that there were seals on the door. I broke the seals of the front passenger and the front driver's door to obtain the cell phone, which was in the center console, as well as the bag full of medication, which was on the passenger side of the car. And what do you mean by seals on the door? When we bring in a car for evidence preservation, we seal the vehicle to make sure that nobody else has entered it by using a yellow piece of tape that is easily broken once the door is open.

(6:24:09 - 6:24:18)

Is that like the seals that we have seen on pieces of evidence, let's say? Very similar, yes. Okay. And you said you took some photographs of it? Yes.

(6:24:18 - 6:24:34)

Now, were you the one in charge of actually doing the full-blown processing of the Jeep, or were you just asked to go in and specifically get these items? I was asked specifically to get these items. May I approach? Yes, sir. Showing you what's been marked as stasis, is it a B, B as in boy? Can you take a look at those photographs and tell me if you recognize them? Sure.

(6:24:49 - 6:25:03)

Yes. And what are those? These are photographs of the vehicle prior to me entering it, as well as the seal, and then the cell phone in the center console. Do those fairly and accurately depict the vehicle as well as the cell phone you located inside? Yes.

(6:25:04 - 6:25:16)

State would move B, B as in boy and the evidence is 27? No objections. Without objection, state's exhibit B, B will be admitted to evidence as state's exhibit 27. May I publish? Yes, sir.

(6:25:17 - 6:25:31)

Showing you photograph one of stage 27. What does it show? This shows the rear of the vehicle, which was in the bay with the license plate. And photograph two? This is showing the seal of the driver's side of the vehicle.

(6:25:31 - 6:25:42)

This yellow strip here? Yes. Okay. And photograph three of stage 27, what does this show? That's showing the cell phone that was located in the center console.

(6:25:47 - 6:26:02)

Photograph four of stage 27, what does this show? That's a closer up image of the phone in the center console. So when you, this is the phone you collected? Yes. What did you do with it once you removed it? I handed it directly to the detective, Carlos Santana Palau.

(6:26:02 - 6:26:08)

Did you put it inside of anything? No. Okay. Was a Faraday bag used at some point? Oh, yes.

(6:26:08 - 6:26:21)

I think, sorry, I gotta refer back to my, I did place it into a Faraday bag, yes. What's a Faraday bag? A Faraday bag is a bag that blocks out any signal so that way nobody can tamper the phone from afar. May I approach again? Yes, sir.

(6:26:21 - 6:26:30)

Showing you state's CC for identification. Do you recognize that item? Yes. What is it? This is the cell phone from the center console.

(6:26:30 - 6:26:37)

Is it the same or substantially the same condition as when you collected it? Yes. This time state would move CC and evidence is 28. No objection.

(6:26:38 - 6:26:50)

Without objection, state's exhibit CC will be admitted to evidence of state's exhibit 28. Did you have any involvement in looking inside the phone and analyzing its contents? No. Okay.

(6:26:50 - 6:26:53)

Thank you, ma'am. No questions, Your Honor. No questions, Judge.

(6:26:54 - 6:27:01)

Members of the jury, do any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hands. Seeing no hands, state, is she released? She is, Your Honor. Thank you.

(6:27:02 - 6:27:04)

Thank you. Ma'am, you're free to go about your day. Thank you for your time.

(6:27:06 - 6:27:42)

Next witness. State calls Carla Santana Palau. Palau? You can raise your right hand, face the floor to be sworn.

(6:27:43 - 6:27:52)

Do you swear or affirm the testimony you're about to give be truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? I do. You may be seated, ma'am. Good afternoon.

(6:27:52 - 6:28:03)

Good afternoon. Would you please introduce yourself to the jury and spell your last name? Yes, my name is Sergeant Carla Santana Palau. My last name's spelled S-A-N-T-A-N-A hyphen P-A-L-A-U.

(6:28:03 - 6:28:08)

Where do you work? I work for the Marion County Sheriff's Office. You indicated you're a sergeant. Have you been recently promoted? Yes.

(6:28:08 - 6:28:28)

All right, what did you do before you were promoted to sergeant? I'm still in the process of transitioning from my position as a major crimes robbery homicide detective. All right, let me direct your attention to October 17th of 2025. Did you become aware that a black Jeep Cherokee belonging to Duane Hall had been brought to the Marion County Sheriff's Office evidence bay? Yes.

(6:28:28 - 6:29:00)

And what were, how did you become involved? What were you asked to do? I was asked to respond to our evidence bay and just assist FDLE agent Lee in executing a search warrant of that vehicle. And what, were you specifically asked to get something out of that vehicle? Yes, I was asked to retrieve a tote that was in the passenger, from passenger seat belonging to the suspect's wife or significant other. She had just been through surgery and needed that tote.

(6:29:00 - 6:29:12)

Were you also asked to retrieve a bag of medication and a cell phone? Yes. Okay. Was Ashley, crime scene supervisor Ashley Badot also present to help you with this process? Yes, sir.

(6:29:12 - 6:29:19)

All right, showing you photograph one of stage 27. Is that the vehicle we're talking about? Yes. And photograph three of stage 27.

(6:29:19 - 6:29:27)

Do you recognize this? Yes. All right. Were you present when Ashley Badot accessed the vehicle, broke the seals and went inside? Yes.

(6:29:27 - 6:29:39)

And did Ms. Badot retrieve a cell phone? Yes. And you mentioned FDLE agent Calvin Lee was present? Yes. And if Ms. Badot retrieved the cell phone and gave it to you, who would you have given it to? I gave it to agent Lee.

(6:29:40 - 6:29:43)

Okay. Thank you, ma'am. No other questions.

(6:29:43 - 6:29:52)

No questions. Members of the jury, any of y'all have questions of this witness? If you do, please raise your hand. Okay, seeing no hands, is she released safe? She is, Your Honor.

(6:29:52 - 6:29:55)

No objection. All right, ma'am, you're free to go back to your day. Thank you for your time.

(6:29:57 - 6:32:59)

Counsel, if y'all will approach. Our lawyers. Okay, state, you can call your next witness.

(6:32:59 - 6:34:03)

State call for Rebecca McKenzie. You can raise your right hand, face the clerk, and please swear. I do swear or affirm the testimony about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God.

(6:34:03 - 6:34:05)

I do. You can go to be seated. Thank you.

(6:34:08 - 6:34:21)

Good afternoon. Good afternoon. Could you please tell the jury your name and spell your first name and your last name for the record? My name is Rebecca McKenzie, R-E-B-E-K-A-H-M-C-K-I-N-Z-I-E.

(6:34:21 - 6:34:30)

Thank you. What is your current occupation? I'm a special agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. How long have you worked for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement? Just over two years.

(6:34:30 - 6:34:50)

What are your duties as a special agent? I investigate serious felonies to include homicide, child sexual abuse, human trafficking, things like that. And where did you work before FDLE? The Gainesville Police Department in Gainesville, Florida. How long did you work for the Gainesville Police Department? Approximately 21 years.

(6:34:51 - 6:35:13)

And what sort of positions did you hold with the Gainesville Police Department? During my career at the Gainesville Police Department, I was an officer, corporal, sergeant, and lieutenant. And in each of those ranks, I served time in operations as well as our criminal investigations division and spent some time in logistics and training as well. I want to direct your attention to October 13th of 2025.

(6:35:14 - 6:35:46)

On that date, did you become involved in the investigation into a missing and endangered female named Sonia Exelby? I did. Were you assigned as the lead case agent on this case? I was. And what were your duties as the lead agent? As the lead agent, I was responsible for managing the case, communicating with outside agencies to include the overseas agencies that I was working with, and conducting interviews as well as obtaining search warrants and subpoenas.

(6:35:47 - 6:35:56)

And did your job as lead agent also involve assigning other agents with tasks that need to be done? It did. I'm assuming you couldn't do everything. Correct.

(6:35:56 - 6:36:22)

And did that also include, you talked about writing search warrants, in addition to yourself writing search warrants, did you have other agents write search warrants as needed? I did. And did it often take several weeks, if not months to get results back from certain search warrants such as Facebook? Yes. Other than those sorts of things, would you characterize this as a relatively fast moving investigation from the time you became involved? Yes, I would.

(6:36:23 - 6:37:00)

And after F. Dooley became involved on October 13th of 2025, over the next few days, did your investigation narrow in on Duane Hall? It did. And why was that? So we found receipts where he

had purchased a shovel and rope along with some additional items in Gainesville, Florida, as well as his conversations with special agent Calvin Lee. And he also was recorded on a license plate reader at the Gainesville Regional Airport around the time that Sonia's plane landed in Gainesville, Florida.

(6:37:02 - 6:37:34)

And on October 15th of 2025, was the FBI contacted to assist in tracking the defendant's phone on an exigent basis? They were. Okay, and why was that done? We had hoped that Sonia was still alive and we needed to find out where she was with the hopes of finding her. And what does it mean to get something on an exigent basis? An exigent basis means there's a life-threatening situation and so we are able to get records that normally would require a search warrant or a subpoena.

(6:37:34 - 6:37:56)

But because it was a life-threatening situation, we were able to do that without the search warrant or subpoena. Right, and were those results obtained relatively quickly on the next day, October 16th of 2025? They were. And did those results help you narrow down a wooded area where the defendant spent some time on Sunday, October 12th of 2025? It did.

(6:37:56 - 6:38:19)

And was that wooded area close to his residence? It was. Was that in Marion Oaks? It was, I believe it was near the intersection of Southwest 32nd Avenue and Southwest 27th Circle, which was around Marion Oaks area. And did he spend about an hour and a half in that location according to the records? Somewhere around that amount of time, yes.

(6:38:21 - 6:38:48)

Now on the evening of October 16th of 2025 or late afternoon after you received those records, did the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and deputies from the Marion County Sheriff's Office go to that location to search for Sonia Exelby? Yes, they did conduct a preliminary search that evening. All right, and did they locate anything that evening? They did not. Was a plan made to return to that location the following day, Friday, October 17th of 2025 to do a grid search? Yes.

(6:38:49 - 6:39:21)

What's a grid search? A grid search is where you've identified a particular area that needs to be searched and you break it up into sections and you methodically search those sections to make sure all of those sections are accounted for so there's no area that is missed. And do you know if a cadaver dog was also brought out to that location on Friday, October 17th of 2025? Yes. Now on that date, that Friday, while the other officers and agents were searching that area again, did you conduct a lengthy interview with Duane Hall? I did.

(6:39:21 - 6:39:32)

Do you see the person you know as Duane Hall in the courtroom today? I do. Can you please point to him and describe something he's wearing? He's wearing a light purple shirt. Your Honor, may the record reflect the witness has identified the defendant? No objection.

(6:39:32 - 6:39:45)

Without objection, the record glorified the witness has identified the defendant. Now did you read the defendant his Miranda warnings before you spoke with him? I did. Did you force him or coerce him in any way in order to get him to speak with you? I did not.

(6:39:46 - 6:39:56)

Did you promise him anything in order to get him to speak with you? I did not. Did he agree to speak with you? He did. And did a detective from the Marion County Sheriff's Office assist you in the interview? Yes.

(6:39:56 - 6:40:10)

And who was that? It was Sergeant Joseph Miller. And where did you and Sergeant Miller conduct this interview with the defendant? At the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Was the interview video and audio recorded? It was.

(6:40:10 - 6:40:32)

And was it a lengthy interview? It was. Now how did you approach the interview with the defendant? So prior to going into the interview, it was important for me to be able to engage in conversation with Dwayne Hall. And so I went in being non-confrontational and nonchalant in an effort to get him comfortable to speak with me.

(6:40:33 - 6:40:54)

I felt like if I was able to get him to speak with me in the beginning, that ultimately I would be able to get information that would help me find out what happened to Sonia and where Sonia was. Now in the interview, you made statements that indicated to the defendant that it was okay if he killed Sonia because she wanted to be killed. That you thought that was okay.

(6:40:54 - 6:41:23)

Was that true when you told him that? It wasn't. It was a tactic that I used so that he would feel comfortable talking to me about what he had done with Sonia. Now for the first several hours of the interview, what did the defendant tell you just generally? So he said a lot of different things, but in general he said that he had been hired by a man named Harold to work on high-end

vehicles in the Reddick area.

(6:41:24 - 6:41:38)

He could not give us a specific location because it was supposed to be a secret location. That he could not discuss it in detail because he had signed a nondisclosure agreement. But that Harold had paid him $1,200 for his services.

(6:41:38 - 6:41:56)

And did this story go on and on for about four hours? It was quite lengthy. At some point in the interview, was there a break? Yes. And did someone bring the defendant some food during the break? Yes, he was provided food during the break.

(6:41:57 - 6:42:48)

And then did the defendant at some point tell you that he wanted to recant everything he had told you for the past four hours? And after he said he wanted to recant everything he had previously tell you, did the defendant admit that he did know Sonia Exelbe and he had been communicating with her for years? Yes, he did admit to me that he knew her and that he had been communicating with her for a couple of years. And what platforms did the defendant admit that he communicated with Sonia on? He told me that he was communicating with her on Motherless as well as Sessions. Did you attempt to get records of the communications between the defendant and Sonia from Sessions? Sessions is an encrypted app, and so it is impossible to retrieve messages from Sessions.

(6:42:48 - 6:43:01)

You would have to actually have the device to be able to recover the messages. So you were not able to get any of those communications? Correct. Now, the other platform you said the defendant communicated with Sonia on was Motherless? Correct.

(6:43:01 - 6:43:31)

Can you explain to the jury what Motherless is? Motherless was a pornographic website that hosted content that involved incest, BDSM, torture, snuff films, child sex abuse, the rape of women, drugging women, content like that. What is BDSM? It's basically violent sex. Has Motherless since been shut down? It has.

(6:43:31 - 6:43:43)

Did that happen sometime this year? It did. And did the defendant during your interview tell you what his username on Motherless was? He did. What was that? He said it was AlphaSadist.

(6:43:44 - 6:44:07)

And did the defendant say that he communicated with Sonia on Motherless using the name AlphaSadist? He did, but he also said that he wasn't sure which one because he had multiple profile names and had been kicked off the Motherless website. So he did admit that he had the username AlphaSadist, but in addition he had other usernames on Motherless? Yes. All right.

(6:44:09 - 6:44:50)

And did the defendant have an account on Motherless with the username SilverWolf44646? Yes. And did the defendant tell Agent Calvin Lee during their interview that his email address was DarkWolf44646 at gmail.com? Yes, he did. Now before Motherless was shut down this year, were you able to get some records by a subpoena from Motherless concerning the defendant's account AlphaSadist and the defendant's account SilverWolf44646? It was actually through search warrant, but yes, I was able to get some records.

(6:44:51 - 6:45:17)

All right. And did the dates that those two accounts, SilverWolf44646 and AlphaSadist became active, did it correspond with the timeframes the defendant told you he communicated with Sonya on Motherless? They were within the past two years. And at the time you said you received some records from Motherless, was the defendant's Motherless account AlphaSadist still active? It was not, it had been deleted.

(6:45:18 - 6:45:35)

Was it deleted on July 16th of 2025? It was. And what about the defendant's Motherless account SilverWolf44646, was that still active? No, it had also been deleted. And was that deleted on October 9th of 2024? Yes, that's correct.

(6:45:35 - 6:45:58)

Were you able to recover any of the actual messages from the defendant's AlphaSadist account on Motherless or his SilverWolf44646 account? I was not able to. And why was that? From what I learned was that once an account had been deleted, the message would be no longer available. So since he had deleted both of those accounts, you could not get any of the actual messages.

(6:45:58 - 6:46:26)

Correct. Now, what were you able to get from the search warrant that you produced to Motherless? There was a detail sheet that included some information, email address, as well as a site bio and some internet IP addresses. Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am.

(6:46:37 - 6:47:04)

I'm first going to show you what's been marked in the case of State's Exhibit MMMM and ask if you look at that. Are those the records that you told us you were able to obtain from Motherless.com pursuant to the search warrant? Yes. Your Honor, at this time, we move State's MMMM into evidence.

(6:47:04 - 6:47:18)

No objection to it. Without objection, State's Exhibit MMMM will be admitted into evidence as State's Exhibit 29. Your Honor, may I publish? Yes, ma'am.

(6:47:21 - 6:47:40)

If you can tell us what we're looking at here first. So this just shows that Alpha Sadist, this is the information that I received back from Motherless.com regarding the Alpha Sadist profile name. And now this says document created on November 4th, 2025.

(6:47:40 - 6:47:58)

Is that just the date that the documents were created for you pursuant to your search warrant? Yes. And then what are we looking at here on this detail sheet? So this is the detail sheet that was provided to me by Motherless. It shows the date and time that the user joined the last time they logged in.

(6:47:58 - 6:48:03)

Tell us what that would be. Would be February 21st, 2025. All right.

(6:48:03 - 6:48:18)

At 917. All right, and then what is this showing us here? The last login, which was July 15th, 2025, at 743. And then we have an email address as well, alphasadist... At mail.com. Yes.

(6:48:18 - 6:48:24)

All right. Gender, male. Favorite corn, rough.

(6:48:25 - 6:48:38)

Correct. And can you read for the jury what his site bio is? The site bio that was provided to me says, hmm, well, I am a sadist. I like 18- to 25-year-olds generally.

(6:48:38 - 6:48:46)

I enjoy mother-daughter sets as slaves. Would love to find a domestic pain slut for complete control. No scat or puke play.

(6:48:46 - 6:48:54)

Only complete submission is acceptable. And so that's the record you were able to get for the Alpha Sadist. Yes.

(6:48:57 - 6:49:03)

Your Honor, may I approach? Yes, ma'am. I'm going to show you what's a marked identification. It states it's an NNNN.

(6:49:04 - 6:49:21)

Do you recognize those? Yes. And what is that? This would be the darkwolf44646 profile detail information. The other account that the defendant had on the other list.

(6:49:21 - 6:49:28)

Did you obtain this reference from the search warrant? Correct. Your Honor, at this time, we have moved states NNNN to evidence. No objection, Your Honor.

(6:49:28 - 6:49:46)

Without objection, states exhibit NNNN will be admitted to evidence as states exhibit 30. May I publish, Your Honor? Yes, ma'am. And again, is this the, just kind of the cover sheet for the silverwolf44646, which is the other account that he had on the other list? Yes.

(6:49:48 - 6:50:01)

Then moving on to the detail sheet, if you can tell us, again, the date joined and the date last logged in. The date joined is October 5th, 2024, and then the date last logged in was October 9th, 2024. All right.

(6:50:02 - 6:50:18)

And then the email address, the darkwolf44646.gmail.com, again, that's the email address that he told Special Agent Calvin Lee was his email address. Correct. And if you can read the site bio for the motherless account, silverwolf.

(6:50:18 - 6:50:26)

Live in Florida or FL. Sadist. Want to find a, my own little sex doll for all sorts of things.

(6:50:32 - 6:50:43)

Now, were you able to obtain any records between the defendant and Sonia from her motherless account? I was. And what was the name of her motherless account? Already yours. All right.

(6:50:44 - 6:50:58)

And why were you able to obtain messages, a few messages from her account? Her account had not been deleted. Can I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'll show you what's the mark identification of state's exhibit 0000.

(6:51:00 - 6:51:22)

You can look at that and tell me you recognize those. I do. Where are those? Those would be the same detail information that was provided for the other accounts and then the messages.

(6:51:23 - 6:51:31)

From Sonia's motherless account, already yours? Yes. Your Honor, this time we move states 0000 into evidence. No objection, Your Honor.

(6:51:31 - 6:51:58)

State's exhibit 0000 or 0000 will be admitted into evidence in state's exhibit 31. And there's not very many messages that you were able to obtain between Alpha Sadist and already yours, Sonia, and the defendant on motherless. Did the defendant, during his interview, did he tell you that they had moved on to a different platform that they were talking on, which would be sessions at some point? Yes, that's what he told me.

(6:51:58 - 6:52:07)

Okay, so they moved from motherless to sessions and you weren't able to get any records because they don't keep those and they delete. Correct. All right.

(6:52:08 - 6:52:26)

And then this is the detail sheet for already yours, which was the name of Sonia's account on motherless? Yes. And then when is the date that she joined motherless? September 4th, 2024. Okay, and the date of her last login? October 4th, 2025.

(6:52:26 - 6:52:42)

All right. And then what is her site bio? Life's a bitch and then you die and now life's finally stopped being a bitch. And then what are we looking at here? These are messages from Sonia's account to the Alpha Sadist account.

(6:52:42 - 6:52:55)

All right. Now, they look very disjointed and hard to understand. Is that because we don't have the defendant's portion of the conversation because his records were deleted? All right.

(6:52:58 - 6:53:28)

So all we can say is that these are three correspondence that Sonia sent from her already yours account to his Alpha Sadist? Correct. And we don't know what his responses were? Correct. Now, in your interview with the defendant, did he eventually admit that he stayed in the Airbnb in Reddick with Sonia after he recanted the previous story? He did.

(6:53:30 - 6:53:57)

Did the defendant say anything about having sex with Sonia while they were in the Airbnb? Yes, he admitted to me that he had had sex with her at least twice. How did he describe the sex? He described the sex as vanilla for him but that it was rough with light choking. Did he admit hitting Sonia during the sex? Yes, he told me that he hit her on the front and the back which included her breasts, her face, and her ass.

(6:53:58 - 6:54:14)

Did he say anything about choking? He did. What did he say? He said that it was light choking but that it did happen during sex. Did the defendant tell you anything about taking a video of Sonia while they were at the Airbnb? He did.

(6:54:14 - 6:54:32)

What did he say about that? He told me that he took a video of her on his cell phone where he was recording her and it lasted a few minutes but after recording it he immediately deleted it because she was not behaving right. She wasn't behaving the way he wanted on the video? Yes. Alright.

(6:54:34 - 6:55:16)

Did the defendant ever actually admit to killing Sonia during the interview? He did not come out and say that he had killed her but he indicated to me that he was the last person to see her alive, that he had disposed of some of her items in a donation bin which we were able to recover. He put himself at the place where we found Sonia's body where it had been buried and he also made a comment when we were questioning him that if you take somebody's life, that's murder. Did he ever say that he helped Sonia get what she wanted or imply that he helped her get what she wanted? Yes, he did.

(6:55:20 - 6:55:29)

Your Honor, may I approach the witness? Yes, ma'am. I'm going to show you what's been marked as states of DED for identification. Do you recognize that? I do.

(6:55:29 - 6:55:37)

What is that? That is the interview. The video recording that you did with the defendant? Correct. On October 17th of 2025? Correct.

(6:55:37 - 6:55:48)

And is that a fair and accurate depiction of the relevant portions of the interview? It is. And have you reviewed that? I have. How do you recognize that as the DED review? I initialed, and there's my ID number as well as the date.

(6:55:49 - 6:55:56)

Thank you. Your Honor, at this time we will be moving that in states DED. Judge, I'm assuming that's the one.

(6:55:56 - 6:56:44)

May we pause the briefing? Yes, sir. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to put the white noise on real quick. Exhibit DED will be admitted into evidence as states exhibit 32.

(6:56:46 - 6:57:18)

Was Sonja's body eventually located on October 17th of 2025, that same day that you were interviewing the defendant? It was. And where was it located? It was located in the same area that we discussed earlier, which was near the intersection of Southwest 27th Circle, Southwest 32nd Avenue, in the Marion Oaks, near his residence. And was her body clothed when it was found? Her body was partially clothed.

(6:57:18 - 6:57:37)

She did have a bra on and her sandals, and then her dress was laid on top of her. And was her body taken to the medical examiner's office for an autopsy to determine her cause of death? It was. And I want to jump ahead and direct your attention now to October 27th of 2025.

(6:57:38 - 6:57:59)

On that date, did you execute a search warrant that had been obtained for the defendant's DNA? I did. Okay, can you please explain to the jury how you obtained a sample of his DNA? So, in order for me to obtain a sample of Dwayne Hall's DNA, I put gloves on. We have Q-tips that are rather large, and they're kept in sterile containers.

(6:58:00 - 6:58:18)

And so I did two, so I removed them each from their packaging. I swabbed Dwayne Hall's mouth and then replaced the cotton back into that original sterile packaging, and then put it within another paper bag. Your Honor, may I press the witness? Yes, sir.

(6:58:19 - 6:58:32)

I'm going to show you what's been marked, identification of state's exhibit EE, and ask if you recognize that. I did. How do you recognize it? Based off of my signature on the back.

(6:58:33 - 6:58:44)

And what is that? This would be the buckle swabs that I collected from Dwayne Hall. In the manner that you just described to the jury? Yes. At this time, we move state's exhibit EE into evidence.

(6:58:44 - 6:58:52)

No objection, Judge. Without objection, state's exhibit EE will be admitted into evidence as state's exhibit 32. I'm sorry, 33.

(6:58:53 - 6:58:59)

All right, and Judge, that's all the questions I have for today. We are going to recall special agent against you. Okay.

(6:59:00 - 6:59:14)

Do you have any crosses I may have? Yes, Judge. And you indicated that Mr. Hall was brought to an interview room I was interviewing. Yes.

(6:59:15 - 6:59:28)

Okay. And prior to that interview, was Mr. Hall a suspect in the disappearance of Ms. Exely? Yes. He was.

(6:59:28 - 6:59:32)

Okay. Was he a strong suspect? Yes. Okay.

(6:59:32 - 6:59:52)

Did you tell him that? No. Okay. Now, you said that he didn't come out and say that he had killed her, correct? Correct.

(6:59:55 - 7:00:18)

In fact, when you said he didn't come out and say, he never said anything to you that indicated that he was responsible for her death, correct? No, he did say things that indicated he was responsible for his death. He just did not come out and say that he killed her. The interview you did with him is recorded, correct? I'm sorry, could you repeat? The interview that you did with him

was recorded, correct, video and audio? All right.

(7:00:18 - 7:00:32)

So, you're saying that in that interview, he did say something to the effect that he was responsible for her death. That's what you said? There were things that he said that indicated that he was potentially responsible for her death. Okay.

(7:00:32 - 7:00:56)

But everything you spoke to him about is on that video? Correct. Okay. Now, I believe you indicated that his motherless account was closed in October of 2024? There were two accounts.

(7:00:56 - 7:01:09)

Okay. Were they both closed in 2024 or they were still open at the time she disappeared? They were both closed prior to the time that she was reported missing. Okay.

(7:01:09 - 7:01:24)

Were they closed prior to the time that she left the U.K. to come to the U.S.? Yes. Okay. State any redirect at this time.

(7:01:24 - 7:01:27)

Nothing at this time, Your Honor. Okay. All right.

(7:01:28 - 7:01:32)

Can she step down? Yes, Your Honor. She'd be excused for today. Okay.

(7:01:32 - 7:01:36)

We'll see you back tomorrow. Okay, thank you. Talk with the prosecutors about filling the time, okay? Okay, thank you.

(7:01:37 - 7:01:42)

Now, members of the jury, we're going to do something a little bit different. I know you all may have questions of this witness. If you do, hold those until tomorrow.

(7:01:43 - 7:01:52)

Okay? What we're going to do now, my understanding is that the state wants to publish. Yes, Your Honor. Exhibit, it would be 32.

(7:01:53 - 7:02:10)

I'm told that this reporting will take approximately four hours and 30 minutes to play through. Okay? So, what we're going to do, we're going to take a short break now. I'm told by the lawyers that there are some issues with the audio quality, that it doesn't come through the speakers in the courtroom as clear as it could.

(7:02:11 - 7:02:18)

So, we have another TV and a laptop in the park. They're going to build into the courtroom. We're going to get that set up, and it's going to be published for you using that.

(7:02:19 - 7:02:31)

Okay? So, that's the first thing. Second, if you have questions of this witness, she'll come back on the witness stand tomorrow morning after the interviews have been played. At that point in time, she'll have the opportunity to complete its cross-examination.

(7:02:31 - 7:02:50)

If you have any questions of the witness, you can ask them at that time, as you've been able to do with the other witnesses. Okay? What we're going to do is we're going to take a recess, allow the state to set up the other TV. We'll get you all back into the park, take about 10 or 15 minutes, and I expect we'll go until about 4.45 or so, and then we'll break.

(7:02:50 - 7:03:10)

If you all want, we can take about a 5 or 10-minute break about 45 minutes into the interview, and then pick it back up, or we can go straight through. How many of you think that they'll want to just go straight through? Raise your hands for straight through. Straight through today.

(7:03:10 - 7:03:17)

Today. Meaning that we'll watch until about 4.45. We're not watching five hours here. Interview starting at 3 o'clock.

(7:03:18 - 7:03:21)

Fine. Fine. We'll plan to do that.

(7:03:22 - 7:03:27)

All right, let's go ahead and take a break. Jurors, leave your notepads here on your chairs, face down. We'll discuss the case with one another.

(7:03:27 - 7:04:18)

This will be a short break. Jurors, we'll take about a 10-minute break. Mr. Hall, if you need to use the restroom, now would be the time.

(7:04:18 - 7:16:58)

Members of the audience, if you need to use the restroom as well, now would be the time. Right. As we return to the courtroom, lawyers are present, and we're ready to publish Exhibit 32.

(7:17:03 - 7:17:16)

I heard the person who's running the camera for the media pool indicate that they're having difficulty with audio. What I can do, sir, is I will move my microphone that's in front of me on the bench near to the television. That will help you capture the audio for your purposes.

(7:17:16 - 7:17:20)

I can leave the podium with you. Okay. Thank you.

(7:17:21 - 7:17:35)

I'll do what I can for you. All righty. Now, Mr. Barrett, does Mr. Hall wish to – I'm told that the laptop the state believed was hooked up to the back of the television is not there.

(7:17:35 - 7:17:47)

So if Mr. Hall wants to move to some other location in the courtroom so he can watch the video at the same time as the jury, he can do that, or he can remain at counsel table. I don't want to leave it again. Okay.

(7:17:48 - 7:17:53)

He's indicating, Judge, that he's seen the video, so he doesn't need to see it again. I understand. Okay.

(7:17:54 - 7:17:55)

Very well. All right. Very good.

(7:17:55 - 7:17:59)

That's correct, Mr. Hall? No, I'm sorry, sir. That's correct, sir? Yes, sir. Okay.

(7:17:59 - 7:18:01)

Very good. All right. Are we ready for the jury? Yes, Your Honor.

(7:18:01 - 7:19:38)

Fence, ready for the jury? Yes, Judge Barrett. Let's go ahead and bring him in. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back.

(7:19:39 - 7:19:54)

State? Would the court mind reading the edited recording instruction? Yes, sir. Members of the jury, you're about to view and listen to an audio-video recording. The court instructs you that the recording has been edited to eliminate irrelevant portions that would not add to your understanding of the case.

(7:19:54 - 7:20:04)

The fact that the recording has been edited should not be a problem. any way and must not impact the way you view, listen to, and consider this evidence. With that said, State, you may now publish Exhibit 32.

(7:20:04 - 7:32:31)

Thank you, Your Honor. my life so so you said you can't understand it I do need to just tell you your rights before you make any statements or answering questions understand your Constitution rights you have the right to remain silent you've already rehearsed to us anything you say can will be used against you in a court of law you have the right to call or obtain an attorney at this time have one present now or at any time while we're talking with you if you cannot afford an attorney and you want one before at any time during questioning one will be provided for you if you decide to answer questions now at any point you can stop answering our questions yes like we said you voluntarily came down we appreciate it and that's helpful for us well like I said I can run your business okay yeah so the reason why I want to talk with you is because of some business transactions and I think how to talk to you about yeah there's a there's a multiple times so can you can you tell me about that because I wasn't there for that conversation there was a woman the call while I was not on duty to my recollection it was the Suns down I can see very well at night they called and they got run over and my part of services kept playing it so they kept going lower and lower on the amount and I the only thing she was saying that even made me paranoid you thought it was pretty sketchy it was too quiet in the background for somebody to break down somebody broke down it was way too quiet in the background and she kept saying go to remember again I swear there's money on the car so I swear and of course I declined and I didn't go out there and as far as I know there's no record-keeping of declined cars or attempted but I don't know they may be on the back end where I don't have access to it but there's nothing that I can have access to when I was out there the other day I'm finding a log once you know bullshit they were actually having problems with the system that's why we didn't log in so I could just kind of go through it and let them press buttons and take a look or anything. You're talking about the

system that processes? Is that something that you do on your phone? I have a card reader.

I have a card reader. It's like this big. I can insert, I can swipe, I can tap.

(7:32:31 - 7:32:37)

And it sends my phone or I can manually invoke it. Okay. So, and it's all on my phone.

(7:32:37 - 7:33:15)

Okay. Can you tell me about the voice of the person that you talked to? Okay. Anything else? It seemed really, I don't even know.

I'm going to be honest here. What about an accent? It's like I told him and not really. Not really.

But we've already determined that she was from the UK so it doesn't really matter if I determine what the hell is going on with her or not. I'll be honest because like I said in my prior conversation with Calvin, I said she's from the UK. And I was actually thinking about it after I spoke to Calvin.

(7:33:15 - 7:33:41)

I said if I talk to him again, I will bring, I will throw my idea out there just simply because I don't want to throw anything, I don't want to throw him into the looking and thinking and do what he's already done, let him do his thing. And then more comes to this, which it just did obviously because I'm here and I have my vehicle. I was thinking about it and I even asked my wife about it because I had mentioned something about it the first time I got a call from Calvin.

(7:33:42 - 7:33:55)

And me and her talked about it and I'm more convinced than ever. I don't think, I seriously don't think it was about the service call. This is something that happens in my industry, okay.

(7:33:55 - 7:34:04)

Let's say either one of you are subject to the same thing, okay. You call me up, hey, I need a jump start. Hey, I need a tire change.

(7:34:05 - 7:34:15)

Okay, let me get you, how are you going to pay for it? A car, let me get you a car. Let me run that. And I'll be out there, whatever.

(7:34:16 - 7:34:21)

I'm trying to rent a car. The car goes through. You call me 10 minutes later and say never mind, I need a refund.

(7:34:22 - 7:34:38)

What that would do and what I'm thinking, why she got a saying over and over again, I swear there's money on the card. Run the card for an exorbitant amount of money, which there was. I'm not going to play.

(7:34:38 - 7:34:43)

It's like a week's pay. Like I'm going to turn that down, right. I have a small company.

(7:34:43 - 7:34:54)

There's literally two of us, okay. But I'm struggling with a big industry. But if you ran the card and called back 15, 20 minutes later and said never mind, I need a refund.

(7:34:54 - 7:35:09)

I've seen the refund three, five business days later, you need your money back. Now, if there was somebody there forcing this woman to do this, all they have to do is keep that card, wait three, five days, and scan it or whatever it had to look like. Okay.

(7:35:11 - 7:35:17)

That's what I'm thinking. What do you mean scan? I'm just trying to understand. Put it in the ATM.

(7:35:18 - 7:35:24)

Oh, to get the money. Yeah. We confirmed that there's $1,000 on there now.

(7:35:24 - 7:35:29)

Let's go get it in five days. Oh, because of the refund. Yeah, because of the refund.

(7:35:30 - 7:35:36)

Okay. All right. It's confirming that there's money on there, and you wouldn't want to go to an ATM if you were up to some shaky shit.

(7:35:36 - 7:35:49)

You wouldn't want to go to an ATM if you've got bills ahead of time. Okay. And it just so happened that they seen my company because we're one of the top companies in the area, and we're probably doing good on searches.

(7:35:50 - 7:35:55)

Okay. You mentioned $1,000. And I might be out of a loop on this.

(7:35:55 - 7:35:57)

If you mentioned $1,000. Yeah. It's not the amount.

(7:35:58 - 7:36:15)

No, it was nine, six, and then, like, I don't know. She just kept lowering the amount, lowering, lowering, all the way down to $100. It started out at $900, which I got flinched at.

(7:36:15 - 7:36:22)

So you know I'm short of that. Just run it, just run it, just run it. And what was she wanting? Service.

(7:36:23 - 7:36:28)

She never really said. There was not that much of a conversation. Got in my car with her.

(7:36:28 - 7:36:34)

I didn't want help. Do you need a tow? No. I just didn't know.

(7:36:35 - 7:36:40)

Which is not out of the ordinary. What do you mean? Well, you're mechanical, too. Well, that's what I was going to ask.

(7:36:41 - 7:36:57)

What services? If someone was looking for the roadside assistance, what services do you provide? I mean, jump starts, door unlocks, fire changes, and light mechanical. We're going to do lines, hoses, arc swaps, all kinds of stuff. And as well as diagnostic.

(7:36:59 - 7:37:12)

This is as simple as a loose fitting or something that we need to fix. Half of my garage is, you know, half the garage is the joke that's in the back of my vehicle. So we can do pretty much whatever.

(7:37:12 - 7:37:28)

I have about a 90% completion rate. So we'll send this out and not get back to where we typically are. So she called and did she say there was something wrong with her vehicle or not? She said, I need help.

(7:37:28 - 7:37:33)

She said basically my car broke down and I didn't know. OK. So I didn't need a tow.

(7:37:33 - 7:37:36)

No. OK. Well, I didn't want to pay.

(7:37:37 - 7:37:43)

OK. And so do you typically require a payment prior to coming in? We typically. OK.

(7:37:44 - 7:37:48)

Look. She was explaining. That was the follow-up question.

(7:37:49 - 7:37:54)

OK. You need to tell me now. Where are you looking? And she was trying to explain to me.

(7:37:54 - 7:38:06)

And if I'm not mistaken, because I've been taking medication for my back. I had a car accident on the floor. And I'm not supposed to be lifting myself right now.

(7:38:06 - 7:38:12)

OK. I'm not supposed to be getting up and going around. But I don't have much of a choice.

(7:38:12 - 7:38:18)

I've got two things going. But so muscle relaxers play a big part in it. And I don't take pills.

(7:38:19 - 7:38:31)

So by the time the sun goes down, I've already popped a couple muscle relaxers. Especially if I've got eight, I'm all of the time in there. So it kind of throws me off a little bit.

(7:38:32 - 7:38:44)

From what I remember, she was up around exit 364. So I'm not familiar with the area. Where is that? The lead area.

(7:38:45 - 7:38:51)

Well, that's why I have you, because it's familiar with the area. I don't need to know. Are you familiar with it, or? Yeah.

(7:38:51 - 7:39:03)

Because I drive with my parents every day. I'm not really sure what that is that's right there. But if I'm not mistaken, she was up off of 364, out toward Reddick.

(7:39:03 - 7:39:12)

OK. So she was kind of out in the middle of nowhere. Did she say 364, or did she? No, that's just she was telling me.

(7:39:12 - 7:39:18)

She was kind of explaining to me where she was. And because I'm sure you've been going for a decade. Oh, OK.

(7:39:18 - 7:39:25)

I'm sure you're used to going to stuff like that. It's kind of, I'll say, I open up a math program. And they start describing where they're at.

(7:39:25 - 7:39:35)

And I start looking. So I think, like I said, I think it's not necessarily where they were. It could have been anywhere.

(7:39:35 - 7:39:38)

And just tell me what I'll hear. Right. OK.

(7:39:39 - 7:39:54)

So, especially if she was under duress, which I'm firm that she was. Tell me more about that. Why do you say that? Because she was very, very adamant about it.

(7:39:54 - 7:39:57)

There's money in the car. There's money in the car. But it wasn't like she was talking to me.

(7:39:58 - 7:40:07)

I didn't get the sense that she was talking to me. OK. So I, you know, in hindsight, I feel like she was under duress.

(7:40:07 - 7:40:13)

I feel like she was talking to somebody else. It was way too quiet. We broke down in the middle of

nowhere because there's a lot of insects.

(7:40:14 - 7:40:16)

It's not in the air. She was able to hear it on the phone. Oh, OK.

(7:40:17 - 7:40:31)

You get me? OK, even if you're inside your car with the windows up, I should still be able to hear something. Maybe. Even in the car, completely out of power, I should still be able to hear something, if there's going to be night birds, animals, and whatnot.

(7:40:32 - 7:40:41)

I won't hear it, especially if we're not near the interstate, which, again, was way too quiet. So I know she went out in the interstate. There's a big group.

(7:40:41 - 7:40:47)

It's like a big whoosh when they go by. Oh, OK. OK? So like I said, I've been doing this a long time.

(7:40:48 - 7:40:58)

And when I was a kid, I was a tracker. So I was a tracker. A tracker? You know what a tracker is? When he shoots a deer, he needs to find it.

(7:40:59 - 7:41:05)

He grounds up the little kids, and now he needs to go through the woods. OK, go find it. Right, that's it.

(7:41:05 - 7:41:11)

OK. So I have a little bit of background on a little bit of everything. So that's kind of cool.

(7:41:11 - 7:41:27)

It came to you by accident. But yeah, so you know, and Mattie and I have been doing this for a decade. And I just kind of got the impression she wasn't anywhere normal despite the lack of sound.

(7:41:28 - 7:41:35)

And the fact is, she kept saying that over and over again before I knew it was her. I swear, there's money in the car. There's money in the car.

(7:41:35 - 7:41:42)

I swear. OK. So none of the transactions went through? None of the transactions went through.

(7:41:42 - 7:41:54)

So how do you get notified about that? Immediately? Immediately. Car, car, car, car. How many times? How many times? It's a good question.

(7:41:54 - 7:41:58)

I can't answer. One or more than one? More than one. Less than one? More than one.

(7:41:59 - 7:42:01)

Yeah, more than one. He said there were varying amounts. Yeah, yeah.

(7:42:01 - 7:42:21)

She kept dropping the amounts by a couple hundred dollars or so each time, four or five times. Because we went, because she started at $900 and dropped it all the way down to $100. And what were you thinking about when that was happening? What the fuck is this bitch on? That's fair, right? Yeah.

(7:42:21 - 7:42:29)

OK. Because it's nighttime, nothing good happens at night. So you described not hearing anything.

(7:42:30 - 7:42:37)

You described like whooshing of trucks that you kind of talked about hearing in the past with other calls. You didn't hear any of that. You didn't hear bugs or anything.

(7:42:37 - 7:42:40)

You didn't hear anger. You don't hear the background. I don't hear the background.

(7:42:40 - 7:42:52)

That's not why. Where were you when you were having this conversation? I was actually out in the other side of the league. OK.

(7:42:52 - 7:42:58)

I was out there on a different type of job. OK. Now I've gotten hired.

(7:42:58 - 7:43:04)

Now I'm selling everything about this because I signed the NDA for the client. OK. OK.

(7:43:04 - 7:43:33)

But if it comes down to it, and we need that information, and we desperately need that information, I'll break that NDA. But the reason why the NDA was there was because the hot-and-cold client that has cars for people at Travolta and shit like that on his property, and he doesn't want that shit all disclosed. What other side of it? Man, we're talking about over that fucking way.

(7:43:35 - 7:43:46)

Over that way out in the middle of a fucking I don't know what. Like further away from the interstate? Oh yeah, yeah. Oh my God, yes.

(7:43:46 - 7:44:00)

I drove for probably 30 minutes just to get out in the general area, and then I had to park my vehicle behind and everything else initially before they'd take me on out to the property. Tell me more about that. It's pretty important.

(7:44:00 - 7:44:07)

I can't tell you more about that. Tell me why it's more important. Because it's different from what you told before.

(7:44:07 - 7:44:16)

Yeah, because I wasn't asking these questions before. Well, now we're asking them, so that's why. Okay, so basically what happened was we had a bunch of fucking cars out there, old shit.

(7:44:16 - 7:44:30)

My favorite one was the 33 Wright-Rod. The 33 Wright-Rod with the big 355 sitting down in it and all crammed out and shit. And he basically had me out there doing maintenance on them, and he said he chooses a different company every year.

(7:44:31 - 7:44:48)

And basically, if he gives a yelp or whatever, find a small company. And then he has, if he likes, if they know what they're doing, he'll sabotage his car on purpose to see if they know what they're doing. And I had his car fixed when he did that for me in like two minutes.

(7:44:49 - 7:45:00)

I walked up and, oh, right now? Do you remember what he did to sabotage it? He just unplugged the wire. Oh, okay. Yeah, he unplugged the wire that was kind of hidden down in there.

(7:45:00 - 7:45:04)

Yeah. I said, I'll try it now. And I put my box up to the box, and everything was good.

(7:45:04 - 7:45:10)

And I reached down, and I started looking. This is kind of a blood tie. Okay.

(7:45:10 - 7:45:18)

And I'm not asking about your car. What wire would cause the whole car not to start up again? It's the ground wire. Oh, okay.

(7:45:18 - 7:45:26)

If you have a ground vehicle, you can't start the vehicle up. The new cars are a little bit different. You have to have a dozen of them.

(7:45:26 - 7:45:32)

But the old school ones, they have one major ground. And if you unhook it just enough or make it loose in there, it won't ground and it won't go. Okay.

(7:45:33 - 7:45:38)

And it'll cut off while you're driving. Gotcha. Is there something you remember doing? Yeah.

(7:45:38 - 7:45:51)

I've been doing this for, I've been doing mechanics since I was five. So almost 50 years of history and experience. So anyway, he had me come out here, and then he had me sign the NDA, and he paid me shit ton of money.

(7:45:51 - 7:46:02)

And basically, he was getting all his cars ready for like the big car shows that happened this time of the year, like the Scootin' Calvin drives, et cetera, et cetera. At least that's what I was told. Okay.

(7:46:03 - 7:46:13)

And... What time did he reach out to you? Is this something that you've been working with? Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah. Way before she even went in for a transplant. It actually got delayed because

of her transplant.

(7:46:13 - 7:46:20)

Okay. And how did he find you? If I remember right, it was probably through Yelp. Yeah.

(7:46:21 - 7:46:36)

Because I have a small ad on Yelp that people can find. Especially after hours, or if you ain't got like, if you ain't got any other option, people will look at Yelp. Get the reviews and see the reviews.

(7:46:37 - 7:46:46)

And we got pretty good reviews there. And we're a pretty reliable company, so it is what it is. When I showed up, I had him back on the road in under 30 minutes.

(7:46:46 - 7:46:55)

He liked that idea. He called me about a week later, told me he had more work for me. And that was that.

(7:46:56 - 7:47:08)

And then that's when the NDA came up. Okay. Did he give you a copy of it? Is there any paperwork? Okay, so now that you're asking the correct questions, I can tell you about that, too.

(7:47:09 - 7:47:16)

You better go have fun here. I'll show you. For that time period, normally I have calls coming in all hours of the day and night.

(7:47:16 - 7:47:31)

Okay. So on that weekend, when these transactions and interactions with this individual were taking place, they disappeared. I didn't know it.

(7:47:31 - 7:47:39)

I literally have three calls listed for I think it's Sunday. Three. It's either Saturday or Sunday.

(7:47:40 - 7:47:55)

There's three calls compared to that one third a day that come to my phone. So did the calls come in and you were having those conversations and it wasn't logged or you weren't getting calls at all? Calls were coming in. They vanished.

(7:47:55 - 7:48:06)

They vanished out of the call log. Text messages, e-mails, everything, everything regarding and relating to that service that I did out there vanished. Gone.

(7:48:07 - 7:48:14)

Time never happens. Okay. How did you get him? They made the card.

(7:48:15 - 7:48:17)

Okay. They went home. Okay.

(7:48:17 - 7:48:33)

Wrote card numbers off to me and I programmed them in and I got paid. I got paid $1,200, $1,250 for like 36 hours of my time. For the guy with the car.

(7:48:33 - 7:48:43)

What was the—and you said that he read you the numbers. So did you hand type that in or did you tap or swipe or do something? No, no, no. He had to read them himself.

(7:48:43 - 7:48:47)

Okay. Because after the NBA, I never seen him again. Okay.

(7:48:47 - 7:48:59)

And he always sent a driver to come pick me up and take me whenever they were scheduled to go out there. What was his name? It was Harold. I can't remember.

(7:48:59 - 7:49:11)

I'm sure of the names. His name is Harold and I was joking that I tried to commit it to memory, but it sounded a lot. Like the last name was quite cringy, but it wasn't.

(7:49:12 - 7:49:16)

It sounded like that. It was Harold or something. And I think it's a fake name.

(7:49:17 - 7:49:32)

How did he originally reach out to you? I told him that. Well, you said he contacted you, but did he call you? Okay. He called you and he called you on the phone number that was listed, which is the phone number that you have? My phone number.

(7:49:32 - 7:49:36)

Okay. And when was that again? Initially. Not months ago.

(7:49:36 - 7:49:44)

Six, seven months ago. Okay. And I just want to make sure that I'm understanding.

(7:49:46 - 7:49:50)

That was at the time that he tested you. Yeah. Six months ago.

(7:49:50 - 7:50:02)

Yeah. Where did you go for that? Six, seven months ago. If I'm not mistaken, it was a cracker barrel down on 484.

(7:50:02 - 7:50:07)

Okay. If I'm not mistaken. Walk me through how that whole interaction went.

(7:50:08 - 7:50:10)

Go on. Okay. I don't know what your question is.

(7:50:11 - 7:50:16)

Just walk me through how that went. You told me it was on the six months ago. I'm pretty sure it was yesterday, Bob.

(7:50:17 - 7:50:20)

No, you stopped me. As much as you can. I don't know.

(7:50:20 - 7:50:28)

He showed up, did the job. He called me on the phone and I told him how much it would be. And then he said, okay.

(7:50:28 - 7:50:35)

And I showed up and paid the cash. You paid the cash? I paid the cash. How much did he pay you? Oh, our service cost was $25.

(7:50:35 - 7:50:40)

Oh, okay. So was it standard? $25 or something like that? Something like that. Okay.

(7:50:40 - 7:50:42)

$25. Okay. And, of course, there's cash.

(7:50:42 - 7:51:01)

There's no transaction receipts or anything like that or stuff like that, especially when I'm talking to insurance companies because that's where my money comes from. I have contracts with just about anybody. You can have roadside assistance through third-party contractors.

(7:51:02 - 7:51:13)

So chances are if I see one team out there, I'm not allowed to ever leave and get out again. I'm back at work. I might see any one of you guys.

(7:51:14 - 7:51:37)

So you're like on a rotation with the insurance companies? No, because right now, just because we're all in Gainesville generally right now, basically it goes off of our overall score, and we're right at the top of the list. So you see about 90% of everything that comes in, if not more. I probably missed this in the beginning.

(7:51:37 - 7:51:47)

I'm sorry. What's the name of your company? Oh, sure, sure, sure. Solar, S-O-L-E-A-R, Wolf, W-O-L-F, RSA, Roadside Assistance.

(7:51:47 - 7:51:55)

Okay. So, of course, we're listed with the Sunshine Business or whatever. We're a legitimate business.

(7:51:56 - 7:52:00)

We have a tax ID. We're legit. We're not.

(7:52:00 - 7:52:07)

A lot of that. Before you said you had two people, just two people working? Me and another guy. Okay.

(7:52:08 - 7:52:24)

Do you have a couple cars? Is it just your car? Yeah, you got to use your own family vehicle. I have another employee, but he's not working right now because we found out his license was expired, and he got in an accident over my other car, my other family vehicle. Okay.

(7:52:25 - 7:52:35)

So it's like, yeah, no, when you get your own vehicle and you get your license sorted out, you can come back to work. Okay. You can come back and do nothing that is here or now, okay? Yeah.

(7:52:35 - 7:52:47)

But, yeah, so, yeah. Okay. So you said that you thought maybe he had given you a fake name because you couldn't really remember it? No, it's not because we couldn't remember it.

(7:52:47 - 7:53:00)

It's because what happens to the initial footprint afterwards? The physical precinct. Okay. And you're going to ask me what his name was then, and I'm going to tell you I don't know.

(7:53:00 - 7:53:09)

Okay. I'm going to tell you 63 Kula, okay? Because you don't know or because the NDA? Because I don't know. Oh, okay.

(7:53:09 - 7:53:12)

I didn't know it. Yeah, no, I have shit with names. Okay.

(7:53:12 - 7:53:19)

If I wasn't looking at your name as Miller, I'd probably already know. Okay. I'll remember your car for six, eight months.

(7:53:20 - 7:53:25)

I'll know that car. I'll put you right down the road, and I'll see your car. It doesn't look like any other car out there.

(7:53:25 - 7:53:30)

I worked on that one. Yeah, you're still in the room. But, yeah, you know, I do that all the time.

(7:53:30 - 7:53:39)

Okay. Tell me about what he looked like because you said you didn't meet him in person. I look like a movie star.

(7:53:39 - 7:53:42)

I'm tall. Okay. Okay.

(7:53:45 - 7:54:03)

Do I look like a Middle Easterner? In my brain, this is how I remember what he looked like, okay? He was a tall Middle Easterner, but his teeth were too big for his face and the smile was too big for his teeth. Teeth were too big for his face. Smile was too big for his teeth.

(7:54:03 - 7:54:06)

Uh-huh. Okay. So when you smiled, you seen everything.

(7:54:06 - 7:54:12)

It looked like this creepy, serial killer vibe on the smile. A lot. And, of course, his teeth were way too big.

(7:54:13 - 7:54:19)

Okay. And it made his teeth look way too big for his face. And then he smiled super fucking creepy big on top of it.

(7:54:19 - 7:54:30)

And, of course, he's tan. He's got the darker colored hair. And it's just like, you know, oh, boy, what do they call him? You're a guy like this guy.

(7:54:30 - 7:54:36)

Yeah, you know. But at the same time, it's really on script because I don't move faces. Like I said, I don't worry.

(7:54:37 - 7:54:41)

Clothing. Standard casual dress. Yeah.

(7:54:41 - 7:54:46)

Casual dress, yeah. Yeah. If I'm looking at yourself, it sounds like you have a regular dress shirt.

(7:54:47 - 7:54:51)

But, you know, I'm really clean. Very clean. Very tidy.

(7:54:51 - 7:54:56)

That's one thing. I don't have hair out of place. Nothing.

(7:54:56 - 7:55:01)

Just clean, tidy. Very. Okay.

(7:55:03 - 7:55:17)

So, was that what he was wearing? The last one I see. Which was? I'll talk about it in a minute. So, we've got a Friday.

(7:55:18 - 7:55:25)

Friday evening. I think you go. I'll say.

(7:55:25 - 7:55:30)

That's right. I'll say that's right. I have my phone.

(7:55:30 - 7:55:34)

I'll be able to take you there. Okay. Oh, that's another thing.

(7:55:36 - 7:55:57)

Talking about digital footprints. He paid me at 11 o'clock at night, but when I look at the thing, it says 1 at 9pm. Because he said, he said, and I quote, My other truck was delayed and didn't come in, so I don't have the extra 20 vehicles for you.

(7:55:57 - 7:56:01)

We're done. Our contract is over. And he paid me.

(7:56:03 - 7:56:08)

And then I went home that Monday. That Sunday. Or I tried to go home that Sunday.

(7:56:09 - 7:56:16)

But I was being followed. How so? I was being tailed. Tell me more about that.

(7:56:16 - 7:56:28)

It was, I can't really tell you too much because I never got close enough. But it was either, it was along the lines of, because I got these stupid ass new collars now, because he can't just be silver or fucking gray. Okay.

(7:56:29 - 7:56:50)

But it was, it was on a color spectrum type front, like a silvery tan color. You know what I'm talking about, right? When the vehicle color, it gets out of that tan green color and more into the charcoal

color, the gray color. It was somewhere, it was something like that, but in this silver colored sedan.

(7:56:50 - 7:56:53)

So it kind of depends on how the lights shine. Uh-huh. Yeah.

(7:56:53 - 7:56:59)

And it was blacked out. Okay. I mean, at least from my vantage point, it was blacked out.

(7:56:59 - 7:57:04)

It freaked me out enough that I actually didn't phone him. Okay. Tell me more about that.

(7:57:04 - 7:57:13)

I got off, like I was going to get off and go home. I went past the entrance of where I was going to turn to go to my house. And I came back.

(7:57:13 - 7:57:18)

I returned to come back because it's like, there's no way. There's coincidence. Maybe he's just getting off.

(7:57:19 - 7:57:25)

Maybe he's going out from here. And I came back. And then I noticed that they returned too.

(7:57:25 - 7:57:33)

So I get into a side little spot, sat there for a few minutes until they left. And so I thought they left. And then I zipped and took some back roads.

(7:57:33 - 7:57:38)

And I sat there and waited. And I seriously sat there. And I don't know what the address is.

(7:57:40 - 7:57:53)

But at the same time, I sat there and I waited for an hour. And they kept making passes on the main road. And I didn't see the back of my vehicle.

(7:57:54 - 7:57:58)

I didn't care about that. They kept making passes on the main road. And then I left.

(7:57:59 - 7:58:07)

And when I left, they pulled in and stopped right where the fuck I was. Because I went down, got back on the main road and left. I didn't even bother to look at my house.

(7:58:07 - 7:58:15)

And when I went back through, they were set right where I was. What day were they in? Sunday morning. Sunday morning.

(7:58:15 - 7:58:18)

Okay. In the morning. Where were you parked? Right here.

(7:58:19 - 7:58:23)

I was out in the back of Mary Dunn's. Okay. Right over Mary Dunn's.

(7:58:23 - 7:58:31)

And then? And it was up near 484. Okay. And I'm sorry, how long were you parked there? About an hour.

(7:58:31 - 7:58:34)

Okay. About an hour. Maybe a little less.

(7:58:34 - 7:58:47)

Maybe a little longer. I know because I, because I smoked my dabs, the legal dabs in the store. I was in there and smoked some dabs while I was waiting to call my nurse.

(7:58:48 - 7:58:57)

Which is actually in my property now. I was going to ask if they were like, they're in the vehicle right now. Well, they said they pulled in after you.

(7:58:57 - 7:59:01)

I don't know. Did you leave anything behind? No. Okay.

(7:59:02 - 7:59:11)

You never even got out. So I don't know. And the fact that, you know, the digital footprint disappearing from the whole interaction.

(7:59:11 - 7:59:38)

And then when I leave the area and I decide I want to go home, I spend some time with my wife, who I'm very grateful to have back alive. I miss her terribly because I've been gone pretty much Friday and Saturday. So you provided a service to this guy that you think's name is Harold on Friday night? Yeah, Friday, Friday night.

(7:59:38 - 7:59:50)

Well, it was Friday night and Saturday night. So Friday and Saturday night you were with him? Yeah. Well, I wasn't with him, but I was on his property.

(7:59:51 - 7:59:58)

Okay. Okay. And where was that property at? It's out off to the 122nd somewhere.

(7:59:59 - 8:00:08)

I don't even know what the actual address is. It's 122nd, somewhere out that way. I think my phone's GPS pinged from, and that's where I had to leave it.

(8:00:08 - 8:00:13)

But it went somewhere else. Probably about 10, 15 minutes away. Okay.

(8:00:14 - 8:00:19)

Tell me more about that. That's where your phone pinged from. How do you, what do you do that at? My wife has my GPS.

(8:00:20 - 8:00:24)

Oh, okay. How does she do that? What? 360. Oh, okay.

(8:00:24 - 8:00:34)

I mean, that's set up that way because of my phone. My job is not exactly the safest job. You're out everywhere.

(8:00:35 - 8:00:41)

Yeah, I go, I go in all kinds of neighborhoods. Okay. With no expectation of coming out of them, to be honest.

(8:00:41 - 8:00:44)

Yeah. And it used to be a lot worse. Okay.

(8:00:44 - 8:00:54)

And we're in a lot worse neighborhoods. Describe to me, so you said that's where your phone was pinging from. Describe to me how you got there and then, like, what happened.

(8:00:54 - 8:00:58)

Like, because you mentioned, like, a 15-minute drive. Yeah. Tell us.

(8:00:59 - 8:01:05)

I'm curious because this sounds really... It's pretty pumped up. Yeah. It's, it's, yeah.

(8:01:05 - 8:01:22)

What, what, um, what happened when you got there? We got there and we basically... We had, like, a, I don't know what the hell you'd call it. It's not a full-size trailer. It's like a main house.

(8:01:23 - 8:01:32)

And he had, like, a main apartment there that was attached to the main house. And that's where he stayed while I was working on his vehicles. Oh.

(8:01:32 - 8:01:40)

Yeah. And then my vehicles stayed basically parked there. And then, uh, he made me leave my family behind.

(8:01:42 - 8:01:56)

Okay. Tell me more about where you stayed. Just what, what did it, what did it look like? I know you said, like, a mini-trailer, but you stayed there for the weekend? I stayed there Friday night and Saturday night.

(8:01:56 - 8:02:02)

Okay. So, um, what does the outside look like? White. Okay.

(8:02:03 - 8:02:06)

Um... Non-stripped. Um, there was nothing non-stripped. Wasn't a thing.

(8:02:07 - 8:02:12)

What kind of structure is it? Like, just a door. Like a mini-trailer. Okay.

(8:02:12 - 8:02:20)

Like, when you say trailer, um... I kind of think of it like a camper. That's why I'm trying to get you to describe it to me. No, no, no.

(8:02:20 - 8:02:25)

It's like a, like a mini-house. A little home? No, you've heard... Yeah, yeah. Oh, okay, I'm sorry.

(8:02:25 - 8:02:28)

Mini-house. Okay, so like a... Tiny house. Tiny house.

(8:02:28 - 8:02:34)

Tiny house, mini-home thing. Yeah, I don't know if it was mobile or not, but yeah, at the same time. Yeah.

(8:02:34 - 8:02:38)

The tiny house. Okay. But it was a little bigger than your standard tiny house.

(8:02:38 - 8:02:47)

Okay. So it was like, getting older. And I'm trying to... Make sure that the rectangle, you know, a little home-ish.

(8:02:47 - 8:02:50)

Yeah. Home. Okay.

(8:02:51 - 8:03:00)

Well, describe... Like, was the front of it on, like, the long side, the short side, or something else? The short side. Okay. Like, if it's a rectangle, it's right here.

(8:03:01 - 8:03:07)

Okay. And describe it to me. If I'm standing in the yard, or the row... I don't know where it sits, so I don't know how it sits.

(8:03:07 - 8:03:15)

But if I'm standing there looking at it, describe what the front of it looks like. Just looks like any other house you would imagine in a small four-form. Cupboard.

(8:03:16 - 8:03:20)

Table and porch. Table and the porch. Cupboard, porch.

(8:03:21 - 8:03:28)

Um... Slag glass door was going to be there. Okay. Well, that's... I mean... No, that's... That's perfect.

(8:03:28 - 8:03:34)

That's perfect. Because you said you were worried about people, you know, following you. I was worried about people following me.

(8:03:34 - 8:03:37)

Yeah. Yeah. I was worried about people following me.

(8:03:37 - 8:03:45)

I mean, I drive around enough to pretty much know when somebody's behind me. I can guess who's behind me before you flip your lights on. You can ask them.

(8:03:45 - 8:03:56)

I slipped over... I seen them coming. I got over into the middle lane and let you guys go by well before you flipped your lights on. I'm not... So you're pretty aware.

(8:03:56 - 8:04:06)

I can tell when somebody's following me. I have to be aware because... It's not the 90s, not the 2000s anymore, but I still live like it is. It used to be.

(8:04:06 - 8:04:22)

It used to be other private companies in my industry. I still remember. So I'm still hyper aware of people tailing me even if they're half a mile back if I can see them.

(8:04:23 - 8:04:34)

And I'm watching them make similar moves with what I'm doing. I'm going to speed up, slow down. I'm going to do something to either draw them in so I can get a better look or something.

(8:04:34 - 8:04:45)

I'm going to do something. I'm going to hook on that until I determine that they're actually not following me. And not like a paranoid way, but actually back there for a minute and actually obviously following me.

(8:04:45 - 8:04:57)

Yeah. And like I said, when I seen you today, I seen you guys coming before I even knew you were coming for me. And because why would they ask me, what are you doing? I said, well, I'm getting pulled over.

(8:04:58 - 8:05:05)

And then you guys slid in. You popped your lights and then you slid in behind me with the lights on. Okay.

(8:05:07 - 8:05:22)

So this house, rectangular, entry on the front side. Sliding left or shoot. It just appears for the record that there are some messages popping up about the computer being updated or restarted.

(8:05:22 - 8:05:26)

Yes, sir. Have you delayed that so it doesn't? I have. It won't start for another 24 hours.

(8:05:26 - 8:05:36)

And I've moved it down to the bottom so you can't see it anymore. Sorry about that. The inside.

(8:05:36 - 8:05:47)

You said you were staying at it from the time you were there. What did the inside look like? On the strip, just like you'd expect to see in a little apartment. Okay.

(8:05:48 - 8:05:58)

When you go through the sliding glass door that you just described as being the front entrance, what did you go into? Living room, kitchen, small hallway, bedroom, bathroom. Okay. Another bathroom.

(8:05:58 - 8:06:01)

Back bedroom. Okay. So living room and kitchen.

(8:06:02 - 8:06:10)

Describe to me how that was laid out. Like, did you walk into the kitchen or the living room or the other room? Okay. It was very small.

(8:06:10 - 8:06:15)

It was only maybe one and a half of this room, if that. Okay. Very small.

(8:06:15 - 8:06:28)

That's how I'm looking at you, like, are you stupid or something? But, you know, we're trying to picture what you're talking about. I don't even know what that has anything to do with anything right now. Well, it was outside around the property, like where you were staying.

(8:06:30 - 8:06:32)

Fields. Horses. Cows.

(8:06:32 - 8:06:35)

Trees. Ponds. More houses.

(8:06:35 - 8:06:46)

Little houses like that. Well, because I want to, after we talk, you know, be curious if I were trying to find it. Like, you said 122nd.

(8:06:47 - 8:06:57)

122nd. Do you remember if it was like a street, like what it was called? You're asking the wrong question. I've never told you.

(8:06:57 - 8:07:02)

If I had my phone, I'd be able to tell you. I'd be able to tell you the address. So you said.

(8:07:02 - 8:07:09)

How so? How could you tell from the phone? I could do this. Okay. You mentioned probably 360.

(8:07:09 - 8:07:16)

Okay. So you said that Harold's the one that said you could stay there? Harold's the one that unlocked the damn door. Okay.

(8:07:17 - 8:07:23)

That's what I'm trying to just figure out how. He went in and signed the NDA right there on Center Island County. Okay.

(8:07:23 - 8:07:30)

So all that happened at this. Okay. So Harold let you in and you signed the NDA.

(8:07:30 - 8:07:40)

You want to hear something else that's really more fun? Well, I was told I should definitely mention this. On my very last night there, I was on the phone with her and I was talking to her. And this is before she told me into my house.

(8:07:41 - 8:07:54)

This is before I was told by her. This is before I was told on the phone that the other truck was delayed and I wouldn't make service, my contract was done over. I was talking to her on the phone and I said, well, this is fun.

(8:07:54 - 8:08:00)

Big blow up. Oh, follow along if you can. It was a big blow up.

(8:08:00 - 8:08:14)

I guess a trespasser or something. And because there was a bunch of loud shit going on. And mind you, this was after I'd already got back over there because I was pretty much done for the evening.

(8:08:15 - 8:08:27)

I'd finished all the vehicles. That was already done. Little changes, spark plugs, swabs on some of them, air filter swabs, cabin air filters, coils, whatever.

(8:08:27 - 8:08:33)

Just small, normal maintenance. The vehicles have been sitting for a while. Old plugs, new plugs, new plugs.

(8:08:34 - 8:08:46)

Kind of make sure that it's going to be firing up the first time you turn the key. Because if you don't want your shit to fire up, then you want it to fire up all of a sudden. Okay? So, legacy.

(8:08:46 - 8:08:55)

That whole big mess. Okay? And then there was a bunch of loud, loud shit going on. Arguing and yelling and whatnot.

(8:08:57 - 8:09:12)

And I said, I'm just going to be a trespasser. Because I insist on being allowed to take my phone after the first night because I had a weird feeling. So I kept sneaking my phone.

(8:09:13 - 8:09:18)

But GPS was involved. I could barely get a phone call out. Okay.

(8:09:18 - 8:09:29)

It just wouldn't work. And he had some kind of signal game put on the buildings. So the trespasser in that situation was the place that he took you to? Uh-huh.

(8:09:30 - 8:09:39)

So not where you were staying on the 132nd. And he came and picked you up? No. I told you already.

(8:09:39 - 8:09:44)

He had a driver. He had somebody he referred to as his driver. Okay.

(8:09:44 - 8:09:48)

That's right. And I always said it was never the same person. It was always somebody different.

(8:09:49 - 8:09:58)

What did that vehicle and driver look like that he took you to? Non-descript. An SUV. Kind of like mine.

(8:09:58 - 8:10:04)

Except it was never the same vehicle. It's got a hundred pound quality. It was never the same fucking vehicle.

(8:10:04 - 8:10:08)

It was always some old trashy piece of shit. He picked me up. I was on salt.

(8:10:08 - 8:10:13)

I did not give a fuck. And he was going to pay you. And he was paying me money, right? He was going to pay me too.

(8:11:12 - 8:11:22)

The fucking car. The air filter cover. Everything was all just... I was like, don't look at me to figure out what to call anything on a car.

(8:11:23 - 8:11:32)

I know a little bit. It was so amazing. But yeah, since he had... And then I got in there.

(8:11:34 - 8:11:41)

He had a cart in front of us. Like a cart. You take comps that are around the month.

(8:11:41 - 8:11:48)

And you take it. I don't get it. And it had everything on it that I needed it to do to that car.

(8:11:49 - 8:11:53)

He already had all the cars up on my lift jacks. Oh, wow. Yeah.

(8:11:54 - 8:11:59)

It was completely level. You know, when you're off the ground, I can scroll right underneath. I have it on the wheels here.

(8:11:59 - 8:12:04)

Then he had it in there. I had to actually put my hair up again. So it would be a problem with the wheels.

(8:12:05 - 8:12:11)

Sounds like you had a nice setup. Yeah. So he had all the stuff.

(8:12:13 - 8:12:21)

Everything lined up ready to go. Did you have the tools, too, or did you have to bring the tools? I tried to bring my tools. And he said, no.

(8:12:23 - 8:12:28)

And he had this. So he had everything. Everything.

(8:12:28 - 8:12:34)

But he was extreme. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'd say if I was to do something like that, and if I was to retire, that would be the job that I had.

(8:12:35 - 8:12:39)

Oh, yeah. Oh, my God. And it kept taking me back.

(8:12:39 - 8:12:46)

And this is the other weird thing about that. Because he kept taking me back to the same

building. But I never saw a Sim on or a car on.

(8:12:49 - 8:12:54)

But he kept taking me back to the same building. And there were different cars. Oh, wow.

(8:12:55 - 8:13:01)

How many times did you go to the building? Three times. Three times? Friday night. Friday night.

(8:13:01 - 8:13:04)

Okay. Saturday afternoon. Saturday afternoon.

(8:13:04 - 8:13:08)

Came back. And I went back Saturday night. Okay.

(8:13:08 - 8:13:18)

And then right around, what I assume was right around 11 or so, I finished the last vehicle. Opened the phone to my wife. The big blow-up happens.

(8:13:21 - 8:13:23)

Oh, where do you wrap? Okay. All right. All right.

(8:13:23 - 8:13:29)

So now I'm making more sense of this. Okay. And then I got a call from him telling me my contract was finished.

(8:13:29 - 8:13:35)

Uh-huh. And then I was freaked out over what the fuck I'd get over the next morning. He wanted me to stay one more night.

(8:13:37 - 8:13:44)

Okay. So you had your phone on you. Yeah, he gave me my phone.

(8:13:44 - 8:13:54)

You had your phone on you Saturday night when you went over. How about Saturday morning and Friday night? Were you able to take your phone? Because you mentioned at one point you started sneaking it, so. Yeah, exactly right.

(8:13:54 - 8:13:59)

I started sneaking it with me. Okay. But I had, like, zero bars.

(8:13:59 - 8:14:03)

Mm-hmm. Like, lying through the fucking thing. Like, no signal, nothing like that.

(8:14:03 - 8:14:10)

That's the only time I know he had a jammer on it. He had a signal. He basically had a signal jammer on it, because he did not run this place with me.

(8:14:10 - 8:14:21)

Not at all. At all. Were you able to check your phone while you were driving there? Like, was there a point in the trip where it just went to the line like you called it? No, not here.

(8:14:21 - 8:14:24)

I didn't have an output. Oh. I was trying to sneak it.

(8:14:25 - 8:14:33)

Okay. Because I know I would get paid. Mm-hmm.

(8:14:33 - 8:14:46)

And basically said I wouldn't disclose anything, about anything. And no outside communication, no electronic devices, no blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. I would not take pictures of cars.

(8:14:46 - 8:14:49)

I would not do this, that, or the other. Okay. That's a great memory.

(8:14:49 - 8:14:54)

Stop it. There are no cars. No, I love my cars.

(8:14:55 - 8:15:03)

I do. I use all of them. How big was the building? Let's see.

(8:15:05 - 8:15:11)

Big enough to double line 10 cars. Okay. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven.

(8:15:11 - 8:15:19)

And they said a total of 20 cars, 10 on each side? Yeah. And then, of course, you had to have enough room to pull them in and out. Yeah.

(8:15:19 - 8:15:26)

So, I mean. So you're describing, like, cars lined up down the sides of the area that they were driving? Mm-hmm. Okay.

(8:15:26 - 8:15:32)

And there was only one big double door in front. Okay. And it was, this thing looked like a barn.

(8:15:32 - 8:15:37)

It just looked like a barn. Mm-hmm. From the outside, you never knew that shit was in there.

(8:15:39 - 8:15:44)

Tell me more about that looking like a barn. Color? It looked like a barn. Okay.

(8:15:44 - 8:15:51)

It looked like a barn. Well, when I think, when I think barn, I'm like, red with, like, doors or, but. I don't know.

(8:15:51 - 8:15:56)

It was a, it was a newer construction. Kind of a crimp, crimp white color. Yeah.

(8:15:58 - 8:16:07)

Do you know what type of material it was made out of? It could have been. Like a prefab building? It could have been prefab. It could have been prefab.

(8:16:07 - 8:16:11)

I didn't look too much at the building. No. I was going to tell you more cars.

(8:16:13 - 8:16:25)

What was something that caught your attention? Just your standard array of happy-go-lucky cars. There's a lot of Camaros and some Mustangs. The old-school Mustangs.

(8:16:26 - 8:16:37)

Wasn't nothing too outstanding except for that 33 drag-rod. And then he had a 57 Chevy that was all blown. But, you know, it wasn't, it wasn't that they were done.

(8:16:37 - 8:16:42)

But I do remember it was a big ass motor. It was, it was almost a full two gallons of oil. Okay.

(8:16:42 - 8:16:52)

And I think it was a 5.5 with a pancake. And, you know, basically it's the same motor that they use in the monster trucks. Not alone.

(8:16:52 - 8:16:57)

Okay. And it had a 5.5 with a pancake. Dang, I miss that.

(8:16:57 - 8:17:06)

It was a full, it was a full-on muffler. But when he fired it, if he was, if I was there when he fired it, I would not be able to have this car. That's crazy.

(8:17:07 - 8:17:09)

Especially last night. Yeah. Crazy loud.

(8:17:09 - 8:17:16)

Crazy loud. Probably would have stood up on two wheels and walked away. Like, strutting like a boss.

(8:17:16 - 8:17:20)

I'm figuring it out. Just based on what I was looking at. And that was another thing.

(8:17:20 - 8:17:25)

I did that and he said, change the oil out. And it was ground. Everything was fucking ground.

(8:17:25 - 8:17:46)

Okay. Um, Friday night, or I'm sorry, Friday, before you got to that house or whatever, did that, uh, that mini house that you described go into, um... And now we get, now, now we get to the worst part of the story that I'm dreading talking about all together because I have a really bad feeling about it again. Like I said, really bad.

(8:17:46 - 8:18:04)

The same went from not paying attention to, to really fucking bad. In my opinion, because of everything that happened, he called me up. I was working in Gainesville, shift ended at 6. He called me up and he said, hey, I need you to go pick somebody up from Gainesville Airport.

(8:18:05 - 8:18:08)

Okay. I picked somebody up from Gainesville Airport. Female.

(8:18:09 - 8:18:19)

I had to make small talk with her. I told her basically, and I'm barely paraphrasing here, shut up and I'll talk to the hell out of her. Okay.

(8:18:19 - 8:18:25)

This is what this person said? Okay. Shut up and I'll talk to the hell out of her. Just drive.

(8:18:25 - 8:18:32)

Okay. Yeah. I drove, she got out of my vehicle, walked up to him, like she knew him, gave him a hug, hopped in.

(8:18:35 - 8:18:50)

What was that fucking name? Maybe a 70s Cadillac Eldorado. With a separate driver, all blacked out, and they left. Jim, where was that? Where they, at that hundred point segment.

(8:18:51 - 8:19:03)

Okay. I was told, I was told that that was a buyer that was going to purchase one of the vehicles. Okay.

(8:19:03 - 8:19:14)

That's why I had to pick her up and then have her in the vehicle because they were going to be driving off in the vehicle. Okay. And that was the last I heard about that until that blow up on Saturday night.

(8:19:14 - 8:19:26)

Okay. Describe her to me. 5'8", 5'9", dark hair, pulled back, very prudent, very prudent.

(8:19:29 - 8:19:39)

What do you mean by that? Flowery dress. Flowery dress, kind of low cut, but just, like I said, trying to make small talk. Shut up, I don't talk like that.

(8:19:40 - 8:19:49)

I'm not prudent. Yeah, you know. What did she sound like? American.

(8:19:50 - 8:19:58)

Oh, what did I tell you? Yeah, okay. Fine, maybe a slightly deeper voice. Okay.

(8:19:59 - 8:20:05)

Did she have anything with her? You said you picked her up at the airport, so. Bag. Okay.

(8:20:06 - 8:20:14)

She wasn't going to have anything. What kind of bag? I don't know. Maybe not much attention.

(8:20:16 - 8:20:18)

Short skirt. I don't know. What are you going to tell me? I don't care.

(8:20:18 - 8:20:21)

She wasn't interested. Okay. Look at the legs.

(8:20:21 - 8:21:00)

But that was, I want to say, around 8. On Friday evening. On Friday? Yeah, Friday evening, around 8. Now that you said that you picked her up from the airport, where at the airport did you pick her up at? Up front. The front? Yeah, apparently she had a description of my vehicle, because when I pulled over and slowed down at the time, I seen a plane come in, it gave about 10 minutes.

(8:21:01 - 8:21:09)

And then I went up to the front, and when I pulled over, they walked up to my vehicle and got in. They said they. Typo.

(8:21:10 - 8:21:12)

Okay. Mental typo. I just want to make sure.

(8:21:12 - 8:21:18)

They, them, and that person. One person. One person, singular.

(8:21:18 - 8:21:30)

I don't like, I had a person in the room, I didn't put passengers as it is. I have to make pretty darned sure I didn't put a passenger that night, because I've been taking my wife back and forth. You can't take the baby to school.

(8:21:31 - 8:21:50)

You can't take the baby to school if you've got computers or what, you know, stuff like that. What did you do for your job? Everything, I didn't do my job. So I had to take a bunch of that out, well not a bunch of it, a laptop and some other towels and whatnot I had to rearrange, because you get wet in front of the set, you don't have a seat in the bed.

(8:21:50 - 8:21:52)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:21:52 - 8:21:54)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:21:55 - 8:21:58)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:02 - 8:22:08)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:14 - 8:22:19)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:20 - 8:22:21)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:21 - 8:22:22)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:22 - 8:22:22)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:22 - 8:22:25)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:30 - 8:22:36)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:37 - 8:22:39)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:39 - 8:22:41)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:41 - 8:22:48)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:22:49 - 8:22:58)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:01 - 8:23:09)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:09 - 8:23:12)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:19 - 8:23:21)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:22 - 8:23:25)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:29 - 8:23:34)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:37 - 8:23:40)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:41 - 8:23:49)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:49 - 8:23:52)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:52 - 8:23:58)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:23:59 - 8:24:06)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:08 - 8:24:23)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:23 - 8:24:24)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:24 - 8:24:27)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:27 - 8:24:32)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:34 - 8:24:50)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:51 - 8:24:55)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:24:56 - 8:25:08)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:25:10 - 8:25:21)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:25:21 - 8:25:23)

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

(8:25:23 - 8:25:30)

Because I've already met you. This isn't random, but when you put a call from somewhere that I don't recognize. That's not a scam.

(8:25:31 - 8:25:50)

That's not a scam, it's just that I already have history with you. I've already met you, it doesn't matter if I haven't met you before, and you tell me I haven't met you before. I do things a little different, but if you're just cold and I don't know who the hell you are, I want to make sure you pay me before I drive to you, number one.

(8:25:50 - 8:26:00)

Especially if you're out in the service area. And it's after my service hours. I don't want you going out at night, so I'm going to send my other guy out.

(8:26:00 - 8:26:23)

Because I don't want to put him in danger like that, especially if it's after he's supposed to be off work. Yeah, okay. So, um, the... So when you're in town, and you're working... Calls coming in from... Calls coming in... I use a separate... I use a digital dispatch called Toebook.

(8:26:24 - 8:26:43)

All my shit comes through there, anything that comes in from outside that. Do you just drive... So, is Angelia your response area? Yes. So do you just drive around, or is there a place that you hang out when you're waiting for those calls? Or how does it... Well, you're not... You only walk me through a day, and that's about it.

(8:26:44 - 8:26:51)

That's usually what I do. I don't set an alarm, but normally I naturally wake up between 6 and 7 in the morning. Okay.

(8:26:51 - 8:27:04)

We open up in Gainesville at 7 a.m. Okay. So I'm trying to get out of there, and I'm trying to get out of my house in Gainesville before 7 a.m. Usually late, because I usually sleep 5 minutes to an hour. At least for now, until we fall back, and then I'll be out.

(8:27:05 - 8:27:14)

I'll be finally home on time again. But, okay, so... I get up, do my thing, install the copy of the notice, and I'm on the 4-H ward. Okay.

(8:27:14 - 8:27:32)

And that's almost a morning routine. I shoot myself up here in Gainesville, and then I wait for calls to come in. I usually, because my vehicle's familiar, and I let it do it for now at least, I park in Shane's parking garage where I live.

(8:27:32 - 8:27:37)

Okay? It's cooler in there. I can shut my vehicle off and get some AC running. Okay.

(8:27:37 - 8:27:44)

And so I save a little bit of money by sitting there. And then, of course, they've got a cafeteria, so if I want something to eat or drink, I can sit at the cafeteria. Okay.

(8:27:44 - 8:28:08)

And it's real convenient, and since my wife has to be there 2-3 days a week anyway, there's a good chance I'm there with her anyhow. So I'm either waiting on her, doing things with her, or waiting for phone calls to come in, or service calls to come in. And once a service call comes in, I accept it, put it in the PA, and I'm gone.

(8:28:08 - 8:28:27)

Sometimes I don't do that. Sometimes I'm busy enough that I sit, sit, sit, sit, sit all day in place, and sometimes I'm back in the parking garage and sit and wait. Sometimes, especially when I'm out there with the wife, I'm going to her appointments with her, usually on Wednesdays, because those are planning days.

(8:28:27 - 8:28:38)

That's where we got to see the transplant team, so they like to see both of us at the same time. And she's probably supposed to have me there with her today, because they're going for a hospital. Okay.

(8:28:40 - 8:29:07)

So is that after Friday went, before all that stuff started happening with that? Friday was, yeah, pretty much, pretty much a regular thing on Friday. How many, how many service calls did you have Friday? Well, if I had any of my shit here, I can tell you right now, because it's all logged. Okay.

All on your phone? Yeah. Okay. Can you let me see a short one? A short one that tells me the calls I ran on Mondays, but I can see more information about it on my laptop.

(8:29:08 - 8:29:11)

Okay. Which is always at home. That's at home, okay.

(8:29:11 - 8:29:29)

Ever since she, ever since I brought it home from a transplant, a couple weeks back, two, three weeks back, that's at home. Okay. So Friday, roughly, how many service calls do you have a day? We average by eight or seven or eight calls a day.

(8:29:29 - 8:29:53)

Was Friday like an average day for you? I don't remember. I remember I've been so stressed out after Calvin called me initially, and everything else, and then, of course, on the fourth, I got in a car accident, and I'm home in two, by the way. But, yeah, so... The calls that come in, because you said you're on insurance lists, but you're also listed as your independent business.

(8:29:53 - 8:30:04)

Yeah. Do you have calls come in that go directly to your phone, and then calls that come in to... Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. So you could get calls from both of them.

(8:30:04 - 8:30:29)

I could, but it's way less common to get just a straight through call, unless I've dealt with you before. I gave you my card, or something like that. A lot of times I see people in rapid succession, and you only get so many credits a month, or a year, with your regular rich-sized systems, and I always tell people to save that for just in case, and then just call us if it's not found.

(8:30:30 - 8:30:53)

That way, if you do get in a situation where you need Calvin, you at least have the knowledge, the security of having that credit that you want to pay for us. So, yeah, that's general. So you had a normal amount of calls, and I think they stick out to you on Friday, prior to you meeting with Harold and picking up the woman from the airport.

(8:30:53 - 8:31:07)

Yeah, prior to getting a phone call from Harold to go pick up this client from the airport. And then, basically, I had calls come in all Saturday. At least I think I did.

(8:31:07 - 8:31:16)

I don't know. I'd have to look carefully at my thing. What kind of phone do you have? I'm sorry, Calvin.

(8:31:17 - 8:31:22)

You're asking a dumb question. No, I'm just kidding. I know you've got to ask all these questions.

(8:31:23 - 8:31:28)

It's a Samsung Galaxy S12S, or something like that. It's a S12. Oh, okay.

(8:31:28 - 8:31:39)

It's a Galaxy as well. See, I'm an iPhone guy. Does that have like a... What kind of aspect does that have? Is it a code or one of those patterned things? Whatever it is.

(8:31:40 - 8:31:44)

Not being an S school... No, you're fine. I'm an iPhone guy. I'm not being literal.

(8:31:44 - 8:31:48)

It's anything I want it to be. Oh, okay. I have those options to do.

(8:31:49 - 8:31:54)

I can do patterns. I can do haptic. I can do fingerprint.

(8:31:54 - 8:32:01)

I can do all kinds of things. I can do retina. Oh, okay.

(8:32:01 - 8:32:14)

So, I mean, why not set it like that? I mean, I don't have it set up like that because I don't like that. Oh. Because what if something happens and someone wants to force me into a situation and they want me to unlock my phone? Yeah, okay.

(8:32:14 - 8:32:21)

If I'm unconscious or this old man, I can't scan the retina. It's a fingerprint. Have fun guessing which one.

(8:32:22 - 8:32:25)

Yeah, that's true. That's actually factual. It is a fingerprint.

(8:32:25 - 8:32:37)

Have fun guessing which one if I don't want you to know. Smart-up. So, whatever your... You said

that sometimes when you were working that you would take your wife to her appointments.

(8:32:37 - 8:32:41)

Yes. Yeah, that's been a regular thing the last about two, three weeks now. Okay.

(8:32:41 - 8:32:49)

So, she got out at the... She was in there all August. And she got out in September. Okay.

(8:32:49 - 8:33:04)

Yeah. So, do you run any errands or anything like that beyond doctor's appointments? Because you mentioned you go to Dunkin' Donuts. I try not to, but of course, family can be a slight call.

(8:33:04 - 8:33:12)

So, a lot of times, we'll pick up at Walmart or Dunkin' Donuts. Right there. 44200.

(8:33:13 - 8:33:18)

Okay. Did you do that on Friday at all? No. No, no.

(8:33:18 - 8:33:25)

Friday was all business. All business, right? That Friday was all business. And I heard Joseph Blatt when I was going and everything.

(8:33:25 - 8:33:32)

I wouldn't be home on Saturday or Saturday. Okay. So, she wasn't aware you were going to be gone for the weekend for this.

(8:33:32 - 8:33:39)

She didn't know exactly where I was going or exactly what was going to happen. I told her about the FDA. I told her about not being allowed to have my phone.

(8:33:41 - 8:33:52)

I told her everything. She's not my business partner, but she's my wife. She's a business partner then, right? Whether formal or informal.

(8:33:52 - 8:33:56)

Yeah, very informal. No, you sound like a good husband. You got to keep her... She knows what you need to do.

(8:33:56 - 8:34:00)

She knows everything I do and everywhere I go. We told her about all this mess. Yeah.

(8:34:01 - 8:34:05)

Yeah. Especially after Calvin got home. I mean, I freaked out.

(8:34:05 - 8:34:19)

I was crying. Because it was like... And what was going through your head when you heard that? I was not going out there again because this is bullshit. Sorry? No, so he called you and you said it really upset you.

(8:34:19 - 8:34:29)

So what was going through your head? What was going through your mind? I'm not going to some bullshit again. And everything I was so worried to do was go to Europe. My wife was going to Australia.

(8:34:36 - 8:34:43)

I had asked you before, and we kind of got sidetracked talking about the cars. No, no, you're fine. You get sidetracked with the cool cars.

(8:34:43 - 8:34:50)

I'm trashed. No, you are, yes. So he said Friday he picked you up in that cool muscle car we were talking about.

(8:34:51 - 8:35:01)

That's a late apology. Okay, and then how about Saturday morning and Saturday night? How did he pick you up those times? Okay. Well, non-scripture.

(8:35:02 - 8:35:07)

I think he was trying to flex. Okay. I think he was trying to flex.

(8:35:07 - 8:35:10)

Okay. We already had you there, so. Yeah.

(8:35:10 - 8:35:15)

Looks great. Yeah, once you saw the other car, you were like, I'm in. Yeah, I'm in.

(8:35:15 - 8:35:37)

Yeah, let's do this. What were the other cars, though, just standard SUV cars that you were talking about? I think there was one, and one of them was a Traverse, and the other one was like, there was another one that's, you know, what the fuck is that group called? It's not an Encore. Something like that.

(8:35:38 - 8:35:45)

Like a Buick SUV type thing? A midsize. Yeah, a midsize, but the same type of car. This is a nice little car.

(8:35:45 - 8:35:48)

Okay. Definitely was a work car. Yeah.

(8:35:48 - 8:35:52)

It was pretty on the inside. Ah, fuck. Okay.

(8:35:52 - 8:35:58)

What do you make of that? Who brought you there? Bruce fucking closed the back of this shit. I don't know what made it his place. He wants the car.

(8:35:58 - 8:36:01)

Yeah. But, you know, hey, whatever. I wouldn't want you to want the fucking muscle car.

(8:36:02 - 8:36:10)

I don't want the scrum either, either. And I also want to ask you, was anyone else staying in the house with you? At your bridge? It was me. Just you? Okay.

(8:36:11 - 8:36:49)

It was just me. I mean, I could fucking pack her into anything, but the call, you could ask my wife the same thing. You know, you said that the Saturday night, so I guess the third time that you went to the building, that there was some sort of disturbance and you thought that maybe it involved the woman that you picked up from the airport.

(8:36:49 - 8:36:59)

Can you tell me more about that? There's not much to tell. It was just a screaming and yelling. It was just really suspicious in hindsight.

(8:36:59 - 8:37:08)

I could get a phone call, but it was really way too quiet. So I'm returning the phone. All right.

(8:37:08 - 8:37:16)

Members of the jury, it's about a quarter of five. We've got a pretty long day today, so we're going to go ahead and pause the recording. We'll pick up tomorrow morning when we start the trial.

(8:37:17 - 8:37:26)

So a couple of things before we break for the day. Obviously, this is going to be a recess. I spoke to you yesterday when I instructed you about how you were to conduct yourself over recesses.

(8:37:27 - 8:37:37)

Tonight, when you're at home, do not talk to anybody about the case. Do not allow anybody to talk to you about the case. As you can see, there's been a camera in the courtroom throughout the trial.

(8:37:37 - 8:37:52)

Therefore, I'm going to instruct you all again, do not access social media, do not access any websites where you can be in contact with news. Okay? I'm also going to instruct you all to avoid YouTube, Netflix, other things like that, where streaming programs commonly are. You really need to watch TV tonight.

(8:37:52 - 8:38:13)

Make sure you stay away from any platform where you can access anything about court proceedings or court cases. And again, if you use your electronic devices, do not attempt to learn anything about the case, research anything about the case, or look up anything having to do with the case. Okay? I'd like you all back here tomorrow morning at 8.10. I have two short hearings at 8 o'clock.

(8:38:13 - 8:38:28)

That should be able to get through by about 8.15 or so. We'll be done with that and hopefully ready to go right at 8.30. Okay? I'm going to have Deputy Cabrera talk to you all about Thursday lunch options when you all get back there. We have an option we can give you.

(8:38:28 - 8:38:36)

I'm not sure if you all will want it or not, but we'll give it to you tomorrow. All right. State defense, anything else you'd like to cover before the recess? No, Your Honor.

(8:38:36 - 8:38:39)

No, Your Honor. Okay. Members of the jury, we'll see you back tomorrow morning.

(8:38:39 - 8:38:55)

Leave your notepads here. Get a good night's sleep. And if you all have little things like pillows that are not particularly valuable that you want to leave in the back, feel free.

(8:38:55 - 8:39:48)

Okay? All right. You all can be seated. Mr. Buxman, what is the time stamp? One hour, 16 minutes.

(8:39:49 - 8:39:53)

Thirty-nine seconds. I'll probably back it up to about 30 seconds. Just start at about 16.

(8:39:53 - 8:40:03)

Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Lawyers, do you all have anything you need to bring up with the court before morning? Nothing, Your Honor.

(8:40:03 - 8:40:17)

One thing I want you all to think about, there's been a good amount of evidence that we've displayed on the screens here. We do have, I have a computer and a laptop. The laptop is not connected to the Internet or any type of computer network.

(8:40:18 - 8:40:43)

If during deliberations we want to, for the exhibits, we can load up all of the interviews, everything like that, that the juries can watch through a laptop, onto the laptop, and they can have it back there in the jury room while they deliberate. If you all want to do that, I've got the TV in the back. We can do it over lunch one day, but it will, if the jury wants to watch this interview again, it will save us having to sit in court for four and a half hours while they watch it.

(8:40:44 - 8:40:51)

Also, they can review the evidence and discuss it with each other. They'll fix something, they'll upload it. If that's what you all agree to and want to do, we can do that.

(8:40:51 - 8:40:55)

Yes, sir. Anything else? No, Your Honor. No, Your Honor.

(8:40:55 - 8:40:56)

Okay, all right. We'll see you all tomorrow morning.