# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT CIVIL/CRIMINAL DITto,wp | CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

CASE NO. C177394

Plaintiff,

VS.

DEPT. NO. II

KIRSTIN BLAISE LOBATO,

Transcripts of Proceedings

Defendant.

BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALORIE J. VEGA, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

"ROUGH DRAFT"

JURY TRIAL - DAY 5 VOLUME V

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

**COURT RECORDER:** 

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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

### **PROCEEDINGS**

PROCEEDINGS BEGAN AT 10:42:41

(Jurors are not present)

THE BAILIFF: All rise,

Department II is now in session, the Honorable

Valorie 3. Vega presiding. Please be seated.

THE COURT: The record shall reflect we're convened outside the presence of the jury at counsels' request in State versus Lobato under Case Number C177394, in the presence of the defendant, her three counsel, and the two prosecuting attorneys.

MS, DIGIACOMO: Your Honor, it was the State's request for this. What we're asking for here is after hearing defense counsel's opening yesterday and reading back through the prior transcripts from the previous trial, there are a lot of conversations that the defendant had with people up in Panaca. Last time, the defense tried to get those conversations in on -- by themselves, when that is clearly hearsay. We would object on the record. You would sustain it. But then they would also try and backdoor it other ways like, well, just tell us when the conversation was that she told you she was attacked, that kind of thing. They had said in their opening statement yesterday that there's gonna be

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ADMITTED

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STATE'S EXHIBITS:

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witnesses that will say what she told them and when. And we just want to make it clear before we begin so we don't have to continuously object in front of the jury that if the State doesn't bring out the conversation, that the defense can't do it. It's hearsay on their side unless they have some sort of exception to the hearsay rule. And we would ask that they not do that in front of the jury or try and backdoor it in, just mentioning conversations in general.

For example, with Stephen Pyszkowski, prior counsel had alluded to this conversation when you said that she was attacked, trying to get in a tow receipt. They can certainly get in the tow receipt without referencing any conversation that was clearly hearsay, and you did sustain the objections. So we just want to make the record clear that, you know, they cannot get into these conversations that the defendant had with our witnesses unless the State brings it out.

THE COURT: I guess this is kind of an anticipatory objection,

MR, KEPHART: Exactly.

THE COURT: And it's premature but it's perhaps prophylactic. So it's food for thought at this point

MS. DiGIACOMO: Okay. And also, Your Honor, our first witness we're calling this morning has, what is it called, degenerative? She has a condition, I forgot what it's called,

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0./ v <u>LOBATO</u> 9/15/06

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where she can't drive at night, She needs to be back on the road by 1:00 o'clock p.m. to make it back. And so I just want to let the Court know we should be done with her by noon, But if it takes a few minutes over, she can't come back after the lunch hour. She'd have to come back again next week because it takes her several hours to drive because she can only drive for twenty minutes and then has to stop and take a break and then get back on the road, and she needs to get back to Panaca before dark,

MR., SCHIECK: That's fine, Your Honor,

Are you talking about Dixie?

MS, DIGIACOMO: Yes.

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call her?

MR. SCHIECK: I think it's macular degeneration.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yeah, that's it\_

MR, SCHIECK: Something like that.

MS, DiGIACOMO: Yeah.

MR, SCHIECK: And I think she said something about cataracts, too, that she couldn't drive at night. We have — we'll do everything we can to get her in and out.

THE COURT: I have a nonprofit luncheon today, and I've made arrangements to be late for it. You know, it's like we've got a few things juggling. So is Dixie Tienken gonna be your next witness?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yes, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: And she's here and you're ready to

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yes,

MR, KEPHART: Mm-hmm,

THE COURT: Okay. And I will step down and we'll have the bailiff —

MR, SCHIECK: Your Honor, while we're off the bench, may I just bring up one other quick thing, hopefully, quick thing? We're trying to schedule our experts so that they're not sitting around for days and days at a time at public payment while we're getting ready to testify because we are paying out of our budget for the experts. And they wanted Dr. Simms to be available when we had Dr. Laufer testify So we've made arrangements for Dr. Laufer to fly in Monday and testify on Tuesday so that Dr. Simms could be present and are planning our witnesses, our lay witnesses, that would be coming down from Panaca or wherever else during the course of next week, but that we are certainly looking at finishing with our experts the first part of next week, Monday and Tuesday of next week, and just wanted to make sure that that was okay with the Court and sort of comported with the State's idea of the timing that we're looking at on finishing up,

THE COURT: Well, you — well, you said he was flying in on Monday but you were gonna put him on the —  $\,$ 

MS. DiGIACOMO: A week from Monday.

THE COURT: -- on the stand on Tuesday.

MR. SCHIECK: Tuesday.

MS. DIGIACOMO: The 25<sup>th</sup> is —

MR. SCHIECK: Fly in the 25<sup>th</sup>, testify the 26th.

MR. KEPHART: Oh, okay.

MS. DIGIACOMO: Which is fine because the State anticipates our case will go through until next Tuesday-ish.

MR. KEPHART: Tuesday, Wednesday.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Possibly into Wednesday.

MR, SCHIECK: Maybe Wednesday?

MR. KEPHART: Yeah,

MS. DIGIACOMO: Yeah.

THE COURT: So you —

MS. DIGIACOMO: I mean —

THE COURT: You are talking about a week from --

MR. SCHIECK: Yes.

THE COURT: — Monday and Tuesday, Okay,

MR. SCHIECK: Because Friday is a short day. We're quitting at noon on Friday. And Thursday is a half day. And so we didn't anticipate getting too awful much done on our case during those two days. So that's sort of factored into the experts being able to be available on the week of the 25th,

Monday, Tuesday,

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THE COURT: Okay. Okay.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Oh, I'm sorry. Wait.

THE BAIUFF: All rise.

MS. DiGIACOMO: One other thing. We, just for the record, we talked -- the custodian of records from the Caliente Center, I believe both sides have agreed that well just stipulate to the medical records that were put in the first time instead of making the custodian come down.

MR, SCHIECK: That's fine.

THE COURT: What is that exhibit?

MS. DiGIACOMO: 135 or 136. I'm not sure,

(Pause in the proceedings)

MS. DiGIACOMO: It's 133, Your Honor, according to the exhibit list from last time,

THE COURT: 133, we're showing affidavit of custodian of records, and 133A is showing final sample report, 7/16/01.

MR. SCHIECK: Right.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Right. 133A, the Court excluded as being under the doctor/patient privilege. 133 had the -- the affidavit and the medical records attached that were allowed to be admitted. 133A was not admitted.

THE COURT: Okay. So the parties are at this time stipulating for the admission of 133?

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MR, SCHIECK: Yes, Your Honor, That's what was admitted last time,

THE COURT: Is that correct, State?

MS, DiGIACOMO: That is correct, 133.

THE COURT: Okay. 133 is stipulated admitted,

(State's Exhibit No. 133 admitted)

THE COURT: take us off the record,

(Court recessed at 10:50:01 until 10:54:59)

(Jurors are present)

THE BAILIFF: All rise,

Department II is now in session, the Honorable Valorie 1 Vega presiding. Please be seated,

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that we're reconvening in the trial of State versus Kirstin Lobato under Case Number C177394, in the presence of Ms. Lobato, together with her three counsel, the two prosecuting attorneys, the ladies and gentlemen of the jury.

Proceeding forward in the State's case in chief, the State may call its next witness.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Thank you, Your Honor. Dixie Tienkenr

THE CLERK: Please come all the way forward,, Up here, please. Remain standing and raise your right hand.

DIXIE TIENKEN, STATE'S WITNESS, SWORN

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

THE CLERK: Thank you. Please be seated. State your name and spell it for the record, please,

THE WITNESS: Dixie Tienken, T-I-E-N-K-E-N.

THE COURT: Your first name is spelled D-I-X-I-E?

THE WITNESS: That's correct.

THE COURT: Thank you.

The State may proceed.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Thank you.

### DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS, DiGIACOMO:

Q Ms. Tienken, do you know a person by the name of Kirstin Loba to?

A I do.

Q And what do you know her as?

A Blaise,

Q Do you see her in the courtroom here today?

A I do.

23 24 Q Would you please point to her and describe what she's wearing?

A I -- she's -- it looks like a black top and she's got her hair long and she's got a doojie-floppy [sic] on her hair.

MS, DiGIACOMO: Will the record reflect

identification of the defendant?

THE COURT: The record shall so reflect.

FIENKEN - DIRECT

MS. DiGIACOMO: Thank you.

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

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Q How long have you known Blaise?

A Oh, Probably ten, twelve years now, could be probably closer to twelve years at this point,

Q How did you know her?

A Well, I knew her because originally her father did some work at my home. However, I got to know her when she was both in middle school and in high school. Then she became my student in high school and graduated from my program in, I believe, the year 2000,

Q So you were her high school teacher?

A Not only a teacher, I was the director of three programs, alternative high school, English second language and adult high school.

Q And you said Blaise was a graduate of one of your programs?

A That's correct.

Q Which program?

A She came in originally alternative, but when they graduate they receive an adult high school diploma.

Q And where did all this -

A But that's true of all alternative students, by the way.

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay. And where did this take place?

A In Lincoln County, in Panaca, Nevada,

Q Now, is that where you live, is in Panaca?

A That's correct.

Q And how long have you lived in Panaca?

A I have lived in Panaca since 1979 off and on. I left twice to go get my master's and once when I had to go to California to take care of my father.

Q Now, are you also familiar with Caliente and Pioche?

A That's correct. All of those cities, including even as far down as Alamo and Hiko, I traveled to and taught classes there.

Q Is there only one high school for all of those cities or towns?

A There's only one alternative and adult high school. But each — Alamo has a high school called Pahranagat Valley. Lincoln County High School is located in Panaca, and that's for the people usually in Pioche, Caliente and Panaca. And then we have -- at CYC there is Cio [sic] Bastian High School. So there's actually three high schools, plus mine.

Q How many students do you have in your high schobi or back then in your programs?

A I probably had about eighty-five.

Q Now, how would you describe Panaca for the jury?

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

A It's a very small farming community, less than a thousand people. The population, as an overall, is a pretty educated area compared to the rest of the county because there's a lot of teachers, policemen and professional people that work at the test site that live in Panaca and travel back and forth to work. But there's also — the base of the community was originally a farming community,

Q And so there's a thousand just in Panaca or is that including —

- A It's a little, that's -- no, that's just in Panaca. There is about five thousand people in all of Lincoln County.
- Q I mean, you describe it as a small town. Do people know each other there?
  - A Everybody knows everybody.
  - Q Okay,

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- A And it's really a strange thing because a lot of people know what they think they know more than what they really know,
- Q So there's a lot of talk about people even if they don't know them personally?
  - A That's correct,
- Q Now I want to direct your attention to July, 2001, Was there a time during that month that you saw Blaise?

A Yes

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### TIENKEN DIRECT

Q When was that?

I believe that it was about July the 11<sup>th</sup> but it could have been earlier. I just know for a fact that it was on a Wednesday or if you want to consider it Tuesday night because I know that it was after midnight so I'm saying Wednesday early morning, She came to my house, and it was dark when she got there. She woke me up. And so she came to the door, we talked at the door, she came in. And because I had just -- I wasn't dressed. I was in my nightgown. So she went back out to her vehicle, I believe, or someplace outside for a few minutes so I could go to the bathroom and get dressed, and everything, because she really wanted to talk to me. And that is not uncommon for my students. I also have a degree in social work,, And so because there's not a lot of social workers around, I sort of take it upon myself to try to counsel these kids. And when I say kids, these kids can be as young as fourteen or fifteen and they can be as old as sixtyfive or sixty-six because I've had students of all ages,

Q So you make yourself accessible to your students no matter what time of day?

A I do because my family's grown up and none of my family lives close by, That's -- that was at that time At this time, I have a grandson that lives with me.

Q Now you said that you talked for a few minutes

1ENKEN - DIRECT

before you went back inside to gather yourself. What was the short conversation you had with her?

A She just said, "I really need to talk to you/' And she said that she had some -- a lot of things had happened in her life and that one of the things was a bad thing,

Q So she specifically said to you I did something bad and I need to talk to you?

A That's correct.

Q Now you recall this was on a Wednesday and you said the 11<sup>th</sup> or possibly earlier?

A That's correct.

Q Do you recall testifying at a prior proceeding that it could have also been the 18<sup>th</sup> or earlier?

A I did. But after doing some research I realized that that had to have been wrong.

Q And why was it wrong?

A Well, what happened is on the 18<sup>th</sup> was when I talked to Laura Johnson, But on that first Wednesday that I went to teach up in Pioche, after I finished teaching, I went back and went over to Laura's office. And at that time, I had indicated to Blaise that I was probably going to talk to Laura because while Blaise was at my home, we tried to research some of the things and we looked in back newspapers and we also looked on the Internet at that time. But then I went to

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Laura's office after and she was not there the first time,

Q Okay, So is it your testimony now that you did not speak to Laura the same day you spoke to Blaise?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. Now you gave a statement to the police approximately July 26, 2001, Do you recall that?

A I do.

Q And you've also testified at a prior proceeding in May of 2002. Do you recall that?

A That's correct, If you'd like, you can refer back to my statement and I did say at the very beginning when I was interviewed by the police that it happened approximately July 11 , and later I said it could have been earlier than that. And it's on this statement if you look on the voluntary statement.

Q And so what do you have in front of you there?

A That is correct,

Q You have -- you have a copy of your voluntary statement?

A I do.

Q Do you have anything else in front of you?

A I — yes. They told me that I could. I have my voluntary statement, I have the interview from the hearing, and I have my court statement.

Q Okay,

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Well get to that,, And then page 98 of the May,

#### **TIENKEN - DIRECT IENKEN - DIRECT** You're the one that gave it to me. 2002. No, I understand, I'm just trying to make a record 2 MS. DiGIACOMO: May I approach? of what you have in front of you. That's all. 3 THE COURT: Yes, 4 Okay. BY MS, DiGIACOMO: Q Okay. Now I'm gonna show you your testimony Q And you were — you were provided those so that 5 6 you could review them before you came to court? 6 from May, 2002. Okay. I'll show it to you. 7 That's correct. A Okay, MS. DiGIACOMO: Okay, Now -- the Court's 8 It's quicker, Okay. Lines 12 and 13. Do you see indulgence. 9 that? BY MS DIGIACOMO: 10 A Yes. Now you've actually testified at two prior hearings. 11 Q Okay. Do you recall testifying on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001? 12 I do see that. That's — yes, I do. 13 Q You also testified on this day that you talked to Q And so you --14 Laura that day after you got done teaching your class at the MS. DIGIACOMO: May I approach, Your Honor? 15 jail? THE COURT: Yes. 16 That's right. I taught a class at the jail almost every BY MS. DiGIACOMO: 17 Wednesday until that prisoner was released. You can set those aside. I'm gonna show you -- I 18 Okay. And so that's how you know that it was a have copies. 19 Wednesday Blaise came and talked to you? A Okay, That's correct, 20 So you don't have to thumb through yours. So 21 Q Okay, Now after you gathered yourself up, did you you've reviewed your testimony from — 22 go back to the door and let Blaise in that day, the morning? A I did. 23 Α Q -- August 7, 2001? Okay, Okay. If you could read 24 Q Okay. Did you ask her anything about how she got V-18 v-20 TIENKEN - DIRECT TIENKEN - DIRECT this to yourself right here. to your house? MS. GREENBERGER: What line, counsel? 2 A That came up much later when she was leaving MS. DiGIACOMO: 9 through 14. 3 because I knew from other people and from friends of both THE COURT: What page? 4 hers and mine and other students that she had bought her MS. DiGIACOMO: Page 10, Oh, through 17. 5 own car, and so I asked if I could go see her car. And at that Excuse me. Okay, 6 time, she said she did not have her car with her, THE WITNESS: I realize that I said — 7 Do you know what she was driving? BY MS. DiGIACOMO: 8 Her father's truck. I didn't go out and see her Well, wait, Wait, wait. I'm sorry. father's truck because that was her father's truck. 10 A Q Now after you let her back into your house that Q We have to do the procedure. Okay. 11 morning, approximately how long did you stay and talk with A 12 her? Q After reviewing this, does it refresh your recollection 13 I would say a good three hours. whether or not you testified before that you told -- that you 14 Q How was her demeanor when you were talking to stated you told Laura the same day that you talked to Blaise? 15 her? A Yes. 16 A Sometimes she smiled and laughed and sometimes And --0 17 she cried. We talked about an awful lot of things. And she's a A It does say that, 18 very emotional person. And perhaps I should say she was a Q Okay. But it's your testimony now that it wasn't the 19 very emotional person. same day? Q Well, when she was talking to you about something 20 A That it was not, May I offer an explanation? 21 bad happening — Q Hold on 22 Α She cried. Okay. 23 Q She did cry? Okay. Α

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A And she wasn't sure what all had happened.

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay.

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that she nodded her head up and down,

BY MS DIGIACOMO:

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Q And specifically when you said she wasn't sure, didn't she state to you, "I did something and I could have hurt somebody but I'm not sure what all I did"?

A That's correct

Q What did she tell you specifically that she did remember about this something bad?

A She said that a man approached her It was very dark. And I think it scared her And she did not say why he approached her but she did say that he eventually knocked her down and tried to rape her

Q And then what did she do in response to this?

A She said that at first she tried to stab up with a knife that she had on her person, and then she couldn't get any leverage but my understanding was that was like one time The man laughed at her, and that's when it sort of irritated her, I'm sure, as well, And then he tried to sit up on her shoulders, and with that she was able to grab his penis and that she slashed at his penis. She did say at that time that she cut his penis off, However, I didn't really feel that she probably had ever cut it off.

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q But, well, just tell me what she told you, not what you were feeling,

A Okay.

MS, GREENBERGER: Your Honor, she was trying to finish her answer.

MS, DIGIACOMO: Your Honor, it was becoming non-responsive.

MS. GREENBERGER: It was directly responsive.

MS, yGIACOMO: I asked her what Blaise told her, not what this witness felt,

THE COURT: Sustained

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

Q So now she told you that he tried to force her shoulders. Did he try and sit on her shoulders?

A Well, I think he was on top of her and I think he moved the position of his body up more,

Q Okay,

A You know, I think, you know, I don't know that he was on her shoulders but he was up so that he was straddling over her, but somehow she was able to get her arms free.

Q And then what did she do with her arms?

A That's when she was able to grab his penis and she had to have both arms free to do that and slash,

Q Okay. Now you first mentioned that she first tried to

rIENKEN - DIRECT

stab up and couldn't?

A That's correct,

Q And you've reviewed your statement to the police that was given on July 26, 2001?

A I have.

Q And you would agree with me that you never told the police that first she tried to stab up and couldn't?

A No, I don't agree because there was a lot of things that came out that — when they asked the questions to me. They came to my home and talked to me for a long time before they decided to tape this statement

Q Okay. So then it would be your testimony that you told them while they were there but it just didn't make it into the taped statement. Is that fair?

A I can't be sure of that but I'm -- I know that that's what she told me. It -- I would say, yes, that I probably mentioned it,

Q Okay. But if I told you that it's not in the taped statement —

A It's not in the taped statement,

Q Okay.

A I don't believe.

Q So you'd agree with that?

A That's correct,

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q And then you said that she slashed at his penis?

A That's correct.

Q And you would also agree with me that this -- that the fact that she said she slashed at the penis is not in the taped statement with the police?

A No, because she said that she cut the penis off, However, I just didn't believe that that's probably what really happened,

Q Okay. But I understand your beliefs, but we're just asking you what her —

A That's correct.

Q -- specific words were And her specific words to you were, "I cut it off/"

A That's correct,

Q Okay. Did she also indicate to you what she did with the penis after she cut it off?

A No, she did not,

Q Okay.

A Because she said that, with that, he backed off of her, she was able to get up, she pushed, she was able to get up and she ran back to her car. She also told me that when she got in her car that she saw that he was standing but groping himself,

MS, DiGIACOMO: Okay, May I approach, Your

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#### TIENKEN - DIRECT

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there?

Her statement, page 5.

BY MS, DiGIACOMO:

- Q Now I'm gonna show you page 5 of your taped statement with the police, the third answer down,
  - A Right
- Q Okay, Does that refresh your recollection as to exactly what she --
  - A Well --
  - Q -- told you?
    - A Yeah.
    - Q Okay.
- A Well, she said she threw it. But, I mean, when I -- you know, you said where did she put it, so I thought you meant where did she throw it.
- Q No
  - A I don't know where she threw it.
  - Q Okay, Well, I'm —
  - A She just --
  - Q No. I'm just asking you —
  - A That's correct,
- Q She told you specifically that a guy tried to rape her, she -- and that she -- that he had shoved her down, pushed her down, was on top of her. Then she said that she got a

V-26

### TIENKEN - DIRECT

knife out of her pocket, she cut off his penis and threw it, Is that what you told the police back in July, 2001?

A That is

MS, DiGIACOMO: Okay. 10.3 to '4 of her prior hearing in May, 2002.

MS. GREENBERGER: What page? I'm sorry.

MS. DIGIACOMO: 103 to 104, bottom to the top.

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Okay. And if you could read -- oh, do you have it

A Well, I was trying —

Oh, here,

- A -- to find out which one it was,
- Q Here, You can review the bottom here to the top of the next page.

(Pause in the proceedings)

- A Right,
- Q No. In this -- in your testimony before, you also stated that, you know, when she said she threw it, she kind of made a motion with her hand, is that correct?
  - A That's correct.
- Q Now, did she tell you what city that this had happened?
  - A She said that it happened in Las Vegas.

FIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay. Did she tell you what -- approximately where in Las Vegas it occurred?

A No, She did not exactly say where it happened. What happened is we were talking about a lot of general areas, and she did indicate to me. When she said it, I just sort of thought that she said one of the hotel streets. And then I said, oh, was it near West Sahara, and she said no And she said another street, and I knew it was a hotel street but I haven't lived in Las Vegas since 1979.

Q Okay. So it's your —

A But it was a major hotel street.

Q It was a major hotel street. But it's your testimony that she said it was not on the west side?

A No, I didn't say that it was not on the west side. I said it was on a west street, It was like a west hotel street, close to that.

Q Okay.

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A West hotel street, but not West Sahara,

Q Okay. So I'm confused. So she told you it was -- do you recall in your police statement saying you knew it was like West Tropicana, West Flamingo, but you knew —

A West Desert Inn or West -- any of the names of the hotels. I never said which one because I didn't know and I still don't know.

V-28

### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Correct, But that is the general area where Blaise told you this occurred in Las Vegas?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. Now, do you recall whether or not she described the specific area where it happened?

A I thought that it was like an alley or someplace where it was -- and I do know that it was dark at the time. It was not daylight. It was -- so it had to have been either early in the morning or late at night, but it was dark,

Q Okay, And it was —

A And she sort of indicated that she had her car one place and she was going someplace else or coming back from someplace else, and maybe she was just going to her car,

Q Okay. But it was — you said you got the idea it was in an alley, Do you remember telling the police —

- A Yes.
- Q -- an alley or between buildings?
- A Or between buildings or something to that sort.
- Q Okay. Now, did she describe the person who attacked her at all?
  - A She did,
  - Q What did she say?
- A She said that he was old, black, smelly and big. And when she said that, we talked about some of my former

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<u>4\/ v LOBATO</u> 9/15/06

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

students 'cause I was trying to visualize this. And I said big
like Biggs, who was one my students. And she said, "Oh, no,
taller," Now Biggs is about 5'9", 5'10", something like that
She said, "Bigger. Big." And Biggs is about 350 pounds but
not as heavy as that. So she indicated — we were using points
of reference, people that I knew,,

Q Okay.

A She did say that he was very smelly.

MS. DIGIACOMO: Okay, May I approach again? Page 6 of her statement.

BY MS, DiGIACOMO:

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Q When you did your taped statement with the police —

A Oh, this okay.

Q Okay. Do you recall specifically what you told them she said?

A Mm-hmm. "Old and smelly."

Q Okay. But not big or black?

A Well, I think that came out later because they also asked me when we were talking, you'll see a reference, they asked me if she would have called a black man a derogatory statement

Q Okay.

A So it does come out in other places.

#### V-30□

#### TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q And but they were asking you about whether or not he was some sort of ethnicity?

A Trying to get an age kind of thing,

Q Okay,

A And that was when —

Q But you agree with me in your statement nowhere did you describe him as big?

A I'm sure that I did state that he was big. Again, you have to remember that the police stopped and started the tape when they were doing the questioning. They also talked to me for, I would say, a good two hours before they ever taped the conversation. And they would just ask you specifically what they wanted to know the answers for.

Q Okay. So your testimony is then you did say that it was a big man, regardless of whether or not it's in your taped statement,. Is that fair?

A That's correct,

Q That you did say it to the police?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. Now as --

A Because we talked about different students in reference.

Q Okay Now your hearing testimony from May of 2001, page 101 —

IENKEN - DIRECT

A Okay.

Q — when you described the man on line 12.

MS. GREENBERGER: What page are we?

MS. DIGIACOMO: 101.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Line 12, Okay,

THE WITNESS: Okay.

MS, DiGIACOMO: 102.

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q How did --

THE COURT: May of '02?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yes,

13 BY MS, DIGIACOMO:

And does that -- how did you describe the person

15 then?

A I just said that he was smelly,

Okay. Now when you testified before that Blaise was on the bottom and you thought that her attacker was straddling her,

A That's correct,

Q Did she ever describe exactly how she was? Was she laying down, do you recall?

A She never said that, I don't believe,

Q And did she tell you where she got the knife from?

#### V-32

#### TIENKEN - DIRECT

A She said she pulled it out. She didn't say where she got it out. I would assume she either got it from her boot or her pocket.

Q Okay. And why would you make that assumption?

A Blaise, like several other women that I know, young women, carry knives,

Q Okay. So you --

A As a defense.

9 Q So you knew Blaise to carry a knife?

A That's correct.

Q How long had you known her to carry a knife?

A Before she even became my student,

Q Okay, And she normally carried it in either her pocket or her boot?

A I would say so.

Q And when you say pocket, which pocket, back

pocket or front pocket, if you recall?

A I really don't know.

Q Okay. Now after she cut the penis off, you said that

20 she got up and ran?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. Did she —

A Back to her car.

Q Back to her car, Did she indicate to you whether or

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<u>JV\_v</u>. <u>LOBATO</u> 9/15/06

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that?

#### TIENKEN - DIRECT I

not she saw what happened to her attacker after she ran?

A She said that she saw him stand,

Q Okay. And specifically —

A And he was groping his genital area.

Q Okay. So he's holding himself?

A That's correct.

Q And, specifically, did she tell you that he was stumbling and getting up?

A He was stumbling when he was getting up. But I think you would even if you got kicked there,

Q Did she describe anything about her person after this attack?

A Yes,

Q What did she say?

A She said that all she could think of that she wanted to go someplace where she could take a shower because she had -- and as I've said before, I am not sure what the terminology was. I referred to it as "ick" because I think that's what she said, but I'm not positive. But she indicated that it was like probably wet and sticky.

Q Okay. Would that be blood?

A Could be blood, could be semen.

Q Okay. But she definitely indicated she just wanted to shower and get out of there?

V-34

#### nENKEN - DIRECT

A She wanted to go home,

Q And what did she mean by home?

A I'm sure she meant to come back to Panaca.

Q Why are you sure of that?

A I'm not sure of that, but I would assume that's where she would want to go because I do not think that at that point she was living down in Las Vegasr

Q Now, did she tell you what -- I mean, that's what she told you she wanted to do, Did she tell you what she actually did after the attack? I mean, did she go somewhere to clean up?

A Yes, she did.

Q What did she tell you?

A She said she went to a friend's place, and she didn't say whether that place was an apartment or a hotel room, but she went someplace to take a shower,

Q Okay. And change her clothes as well?

A That's correct,

Q And do you know, was that in Vegas or in Panaca?

A That was in Vegas,

Q Now when you were talking to her about this incident, did she ever tell you when it happened?

A She indicated that it happened more than a couple days before because when we were looking at the newspaper,

V-36

TIENKEN - DIRECT

A She wanted to, And you need to know that Blaise was always a very clean person. She couldn't stand to be dirty, almost to the point of being obsessive/compulsive about cleanliness.

Q Did she say how much of this, the term we'll use, "ick" that she had on her?

A No. I — from what she said, I would say that it was sort of indicated that it would have been, but I'm -- I don't know, I'm only guessing, I would say above her waist,

Q Okay, Now, did you -

A On her hands maybe.

Q Do you recall telling the police that she stated that it got all over her?

A Right. But when I say all over her, I would say, you know, I think you would think that it was all over you, too, if it was all over the top part of you

Q So like the chest area, where he was possibly straddling her?

A That's correct.

Q Okay, Did she tell you -- I mean, I know she said that all she wanted to do was get washed and get cleaned up,

A She wanted to take a shower.

Okay Did she say what else she wanted to do after

T1ENKEN - DIRECT

we went back and looked clear back to July 1,

Q Okay,

A In newspapers.

Q Okay. But do you recall telling the police that it was your impression, based on how upset she was, it was within a couple of days?

A Well, I think that I thought at first that she did mean that, but then I also believe that -- okay,

Q Okay, Well, it was kind of a yes or no answer.

A A time -- a time factor was there. And I think that they were trying to get me to say that it happened just a couple days before that. And I can't really be sure of that because I do know that we looked back in paper clippings clear back to July V, So if it had been a couple days before that, why wouldn't — why would I be looking clear back to July 1st.

MS, DiGIACOMO: Okay. And I'm gonna approach again, Your Honor, if I may.

Page 12 of her statement.

THE COURT: The taped statement?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yes, Your Honor.

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

Q Do you see the question, "Did she say what day it happened on?"

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Honor?

## TIENKEN - DIRECT

A And it says that I didn't know exactly what day it happened but I got the impression that it had just happened a few days before that, and I do know that that's what it says, But, on the other hand, it also says in that same statement that we checked newspaper clippings back to July 1',

Q It says back to July I<sup>st</sup> in this statement?

A I think so.

Q If I direct your attention to page 20, would that refresh your recollection? So it was -- before we get to that, you do agree that your statement says it was your impression that it had happened just a day or two before this that you talked to her?

A That's correct, Is that the answer on page 20?

Q Oh, actually, it's the first —

A It's the --

Q Your first answer and your second answer on page 20, if you can read that and let me know if that refreshes your recollection whether or not you told the police back to July V.

A It just says in here that I had — we were checking on the Internet and on the -- and we looked on the Internet at Review Journal and Las Vegas Sun. And it doesn't say when but it does say what we did,

Q Right. And —

A But I also stated that we never even thought about

V-38

rIENKEN - DIRECT

question or if it's something else but --

JUROR ANDERSON: It's a juror question.

THE COURT: Okay. And --

MS. DIGIACOMO: So we should just wait 'til the end

then?

THE COURT: It's the juror in chair Number 2, Tai Anderson.

We have to wait for the attorneys to exhaust all their questioning, And at that time if you still have a queStion, then that question may be asked,

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

Q Now we talked a little bit — we talked a little bit before about you'd asked Blaise about her new car,

A That's correct,

Q Okay. And she was actually driving her dad's truck?

A That's -- yes, Uh-huh.

Q Okay, Do you recall why she told you she wasn't driving her car?

A Yes, I do.

Q Okay, What was that?

A She had been engaged to a young man by the name of Jeremy Davis, and I think at one time she was living with Jeremy Davis. And I don't know what caused it but I do know that they broke up, and when they broke up her car at that

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### TIENKEN DIRECT

looking for anybody that died because she never, ever thought she killed anybody.

Q Okay, But after you had this conversation with her, the two of you got on the Internet to look to see if anything had been reported in Vegas regarding --

A That's correct,

Q -- a man going to the hospital for his penis --

A That's correct,

Q -- being severed? Okay. Or slashed, Now, did you have the impression whether or not Blaise had looked on her own before she came over to your house? Did she tell you whether or not?

A Yes, She did, She said she had looked at the papers,

Q Okay. But didn't find anything?

A No, And that's why I think it really scared her even more.

MR. KEPHART: Sandy, Sandy,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Oh, bailiff, there's a question.

Number 2,

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We'll wait until we're done but -

THE COURT: The only time for jurors to pose questions is after all of the questioning by counsel has been exhausted, So I don't know if the note has -- if it's a juror

### TIENKEN - DIRECT

time was not running and she left her car there, And then later, I think, maybe Jeremy was gonna fix it or something. don't know why she left her car there, I just know that she had left her car there. And during that time, it was after they broke up that he was supposed to have taken and urinated on it and spread feces on it and done a lot of bad things. And —

Q And that's why she told you she wasn't driving the car that morning?

A That's right, because she wasn't going to get in that car,

MS. DIGIACOMO: Okay, May I approach, Your

THE COURT: Yes.

MS. DIGIACOMO: I'm gonna go to page 12 of her statement.

BY MS, DiGIACOMO:

Q In the middle of the page your answer, Okay. Isn't it true you told the police that, "When I asked her what she was driving, she said she was driving her dad's truck. She said, 'I'm not driving that car. I don't want anybody to see it,' 'cause she was so afraid." Is that what you said to the police? Yes or no,

A I guess I did because it says that, but it also says someplace on here about the feces and everything else,

V-41

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Q We're gonna get to the feces in a minute, We're — let's just start with this. She told you she didn't want to drive her new car because she was afraid, correct?

TIENKEN - DIRECT

A That's correct.

Q Okay. And in fact —

A But I don't think it was because of the feces.

Q Oh, right, Okay. But I'm talking about this day, that's why she told you she was --

A Right,

Q -- afraid of the car. Okay. And in fact the feces and Jeremy incident, it's pretty clear it had nothing to do with this incident with the attacker?

A No.

Q Okay. It had nothing to do with the attacker?

A No,

Q A totally separate incident?

A A totally separate incident

Q And in fact that's what you say in your statement, as well as —

A Yes,

Q -- your previous testimony. Oh, okay. Now, did she also say to you that she was worried, she didn't want to drive the car, she was worried because she thought somebody may have seen it? Do you recall that?

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### TIENKEN - DIRECT

A She said that she was afraid that someone may have seen her car when she left,

Q When -- and when she left where the attacker was?

A That's correct.

Q In fact, did you ask her whether or not anyone saw the attack or saw her?

A Yes, I did.

Q And what did she tell you?

A She said she didn't think so but she could -- that someone may Save seen her when she left.

Q Okay. When you say may have seen her, seen the car leaving?

A Seen the car leaving,

Q Now, did you give her any advice that morning regarding this?

A I told her she needed to talk to her father and that we needed to find out what really happened if we could,

Q Did you also tell her she needed to talk to the police?

A Yes, But she was afraid.

Q Did she ever tell you whether or not she talked to anybody else about this attack?

A She did not tell me whether she talked to other □ people. I think it's important to realize that one of the reasons

IENKEN - DIRECT

she wouldn't go right and talk to her father is because there had been another incident earlier in her life where she did try to talk to her father,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Your Honor, this is non-responsive.

MS. GREENBERGER: Your Honor, let her explain,

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS, DiGIACOMO: I'm gonna go to page 13, counsel.'

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

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The first answer on page 13.

MS, GREENBERGER: From what? Her statement?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Yes. I'm sorry. Her statement.

THE WITNESS: Oh, yes.

BY MS, DIGIACOMO:

Q Now so you did tell the police after reading your statement that she talked to her friends when she got to her friends' house about, well, about the incident but she didn't say which friend,

A No. And that was where she went to take her shower. She did say she talked to those friends.

Q Okay. So she talked to the friends where she went to take a shower?

A That's correct.

Q So where she went to take a shower she said had

V-44

#### TIENKEN - DIRECT

multiple people there?

A Well, I was under the impression that it was more than one person.

Q Okay.

A She never indicated how many people.

Q Now, did she tell you whether or not that she was under the influence of anything at the time of her attack?

A Yes, she did. That was why she was afraid to go to the police.

Q What did she tell you?

A She said that she had been using drugs,

Q What drug?

A I thought she said meth,

Q And, in fact, didn't she say that at this time, "I'm don't with it, I've got to get clean, I want to get off of it"?

A That's correct.

Q After you had this conversation with -- oh, strike that.

Now the incident that she had talked about with regard to Jeremy and what had happened to her car, did she tell you when that happened?

A I was under the impression -- she did not really actually say when it happened. No, she did not.

Q Okay.

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

I had an impression but I don't think you want to hear what my impression is.

No. I just need to hear her words. But she did tell you it was when they were breaking up?

That's when she left her car there,

Q Okay And, again, she did make clear to you that the incident with Jeremy's car had nothing to do with the incident with regard to the attacker?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. I mean, she -- no, she didn't make that clear or she did make it clear?

She didn't really make it clear, but I don't think that she went to Jeremy's house to take the shower so I don't think that it had anything to do with it. But she never did tell me whose house she went to

Okay, But what I'm --

A Or whose apartment or —

Well, okay;

-- hotel, or anything else.

Q What I'm, yeah, what I'm trying to say is, you know, you said that her car was broken down, she left it at Jeremy's and these things happened to the car. And then you said she went to take a shower at another house with regard to the attack and then went home.

V-46

### **TIENKEN - DIRECT**

And I never said it was a house. I just — Or apartment, wherever she went.

Okay. But talking to her, those were two separate incidents?

That's correct.

Q Now you talked to another friend about what Blaise had told you, correct?

Yes.

Q And that was Laura Johnson?

A Yes.

Q How do you know Laura?

Laura Johnson is the Lincoln County juvenile probation/parole officer She's been my friend. We work with a lot of the same students because a lot of times the court said that they either have to get their GED or a high school diploma. So because of that, Laura comes into my classroom or came into my classroom on a very regular basis. My students were very much aware of Laura. And we have worked close together on a lot of different things,

Q Now, do you remember specifically what day you talked to Laura if it wasn't the same day you talked to Blaise?

I believe, after reviewing things that I've looked at, that it was the following Wednesday because I feel that what I 1ENKEN - DIRECT

did was the first Wednesday I went to her office and she was not there. And I believe I left a card and it just said call me. And then she still hadn't called me, so the following

Wednesday I went back and talked to her.

Q So if Laura testified or believed that you talked to her on the 18th, then your conversation with Blaise would have been the 11<sup>th</sup>? Is that fair?

That's when I believed that it was.

0 And this jail where you went to teach, where is it in relation to Laura's office?

All of that has changed now. But at the time, the jail is in the basement of Lincoln -- the Lincoln County Courthouse, And I would go take a prisoner and they would let me take one or two prisoners at a time, and I would take them into the County Commissioner's Office because there was a blackboard there and everything where I could teach a class. And Laura Johnson's office is up on the -- not the basement but on the second floor,

So it's in the same building?

A The same building.

Is that in Pioche?

That's in Pioche, Nevada,,

Q Now when you talked to Laura, did you tell her exactly what Blaise had told you?

V-48

### TIENKEN - DIRECT

I did, but I also indicated to Laura that I wasn't sure. Laura and I both knew that Blaise sometimes exaggerated things,, And so it may have just been something that she just was doing for attention, for a plea for help. And since I knew that Blaise had a drug problem, I was afraid that it could have been even induced by the drugs because we had not been able to find any evidence of anything like this happening,

Q On -- in the newspapers?

A In the newspaper or even on the Las Vegas news release thing,

Okay. So is it -- is it fair to say that one of the reasons you told Laura about it is to try and help, get her help to find out if anything really happened?

If anything really happened and also that I thought that Laura might be able to help in trying to get some help for Blaise with her — with the point that she had a drug problem, Arid she also had asked me for help, but I didn't feel that her parents would help pay for something like that and so I was hoping that maybe Laura knew of some grant money or something that we could have used to help Braise.

So your main purpose in talking to Laura was to try and help Blaise, not to see if something had really happened?

I would say that it was equal.

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<u>N v. LOBATO</u> 9/15/06

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slashed it?

TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay.

A Because we still hadn't seen that she had really done anything,

Q Now, did you know Blaise's parents?

A I did.

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Q And what are their names?

A I know her father's -- her natural father is Larry and her stepmother is Becky.

Q And what kind of a relationship did they have with Blaise, if you know?

A A strange relationship.

Q Okay. Well, would they help out their daughter?

MR\_ SCHIECK: Objection, Your Honor, that calls for speculation,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Well, she — THE COURT: Sustained,

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q Okay. You just testified that you didn't know if your -- her parents would help cover the costs of some sort of drug treatment?

A That's correct,

Q Okay. And why do you think that or what was your — why did you make that statement?

A Because I felt that they were drug users as well,

**.EWEN - DIRECT** 

A She thought that her father would at least get her car cleaned, you know, never talked about -- and I know that this has come up but I never said anything about painting —

Q Okay, So you -

A -- or doing mechanical work. I only talked about cleaning the car,

Q Okay, So you told Laura Johnson that Blaise's parents were helping her clean the car?

A That's correct,,

Q But you never told Laura that her parents were helping her either get rid of the car, paint it or hide it out?

A No.

Q Okay, Did you tell Laura that her parents, Blaise's parents, were helping her hide out in Panaca?

A I don't think they were helping her hide out. She was —

Q Did

A -- out in the open,

Q Did you tell Laura Johnson whether or not that Blaise's parents were helping her hide out in Panaca? Yes or no.

A I do not believe so.

Q And when you told Laura about this incident, isn't it true that you told her that Blaise said she cut off a penis, not

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay. But it had nothing to do with the fact that -- of their relationship with their daughter?

A Well, yes, it did, Because I told you also that previously she had told her father that a man had raped her, and he didn't want to believe her.

Q And that's when she was younger?

A Yes. Not a lot younger at that point, It was probably when she was about fifteen or sixteen,

Q Okay.. Was it your impression that she hadn't talked to her father about this attack?

A I think she probably did, but I'm not sure that he believed it at that time.

Q Well, just tell me, did she tell you that?

A She did not tell me.

Q Okay, So you have — you have —

A But she had been at her father's house before she came because she was driving her father's truck,

Q Okay. But you have no knowledge whether or not she did tell her father based on what she told you?

A No, I do not,

Q Now, did you tell Laura anything regarding Blaise's parents helping her out with her car?

A Yeah. I think that her —

Q Well, just tell me -

A I did say that, but I also told her I — we, Laura and I, talked about it and I said, you know, Laura, she may not have actually cut it off.

Q But that is you --

A I mean, we talked for a long time, Laura and I.

Q No, I understand, But you did tell Laura that Braise said cut it off, is that correct?

A That's correct,

Q Okay. Did you also tell Laura where Blaise said she was coming from when she was attacked?

A I told her that it was -- I knew that it was off of a hotel street, exactly what I've told everybody, and I said I don't know which hotel street because I did not remember and I still don't remember. It didn't even seem that important. It was just sort of a general, And I didn't even mean that it was a specific street We were just talking about neighborhoods when Blaise even told me approximately where. But I don't remember where,

Q No. My question was did you tell Laura where Blaise told you she was coming from when she was attacked, not where the attack occurred? Did Blaise tell you where she was coming from when she got attacked?

A No. She said she was coming -- I had the

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impression that she was coming -- taking a shortcut, either she had parked her car and was going someplace else and taking a shortcut through this alleyway or the other way around, she was coming from someplace else and going back to her car,

TIENKEN - DIRECT

Q Okay, So Blaise never told you she was coming from work when she was attacked?

A No, We talked about because Laura asked me if I knew where she was working.

Q Okay. But you never told Laura that Biaise was coming from work when she was attacked?

A No

MS. DIGIACOMO: The Court's indulgence. (Pause in the proceedings)

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q Dixie, when Blaise was explaining the attack to you, and you said that the gentleman was straddling her, did she say what he was trying to do?

A She indicated that he was trying to put his penis into her mouth,

Q Okay, And when she first saw the attacker when she was pushed down, did she say whether or not he was exposing himself?

A I don't remember that. I think after he approached her and then he backed off, then I think he did. But I'm not

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IENKEN - DIRECT

Q That's what I'm talking about,

A Okay.

Q So she did tell you that her --

A Yes.

Q -- attacker had his penis out?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. And, again, with regard to the location where she told you this happened, okay, on page 5, that she did tell you the name of the street. But at the time you talked to the police, you just couldn't remember but you knew it was something like West Tropicana or West Flamingo, is that correct?

A No. She did not say the name of the street. What she said was it was in -- we were talking about general areas of Las Vegas. Okay. And she named a hotel street, not particularly saying that that's where the incident happened but just as a point of reference.

Q A point of reference for what?

A Where the thing happened,

Q But --

A But she didn't say that it was on that street, She just — it was like near.

Q No, no, no. I understand that. But when you — when you asked her or when she told you kind of where it

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TIENKEN - DIRECT

### TIENKEN - DIRECT

positive

MS DiGIACOMO: Page 7 of her statement.

BY MS DIGIACOMO:

Q Dixie, I'm gonna show you page 7 of your statement, see if that will refresh your recollection as to what Blaise told you in July, 2001,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Oh. It's the middle answer, counsel, in the middle of the page,

THE WITNESS: Well, yes, but that doesn't say that that happened when he first approached her If he already knew that he was going to try to do something to her, yes, it does say that he did have his penis out, But you have to remember that that wasn't when he first tried to get to her. BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q Okay. Well, your answer was that, "My understanding, and that's why I think she was able to do what she did, is that he had knocked her down" --

A Right,

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Q -- "and was on top of her, and it sounded to me like he was sitting with -- straddling her. I would assume that he was straddling her because she said that he had his penis out."

A Penis out, yes,

Q Okay, But —

A Out of his pants,

happened --

A Where did it happen, yes.

O -- all she did was name a street with a hotel?

A Yeah.

Q And you --

A Well, we talked —

Q And it was on the west. Is that fair to say?

A Well, those streets are really not on the west. We were talking about like the Strip, the hotel Strip.

Q Okay

A Okay. And to the right of the Strip is west and to the left of the Strip is east, not that I'm saying that it was the west side of town, just that it was a west hotel street,

Q Okay. So it was just a west hotel street but you're not sure which one. It could have been Tropicana, it could have been Flamingo, could have been DI

A Could have been any of them.

O But not Sahara 'cause that's where —

A But I knew that it was not Saharar

Q Okay. But it was just the west side of the Las Vegas Strip, Fair?

A That's correct.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Nothing further.

THE COURT: Cross,

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lot of questions, and it's approaching the noon hour, Should I get started?

THE COURT: We're gonna have to take a late lunch, MS, GREENBERGER: Okay.

### **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Good afternoon.

A Hello.

MS. GREENBERGER: May we approach for a minute, Your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes, you may.

(Off-record bench conference at 11:56:06 until 11:57:10) BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q How long have you been a teacher?

A Actually been teacher, I even taught here in Las Vegas back in the late sixties. I'm retired now from teaching. So total, I've been a teacher since probably about '68.

Q Do you have experience with abused women?

A I do, Previously, while I was living in Las Vegas, I worked with the Women's Crisis Shelter and I also worked with abused children with a group called We Can,

Q Do you have experience with drug use counseling?

A I did, although most of my experience was back

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rIENKEN - CROSS

based on hearsay,

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THE WITNESS: Well, I don't think it's hearsay when it's part of her educational records.

MR. KEPHART: Judge.

THE COURT: Sustained,

MS. DiGIACOMO: And move to strike the answer.

THE COURT: Motion granted.

8 BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q You testified she had a hard time fitting in. Can you explain what you know?

A The general population at the time Blaise was in high school that attend the regular high school are pretty straight-laced Mormon girls that say that they don't use drugs and they say they're not sexually active. And at times, they can be very nasty and mean to kids that they think don't fit in to what they believe is what everybody ought to be

Q When did Blaise first become your student, if you recall?

A I believe that her parents talked to me as early as middle school, and at that time we could not put her into the program until she turned sixteen because of the way that the state laws were.

Q How long was she your student?

A I think what we did was we started to prepare her

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TIENKEN - CROSS

when I was counseling, plus I was certified with the Bureau of Alcohol & Drug Abuse. But I have not kept my certification up on the newer drugs. I just never felt like I — when I was teaching school, I kept up on it but I didn't really go back to get my certification,

Q Can you tell us how Blaise first became your student?

Blaise had a hard time fitting in in our community, and I think Blaise felt that she was sort of an outsider. She had a lot of problems with the — with her peers, They thought that she was too sophisticated,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay.

THE COURT: Sustained,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q What were the problems, if you know?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection again, hearsay.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q If you know,

THE COURT: Overruled.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You may answer,

A Okay. I do know that Blaise had been sexually abused when she was a young child and —

MS, DIGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor, this is

TIENKEN - CROSS

for the GED which we could do before she was sixteen so, actually, I could have contact with her and work with her before that. I would say that I actually worked with her as a student a year and a half to two years,

Q How was she as a student?

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, relevance,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Did she graduate from your program?

A She did.

Q Did she graduate early?

A She did. Probably a full year early.

O Did she --

A Once she decided to go to school, she put her mind down to it, she did her work and she finished four years of credit in about two years of time,

Q Did she receive a high school diploma?

A She did. And it is a standard adult high school diploma, and she did have to take and pass the proficiency test and she did without any problems.

Q During that time period, did you develop a close relationship with her?

A I did.

Q You mentioned on direct examination, but you

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T1ENKEN CROSS

weren't given an opportunity to explain, you made a statement Panaca's a small town, everyone knows everybody, they think they know what they -- but they really don't know, Can you elaborate on what you meant by that?

A In Panaca a young lady is supposed to, by her parents' standards, is supposed to abstain from sex and drugs and alcohol so that she prepares herself to go to the Temple when she goes to get married. It doesn't matter if those girls do those things as long as their parents are not aware of it.

Q You have had a number of students over the years in your education program?

A That's correct.

Q And you mentioned that you often get students' visits at your home, Can you elaborate on that a little bit?

A Sometimes on weekends, if kids didn't have anything to do, we would go rent a video. They'd come to my home. We'd watch a video, have popcorn. Sometimes kids would come and help me. Blaise, for one, came and helped me hang Christmas lights up on the outside of my house. She and another friend came, you know, and did that. I've had boys that have come and helped me mow the lawn. I've had older women that have come and confided with me. You have to realize that I didn't have the normal classroom setting. Kids could come into my classroom and they could be sitting next

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

to a fifteen-year-old that was studying to take a GED, they could be sitting near a fifty-year-old that was trying to get ready to take the high school proficiency test. The English second language students sometimes attended the English classes because it's good for English second language students to relate to other people so that they can speak. So we had a big mixture of students in this classroom all the time, And all of the students came. I might have a forty-year-old man, a thirty-five-year-old woman, a seventeen-year-old, a fifteen-year-old, and they might have even brought a little sister or a little brother or one of my married students could have brought their children. It just — we just all got along.

Q And your -- do your relationships with your students often continue after graduation as well?

A 90 percent of them do,,

Q Prior to Blaise coming to confide in you about her attack, had she frequented your home on multiple occasions?

A Yes, because of other students that she was friends with. I'm sort of a safe house.

Q People feel comfortable coming to your house, your students?

A Yes,

Q With regard to when Blaise first came to talk to you, you testified you believe it was July  $11^{\,\mathrm{th}}$ , it could have been

**IENKEN - CROSS** 

earlier, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q When she came to talk with you, you testified she came to talk to you about a number of different things, is that correct?

A That's correct.

Q Was it your opinion that she needed to get a number of things off her chest?

A Yes, We talked about a new program that I was trying to work out, a counseling program where people could get together and work on drug problems or even other problems besides drugs,

Q Besides the attack she described, did you also talk about a number of different subjects?

A Oh, we did, We talked about --

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay,

THE WITNESS: How could it be hearsay?

THE COURT: Overruled.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

O You can answer,

A We talked about other students that I knew were down in Las Vegas working, and I asked her in relationship to them if she had seen any of them and we talked about them. And also I think I advised her to stay away from certain people

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

that I felt that if she really was being honest and wanted to get drug free that she needed to sever her relationships with those people.

Q Did you know how long she had been down in Las Vegas?

A I do not know exactly how long she stayed down in Las Vegas but I knew that she went to Vegas pretty much right after she graduated from high school.

O When would that have been?

A In 2000.

Q What month?

A May or June, But my impression was that she hasn't stayed the whole time. She was down there at one time living with Jeremy. Other times, she went down and just came back,

Q So she was traveling back and forth during that time, from the time she left 'til the time she returned?

A I believe so.

Q Had you seen her around town?

A I don't know that I directly -- well, I hadn't really talked with her and she hadn't been to my house for a while, so we just had a lot of catching up to do when she came by, I can't say for certain that I hadn't talked to her in between that time but I can't remember that I did,

Q You spoke about an attack that had happened on

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TIENKEN - CROSS

her. And isn't it true that she never told you exactly when the attack happened?

A That's correct.

Q Is it fair to say you knew the attack happened sometime after her high school graduation and before she got to your house? Is that fair?

A That's correct.

Q You had the impression when she came to talk to you she was very upset about that?

A About the attack, yes.

Q However, as you sit here today, you don't know if it was -- she was upset because it had been causing her nightmares, stewing around for a month, or that it had just happened. You don't know?

A I don't know that,

Q When she described her attacker, you testified he was a big man,

A That's correct.

Q You testified you compared his size to that of one of your students?

A Former students, That's correct.

Q Did you also compare his size to that of your grandson?

A I did,

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### TLEMCEN - CROSS

And what are his dimensions?

A My grandson is over 6 foot tall and over 200 pounds.
When you asked Blaise does that comport with the size --

A She said yes. Because my grandson graduated the same time, the same year, that Blaise did, but from Cedar, but he went on our senior trip with us. So she and Tyler and several other students, we had a whole bunch of kids that went So I knew that she had seen Tyler in a bathing suit because we had been to Lagoon, which is an amusement park that also has a water park, and they had swam together so I knew that she knew exactly how big Tyler was. And he's not thin, but he's not obese,

Q Do you specifically recall when you talked about one of your students, Bigg, who is 510" —  $\,$ 

A That's Biggs-

Q That she told you — Biggs, Excuse me. Much taller?

A Yeah, taller than Biggs. And he's like about 5 9" and about 350 pounds. He would also be considered, in my world, a big person, So I was just getting a relationship, how big.

Q And she said taller?

A That he was taller than but not as -- not as heavy.

Q And in terms of the heaviness of her attacker, what did you learn?

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FIENKEN - CROSS

A Well, when I spoke with the D.A. people, I kept asking if they could please tell me the size of the attacker.

And my understanding is that —

MS, DIGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay,

THE COURT: Sustained.

You may pose your next question.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q Did you learn the size of the victim in this case? Are -you aware he was 5'10", 130 pounds?

MS DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay, how she learned it.

THE COURT: Sustained,

THE WITNESS: But you told me. The lady over

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23 24 answer,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Did you learn from my client the body weight of her attacker?

A He was big. If we compare it to my grandson, I would assume that her attacker would have been over 6 foot tall, over 200 pounds,

Q That was the impression you were left with?

A Yes. And she also said he was old. She did not say that he was like the age that her father would be. She referred to him as old.

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

Q And how was —

A To Blaise, I'm old, To some of you, I may not be as old, But --

Q How old is her father, if you know?

A I would say in his forties.

Q And when Blaise told you this man was old --

A I thought she meant someone closer to my age,

Q And you interpreted it as that because why?

A She said he was old, big, smelly,

Q If he would have been her father's age —

A She probably would have said like my dad's age, MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, speculation,

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Move to strike the question and

THE COURT: Granted.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q She told you where she was attacked it was dark?

A That's correct.

Q Did you -- did she tell you whether she got a clear look at her assailant?

A I don't believe so. Because my understanding was that it was -- it was dark. And then I think the only thing that she saw was probably the silhouette of him,

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MS. DIGIACOMO: Objection, speculation. THE COURT: Sustained.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Move to strike the answer.

**TIENKEN - CROSS** 

THE COURT: Granted,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q What did you learn from her that she saw?

A That she saw the person get up and grope at his genital area,

Q Before we get there, you testified that he pushed her down?

That's correct,

Q That she was able to -- that he was intending to rape her, is that correct?

I believe so.

Q She was scared?

A Yes.

Q She was able to get a knife out of her pocket that she carried for protection?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, misstates the testimony.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q She was able to get a knife out from somewhere?

A Yes.

THE COURT: You withdrew the question, posed

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**TIENKEN - CROSS** 

another question before the Court ruled. I was making a record.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q She fended off her attacker by attempting to stab him one time?

A Yes.

Did my client, Blaise Lobato, ever tell you she stabbed her attacker in the neck?

A Never, My understanding was in the abdomen and then she cut his penis. At no time did she ever indicate any other stabs or cuts or slices or anything,

Q As you sit here today, is your memory of this incident vivid?

As vivid as someone that's had -- I have had several like strokes, and I do get confused sometimes with time, but it's pretty vivid what she said to me and it's pretty vivid how she explained, you know, what she did.

Q Do you have any doubt in your mind whether she ever stabbed him in the neck?

A I have no doubt. She never mentioned stabbing him anywhere other than the abdomen and the penis,

Did she ever tell you, did my client ever tell you, she punched this man in both of his eyes and gave him a black eye?

**IENKEN - CROSS** 

Α No.

Q Did she ever tell you that she beat this man and knocked his teeth out?

A No.

Q Did she ever tell you that she smacked him in the head and caused hemorrhaging?

Q Did she ever tell you she used a baseball bat in this attack?

Α She never even said that she had a baseball bat in her hand.

Q Did she ever tell you after she killed him that she cut his penis off when he was dead?

A No She told me that she saw him stand up. You can't stand up after you're dead.

Q Is it clear in your mind that when she defended herself from her attacker he was alive?

I'm sorry. Could you repeat that question?

Q When he — when he attacked her, she told you he was alive, attacking her?

That's correct.

Q You would remember, wouldn't you, if she told you any of these other things?

Yes, definitely,

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TIENKEN - CROSS

Q And if she told you these things, you wouldn't have waited to talk to Laura Johnson for a week, would you?

No, If she had told me any of those things, I would have called the police right away.

Q Why didn't you call the police right away?

A I did not think that it was even as serious as what Blaise thought that it was because she sometimes stretched things. I thought someone probably attempted to rape her. Whether they succeeded or not, I was not sure. I did not believe — she never did say that he raped her,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor. It's speculation and it's getting very non-responsive.

THE COURT: The Court will overrule.

14 BY MS. GREENBERGER:

> Q What was the last part of your answer? You never thought that she even was raped?

> A No. She said that he tried to rape her and then he tried to sodomize her, basically, not sodomize but actually put his penis in her mouth,

Q Okay, Just so we're clear on that —

A Yes,

-- he tried to orally copulate?

That's correct.

O Not sodomize?

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TIENKEN CROSS

A **Not** sodomize

Q Which would be --

A Not sodomize. Not sodomize.

Q Did she ever tell you she sliced his rectum?

A No, She never even mentioned anything in

reference to rectum at all. There was no reference. And, like I said, she was really clear when she talked to me that what she did was that she tried to get him off of her when she tried to stab up, and then she couldn't. And then when he sat up higher on her body, she had her hands free and she was able to grab the penis with one hand and slice with the other hand, cut, slice, whatever you want to say. And, yes, she did say that she cut it off, but I just somehow did not feel that —

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

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Q Based on your discussions with my client, you never thought she cut a penis off, did you?

A No, I did not.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor. It's her -- it's her own feelings, It's not what she was told or what she observed.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q You

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TIENKEN - CROSS

 ${\sf MS\_DIGIACOMO: It's\ not\ relevant},$ 

MS. GREENBERGER: I'll move on.

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS. DIGIACOMO: And 191 ask that that be stricken from the record,

 $\label{thm:thm:thm:court} \mbox{THE COURT: Motion granted, so stricken.}$ 

The jury will disregard the last answer,

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You testified she told you she went to her car right after this happened to escape her attacker?

A That's correct.

Q She told you she saw him getting up, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q She saw him standing there, groping himself?

A That's correct,

Q You testified my client has a tendency to exaggerate. Can you give us an example besides this one?

MS. DIGIACOMO: Objection, relevance.

THE COURT: Overruled.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You may answer.

A There were other times when kids talked of drinking

or

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor, this is

8 Q Do you have any that come to mind?

other kids. It's non-responsive,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

stories to you?

A Yes.

THE COURT: Sustained.

A Some of the things that went on between Abe and Blaise, both of them were my students and they were very involved with each other. And there were times that Blaise would tell me something that happened and Abe would tell me something that happened, and they didn't -- it didn't match. And I can't specifically remember an exact thing right now, but I do remember that it happened on more than one occasion,

**IENKEN - CROSS** 

Q In your — in your past knowledge of my client, which

is lengthy, were there many times that she would exaggerate

Q So that night or early morning when she came to talk to you, in your mind, you thought she might be exaggerating?

A I did. I knew she had a problem. I knew she had a drug problem and I was really wanting to try to help her with that. We talked about some other therapy and different things.

Q Did you think she came to you, it was a cry for help? A I did.

V-76

TIENKEN - CROSS

Q Do you think she was an attention-seeker?

A I think that she was because so many people shut her out,

Q The police came to talk to you in July of 2001, in July 26, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q The day before they came to talk with you, you had looked in the paper or looked on the computer and read a story about Blaise's arrest. Is that true?

A There's something that I've never really revealed before but I've thought about it, and if I —

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, non-responsive, MS, GREENBERGER.: Let her explain her response.

THE COURT: Overruled,

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You may explain it, Dixie.

A Okay, I was going up to pick up the school van, which I drove kids back and forth on. At that time, and I've never said this person's name before because I didn't think it was relevant but at this point I'd really like to say the name, it was Mark Willingham. He was the -- he's the bus -- I don't know what he is. The head mechanic for Lincoln County School District, At that time, Mark and another gentleman were talking and they said to me, oh, did you see --

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay.

THE WITNESS: — where Blaise got arrested,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

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Without saying what anyone else told you, 'cause that's hearsay, you can finish your answer.

A Okay. When they said what they said, I said, no, you're wrong. And he said, well, it's in the front page of the paper.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay.

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS DiGIACOMO: Move to strike those two responses of what they said,

THE COURT: Granted. So stricken.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q You can continue without describing what someone else told you. You can describe your response,

A Okay. So then I went and got a newspaper because that's what they told me.

Q This was before the police came to talk to you?

A That's correct

Q And there was very specific information in the paper about her arrest and the nature of the crime?

Yes,

V-78

### T1ENKEN - CROSS

Isn't it true that when the police came to talk with you they also shared many of those details with you?

That's correct.

Q They talked to you for at least two hours you said off tape, is that correct?

I would say close to that,

Q Did that concern you?

It did, Α

Q Why?,,

Because if they were really trying to get a statement without — why did they tell me the things that they told me. why did they wait so long, why didn't they tape it right from the very beginning?

Did you feel right from the beginning the police were trying to influence your testimony?

MS DiGIACOMO: That's fine. Withdrawnr THE WITNESS: Yes And I felt very strong that they needed to investigate further, and I indicated that to them, but it never shows up in here. And I'm sure if you called either of those officers here they would have to say that I even sort of presented a scenario to them, two scenarios, as a matter of fact.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You've read your Metro statement on July 26 a

**IENKEN - CROSS** 

number of times, haven't you?

I have.

Q And are there many, many things you told the police that were left out of your statement?

Well, I think that there were some details that were left out but there were some that were very strong, and I do feel like when they kept trying to pinpoint the street they kept suggesting street names.

Q Did the police suggest to you West Tropicana?

Yes, they did, Because I said a hotel street, not West Sahara because that's -- I lived off of West Sahara.

Did this suggestion occur prior to you being on their tape?

That's correct.

Q When the police were taping you, isn't it true they turned on and off their tape-recorder multiple times?

That's correct,

Q Did you ask them why they were doing that?

To clarify they said.

Q They weren't doing it 'cause the tape ran out on Side A —

21 22 A Well, no.

Q -- and they had to switch to Side B?

A They did have to do that as well.

V-80

### TIENKEN - cross

0 But in addition to that, they were turning the taperecorder on and off? 2

Right. Right.

Q Do you remember that vividly?

A

Isn't it true when the police were questioning you and telling you west, west, you said south?

No, I didn't say that at that time. It wasn't even until later that I realized, But when I looked at it, and there's a place where it refers and he said, well, then you're saying that it happened on the west side, and I said, you know, and I never said that it happened on the west side. In fact when I'm thinking when I was talking to Blaise and when I thought about it even later, I never indicated that it was on the west side. I just meant the west side of the Strip. But that would actually be southwest but not — you know, she didn't say it was out like in the boondocks. And you have to remember I lived in Las Vegas. I moved from here in '79. And although I'm here visiting now, this town has changed a lot since '79.

It's your testimony, as you sit here today, that the police told you -

A Whoops.

Q -- West Flamingo Road. Those were not your words?

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

A No. I mean, I believe that I said hotel streets and I may have included Flamingo amongst one of many street names,

Q You never said that specifically, however? You never said specifically she told me she was attacked —

A No

Q on West Flamingo?

A No Because I don't know where she was attacked.

Q And you -- is it your desire, as you sit here today, to make sure that none of your statements are taken out of context?

A Correct.

You want the truth to come out?

A Yes, I do want the truth to come out,

When you were doing research on your computer after my client came to talk with you, isn't it true, and I just want to clarify this, that you did research all the way back until June 1, not July 1"?

A I think that's right. I'm sorry, And I do think that I did go all back through June as well.

Q 'Cause on your direct examination —

A Yes.

Q — you said July 1.

A But I think —

V-82

TIENKEN - CROSS

But I just wanted to clarify it's —

A Right.

June 1..

A It was June <sup>Vt</sup> because we did go back several months

June 1", 2001?

A That's correct.

Q The reason why you looked that far back was because you believed the attack could have happened a few weeks before?

A Well, I think that just like when you've had TIAs, and that, sometimes time is not good for you. I think that time is also not good for people that are using drugs,

Q Can you explain that?

A I have worked with other students that have used other drugs and they can confuse dates and time.

Q That's something that you have personally had experience with?

A Yes, it is.

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Q That's why you looked all the way back to June —

A That's correct

Q 2001?

A I mean, I would have gone back, you know, six ☐ months except that I felt that it couldn't have been back that

**IENKEN - CROSS** 

far, but I did not go back that far. I think I did go back through June 1", And I think someplace there's a reference to June 1 in one of my other testimonies, too.

Q Did you feel that the police or the prosecution in the -- in the past was trying to lead your testimony?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Compound, Your Honor, objection,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Did you feel the police were trying to lead your testimony?

A I felt very strong that they just wanted to get an answer to a crime and they didn't even care if it was really even the right crime or the right time or anything else,

Q Why did you feel like that?

A Because I kept saying different things and I made reference to several different things. And I believe that Laura did as well. And nobody would even look at those things or that, you know, time frame or anything,

Q When you say Laura, are you referring to --

A To Laura Johnson. And I do feel that -- okay, I do know that Laura and I are friends, and I also know that Laura and I at this point are at opposite ends. But I do feel that in the very beginning that we were both at the same side. And

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

then I --

Q Well, let me stop you there for a minute. Do you mean the same side -- explain what you mean by that.

A Okay. In the beginning, Laura felt the same way that I did, that we didn't --

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q After speaking with Blaise, you didn't believe she committed this crime?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, legal conclusion.

THE COURT: Sustained,, That's the province of the

13 jury.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q Is it your testimony that Laura Johnson and you both felt equally that that --

THE COURT: I'm gonna ask counsel to approach. (Off-record bench conference at 12:35:47 until 12:36:40)

THE BAILIFF: I believe we have a note out from one of the jurors, Your Honor.

(Pause in the proceedings)

THE COURT: The note will be marked as the Court's next in number.

We're gonna take a five-minute recess,

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

Ladies and gentlemen, in five minutes please be in the hallway. The bailiff will meet you there to reseat you.

During the recess you're admonished not to talk or converse among yourselves, nor with anyone else, on any subject connected with the trial, you're not to read, watch or listen to any report of or commentary on the trial or any person connected with the trial, by any medium of information, including, without limitation, newspaper, television, radio and Internet, and you're not to form or express any opinion on any subject connected with the trial until the case is submitted to you.

Five-minute recess,

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(Court recessed at 12:38:02 until 12:46:28)□ (Jurors are present)

THE BAILIFF: Court is now in session. You may be Seated.

THE COURT: The record shall reflect we're resuming trial in State versus Lobato under Case Number C177394, in the presence of the defendant, her three counsel, the two prosecuting attorneys, the ladies and gentlemen of the jury,

And Witness Dixie Tienken remains on the witness stand under oath.

And Ms, Greenberger may resume her cross,

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

MS. GREENBERGER: Thank you, Your Honor, BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You testified that you knew my client carried a knife?

A That's correct,

Q And also testified that it was common even for your other students. Can you explain that?

A I, myself, have also carried a knife for protection. So I didn't find it that uncommon.

Q What about --

A Other students, other girls, as well, carried knives.

Q Did Panaca — would you describe it as a rural area?

A A very rural area.

Q Does that account for people carrying knives or is it more of a protection thing for women, if you know?

A A little bit of both. I mean, it's not uncommon to like if you wanted to go pick an apple or a pear or anything, you could and you could peel it. But if you see most of the boys, they have like a little case on their belt. It wasn't until just probably the last four years that they said that they could not have them in school. I mean, never have you ever been allowed to carry a gun but, you know, a lot of boys used to even come to school with -- in their pickup trucks they had rifles that were fastened in and nobody thought anything more about it. It's not like in the city. It's not the same kind of

1ENKEN - CROSS

thing. It doesn't even mean the same kind of thing.

Q What about a baseball bat behind the seat in a car? MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, speculation,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q If you know.

THE COURT: overrule.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q You may answer.

A Okay, That's not uncommon. You have to remember that we live long distances between cities, and a lot of the world is starting to catch up with us and so it's not uncommon. My daughter, for one, carries one of those, like it's sort of like a baseball bat in her car, like the truck drivers use, because her husband was a truck driver and he gave her one and she kept it right underneath the front seat. If you're a little person, especially if you are a little woman, and you're a little woman, it's not uncommon to have something close by that you could grab,.

Q You mentioned a gentleman named Jeremy Davis.

20 A Ye

Q And that was a former boyfriend of Blaise's?

A Yes, And she [sic] had dated Blaise off and on for several years. And I, for one, did not feel that that was a good person for her to even be dating., And I had, I think --

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TIENKEN - CROSS

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor, relevance as to her thoughts as to why they shouldn't have dated.

THE COURT: Sustained,

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q When she came to talk with you on that Wednesday, one of the issues you discussed was her relationship with Jeremy, correct?

A Yes.

Q And she told you that fairly recently they had broken up?

A That's correct.

Q Fairly recently, did you interpret that as after graduation but before she came to your house that Wednesday?

A Yes.

Q You also testified that she had left her vehicle at his house?

A Yes.

Q And you discussed with her how he had vandalized her car, intruded her car with -- she told you about that?

A Yes.

Q Did she tell you that was in retaliation to the breakup?

A It was sort of indicated, but I don't think that she

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T1ENKEN - CROSS

specifically said that I think that he was just on -- he had a drug problem as well,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, relevance,

THE COURT: Overruled.

BY MS GREENBERGER:

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Q What kind of drug problem?

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay,

BY MS GREENBERGER:

Q If you know

A Multiple,

Q Based on the condition of the vehicle, it was your understanding the vehicle needed to be cleaned out because there was --

A There was supposed to be feces and urine on it, And Blaise is an extra special clean person and she doesn't like to touch those kind of things. I do not think that it was anything that she could have -- it was beyond her capacity. She could not have touched or cleaned something like that because she couldn't stand to be dirty or icky or anything like that.

Q Was that a character trait you associated with Blaise from the time you met her?

A Yes,

Q And how did you learn about that? From her actions

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IENKEN - CROSS

her vehicle. I said that they had her vehicle because they were going to clean it up for her. And because of some other things that might have made -- but not that they were ever going to do -- paint it, not that they were going to paint or do any repairs or anything, just clean it,

Q So it's your testimony, as you sit here today, that you never on any occasion ever told Laura Johnson that Blaise told you my parents are trying to paint the car?

A No, Not paint the car. I think that Blaise May have been afraid that someone could have seen her at the time that this incident happened. They may not remember the car exactly but there's other things about the car that they would have remembered. And it's not something her parents would have really -- they couldn't fix that problem,

Q Is it your testimony, as you sit here today, that you never told Laura Johnson that Blaise told you her parents were trying to get rid of the vehicle?

A No. Clean it, Clean it. Just clean it.

Q In addition to Blaise being upset that she had been the victim of an attack, she also came to you 'cause she feared maybe she hurt someone. Isn't that true?

A That's right, She never at any time ever thought that the person was dead, but she was afraid that she could have really hurt someone,

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

she took or --

Blaise spent a lot of time. It didn't matter to her whether her hair was curled or not, but she probably shampooed her hair and took showers more often than anybody else that I've ever known, almost to the point of being obsessive/compulsive. She -- if she slept in or something and you wanted her to come right away, and I can give this as an example, there was a government test once, She wasn't in class when the test was supposed to be given. I got really upset with her. I called her on the phone. Kids can tell you that I have gone to their homes on many occasions and pulled them out of bed to come and take a test if I felt that it had to be done at a certain time. I said you've got to come and take this test. Oh, I can't, I've got to get a shower first. I don't care about the shower. You can go back and get a shower later, No, I have to come -- I have to take a shower. She came to school dripping wet, basically, but she got her shower before she came in there. She couldn't stand to be dirty,

Q Did she pass the test?

A Yes,

Q Did you ever tell Laura Johnson that Blaise told you her parents were trying to hide her vehicle?

A I don't feel that I said that they were trying to hide

T1ENKEN - CROSS

Q Even her attacker, she was compassionate towards —

A Yes.

O -- her attacker?

A She was. I don't think she really wanted to have anything more to do with him,

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, Your Honor, This is speculation,

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS, DiGIACOMO: Move to strike,

THE COURT: Granted,

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q She was concerned that her attacker might have seen her vehicle and might come after her. Isn't that true?

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, misstates the testimony,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q Did Blaise tell you why she was concerned about her car being seen, if you know?

A No, She never said why. I just have a feeling that I knew why.

Q Based on what Blaise told you?

No. Based upon what I -- I had never seen her

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#### **TIENKEN - CROSS**

vehicle, but I had heard that she had an unusual license number. Not something that someone would forget,

Q Were — you testified previously that dates were suggested to you in this case, is that correct?

A Yes

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Q By whom?

A Well, when I -- originally, I said to the -- even to the police and to other people I wasn't sure when the date happened, when she first came to talk to me. I wasn't even sure when I really went to talk to Laura. But at that time, Laura had said that she had done --

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay.

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Were dates suggested to you by anybody besides the police?

A Just Laura,

Q What about the prosecution?

A Well, that was later, though. But, I mean —

Q Well, that's just the question I'm focusing on. So at some point in this case, even up 'til present, there have been dates suggested to you?

A Yes, And one of the things that I specifically have said is if we really wanted to get right down to the nitty-gritty,

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

we could prove when things happened because the student that I was working with got discharged from the jail in Pioche sometime in July. I couldn't have gone to visit him or to teach him if he wasn't even there at that time. And nobody has looked into looking at the court records, which when you go in to work with any prisoner it's recorded.

Q Isn't it true that the prosecution has rehearsed your testimony with you previously?

A I don't think that you can say rehearsed. But I think that it has -- that everybody has tried to tell me what, you know, the kind of questions that we'll be going over,

Q Isn't it true that you believed the conduct in suggesting dates was inappropriate?

A Well, I don't quite understand, like I said, why everybody has really pushed so much about the date when, to me, it could have been very quickly cleared up if somebody would have just checked at the jail in Lincoln County.

Q Isn't it true that you felt like you were being badgered when you weren't saying things —

A Oh, yes.

Q -- that people wanted to hear?

A Because people wanted me to say that the first time that Laura and I talked was on the 18 <sup>th</sup>, And even that date, I wasn't sure of. I wasn't sure of the date of the 11 <sup>th</sup> or of the

IENKEN - CROSS

1f3<sup>th</sup> **I** just knew for sure that Blaise had come to me after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. I do know it was after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Q Isn't it true at one time prior to your testimony you were isolated in a room for several hours?

A Yes,

MS, DIGIACOMO: Objection, relevance,

THE COURT: Overruled.

MS. DiGIACOMO: May we —

MS. GREENBERGER: Well —

MS. DiGIACOMO: May we approach?

THE COURT: Yes.

(Off-record bench conference at 13:02:16 until 13:03:17) BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Prior to your previous testimony —

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, foundation.

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q You testified that you were put in a room for several hours. When was that?

A At the last trial.

Q Where were you?

A In the courthouse, in a room. And it was really funny because in the past at like at the hearing and even today, I was able to sit outside with my friend, Laura, But on

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### TIENKEN - CROSS

the day of the court hearing, not the hearing but the court date, someone from the prosecution that's not here now, when I went up to sign my vouchers and things with Mary, they took me to a room and they said that I had to stay there and the door was closed. Somehow I got the feeling that it was locked, but I never did get up to see if it was really locked, but I did have to use the restroom and didn't know where -- how I could get out of this room or where I could go. And I was there for several hours,

Q And how did that make you feel?

A I was very upset. I felt like they were like punishing me for not doing or not saying what they wanted me to say.

Q Had you had discussions with the prosecution prior to this occurring?

A Yes, I did,

Q Did you believe this is in direct retaliation?

A I did because right prior to that, I had gone to meet with —

Q A prosecutor?

20 A A prosecutor,

Q What had you told them?

A Basically the same thing that I'm saying now, that I still was not sure of the date, basically that I just did not feel that Blaise was ever capable of doing anything like this. And I

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#### TIENKEN - CROSS

have said that over and over and over again.

Q Did you also say you were positive that she never told you her parents were trying to hide her car?

A Right. And I feel that they tried to use Laura and I against each other.

Q Why?

A In the beginning, Laura felt the same way that I did, And then, all of a sudden, she started feeling that —

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, speculation.

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MS, GREENBERGER:

Q Do you believe in the past that the prosecution has tried to control the nature of your testimony?

A I do feel that things have been taken out of context and I do feel that they have tried to manipulate things to look differently than what they actually were like.

Q Did they try to scare you a bit?

A I don't think that I could say they tried to scare me, I think they -- it was like indicated that I should tell the truth and that I should be careful of what I said, And it made me angry to think that they were questioning that.

Q Did you feel your testimony was being manipulated in the course of questioning in preparation by the prosecution?

I believed that both sides want to hear certain things

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7 A I do. 8 O What y

BY MS, DiGIACOM 0:

Q What would you like?

THE COURT: Yes.

Q Did you need something?

A I really have to leave, and I've explained this many times. I needed to be on the road by 1:00 o'clock, I can come back but I cannot stay much later or I'm not gonna be able to get home before it gets dark. And I can't drive after dark.

**ENKEN - REDIRECT** 

(Off-record bench conference at 13:11:06 until 13:11:38)

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

MS. DIGIACOMO: May we approach?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Well, Your Honor, it's my understanding from the defense that when she drove down the other day she didn't leave until 330.

THE WITNESS: No. I left earlier than 3:30. I left like 3:00 o'clock.

MS. DiGIACOMO: 3:00 o'clock, So as long as we get you out of here by 3:00, which it shouldn't be much longer,

THE WITNESS: But coming down here is a lot different than going back. Going up there, the road -- I'm not afraid of bright lights I'm afraid of cows and horses on the

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### TIENKEN CROSS

and so they're trying to draw out those particular things that they do want to have pointed out to the jury. Yes, I do feel, But I do feel that that happens both ways.

Q Were you told by someone of the prosecution they just want a conviction and want to get it over with?

MS. DiGIACOMO: Objection, hearsay,

THE COURT: Sustained,

(Pause in the proceedings)

BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Did my client ever tell you that she had any interactions with a homeless man?

MS, DiGIACOMO: Objection, foundation. Ever? BY MS. GREENBERGER:

Q Did my client ever tell you -

MS. GREENBERGER: I'll rephrase it,

BY MS GREENBERGER:

Q -- that she had any interaction with a homeless man at the time she described her attack to you?

A No, she didn't mention homeless. No She mentioned that the person was smelly, but smelly could be somebody that had bad BO.

MS. GREENBERGER: The Court's indulgence.

Nothing further,

THE COURT: Redirect.

CROSS

road, I mean, coming here it's bright when you come down to Las Vegas. Going there it's dark. And it gets dark, you know, it's getting dark by the time —

MS. DiGIACOMO: Well, Your Honor, if we have to we'll find someone to drive her home. I don't know what to say. We have to finish with this witness,

THE COURT: All right, You may proceed,

THE WITNESS: I can come back. I just have to be there in time to do things.

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

Q Ms. Tienken, now you established on cross-examination, it's fair to say, that you're not on the side of the State in this case, correct?

A I want to see the truth come out. But in my feelings, I do not feel that Blaise was ever capable of ever killing anyone or really hurting anyone to that extent.

Q And I think you've made that clear.

A Ye

Q So it's not -- it's fair to say that you're not supporting the State's side in this case, are you?

A No

Q Okay. Now you've made several allegations about the State here, that we've tried to control your testimony, that we've tried to force dates on you, that you feel like we've

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#### TIENKEN REDIRECT

retaliated against you. But you do admit we just asked you to tell the truth?

A That's correct, But keeping me in a room for several hours was uncalled for.

Q Okay, But you understand, too, it hadn't -- that Mr. Kephart and I, we were In court and knew nothing about that?

A I know that because when you came up to interview me, I asked who that man was because I didn't -- and I said, you know, at first I thought it was -- I thought it was the defense lawyer that had taken me to that room.

Q Okay, But it was --

A But it was not.

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Q It was in our Victim Witness Advocate Center, correct?

A It wasn't in the regular room, No I mean, it was off of that room.

Q Right. It's an interview room or a small like conference room that they have in the Victim Witness Center,

A I don't know, I haven't seen the other rooms. But it was definitely not the open room,

Q No, not the waiting area when you first come in?

A Right,

Q Okay, And isn't it fair to say that when you were down here testifying at the prior proceeding that you were

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# TIENKEN - REDIRECT

pretty upset about testifying? You had some anxiety about it?

A Well --

MS. GREENBERGER: Objection, leading,

THE WITNESS: I don't know that I would say

anxiety,

MS, DiGIACOMO: Your Honor, she's an adverse

witness,

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: Are we ready?

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q I'm sorry, Well, I mean, when we talked to you, you expressed to us that you were --

A Well, yeah,

Q -- had anxiety.

A But you have to --

Q Correct?

A — remember that —

Q I'm sorry, Ms. Tienken. It's a yes or no answer. You did express to us that you had some anxiety about testifying at the prior proceeding, correct?

MS, GREENBERGER: Your Honor, I would object and let her explain her answer.

THE COURT: Overruled. You —

THE WITNESS: I --

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#### **NKEN - REDIRECT**

THE COURT: You get — you don't get to direct the questions. When the questions come to you, you have to take the question as it's phrased and do your best to respond to it as it is phrased.

THE WITNESS: Okay, Yes.

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q Okay. And so wasn't the reason that you were put in this room so that you could collect yourself and have time to gather yourself?

A No.

Q So your testimony is that the reason you were put into a small room or a special room in the Victim Witness Center was purely retaliation?

A I do feel that,

Q Okay, And up until that time, you had — you had given two prior statements --

A That's correct.

Q -- regarding this case? And that's fine, Now you talked about how people have tried to force dates on you. Isn't it true that we told you, the State told you, that don't worry about the dates because we — you had stressed that dates aren't important to you -- or not important, that are hard to remember for you?

A Yes. But that was at this time. That was not the

V-104

### TIENKEN REDIRECT

way it was the last time.

Q But your -- the way you've testified today is consistent with the last two times regarding the July --

A Yes.

Q jith date, correct?

A Yes.

Q Now you said today with regard to the dates that there was a student that you were counseling in the jail and somebody could have checked regarding when he was released. Do you recall that?

A In the jail.

Q Right. That's what I -- in the jail, Do you recall that?

A Yes.

Q And you just testified to that?

A Yes,

Q And what was the student's name?

A It's Biggs' brother, Jason. I'm sorry. I can't remember his last name.

Q That's fine.

A But it's Jason's -- I mean, Jason was his name,

Q Okay. That's fine. So Jason,

A But it's Biggs' last -- it's Biggs' brother. And I can't think of his last name, but if I had my school records I could

<u>N v. LOBATO</u> 9/15/06

#### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

tell you.

Q And this is the —

A And there was another student as well.

Q Okay. And this is the person that you were going on Wednesdays to counsel?

A That's correct,

Q How long were you going on those Wednesdays?

A As long as he was in jail.

Q Okay. So how many weeks was that?

A He had started in my program before he got arrested. He was arrested for alcohol. And then I worked with him for several weeks after, you know, while he was still in jail. And then when he got out of jail, he came in and finished his program and did his GED and got his diploma as well.

Q Okay. And now what date did he get out of jail? Is that the date that you're saying is important?

A Well, I felt that if they were trying to say that I worked with him after a certain date, all they had to do was check with the court records and they could see when he got out. I know he was released in July, I have not made any effort to go back to find that out, nor has the court.

Q Okay, Now, would you agree with me that the fact of this student being discharged and that would help with a

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#### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

certain date, this is the first time that you've notified the State of this fact?

A No,

Q When did you notify the State of this fact previously?

A Well, they've known that all along because in the very, very first statement that was made to the police in July 26<sup>11</sup>, or whenever it was, I said that I was visiting a student and another student that was in the jail. They knew exactly that I was going to the jail,

Q Right. But when was it that you brought up the fact of when this student was released would help with the date?

A I felt that if they really wanted to do that, since you people are supposed to be involved with the law and you know how jails run a lot more than I do, you would know that they would have to keep records of when someone came in to talk with him or to teach him or to visit him.

Q That's correct, But you also indicated that you had been going for several weeks, talking to this individual.

A Yes.

Q So isn't it more important the fact that you went on Wednesdays to the jail more important than who you saw? Because for you, you already testified that you knew it was a Wednesday 'cause you went to the jail.

A That's correct.

NKEN - REDIRECT

Q But if the police had looked up these records, they would have found a series of Wednesdays, correct?

A Only while that prisoner was in jail.

Q Did --

A I didn't go --

Q Did you --

A Okay, If I worked with a different prisoner at a different jail because there's a — we have a prison as well, and then we also have CYC which is the youth center, and I did not go to the same, you know, to the same location on Wednesdays. If I didn't have a prisoner at that jail, I would have gone to a different location, either to the prison or to CYC or one of the other locations,

O So is it --

A So it was important because Laura's office was upstairs and I went to see her the same day,

Q You went to see her the same day that you taught? A Okay.

Q Or you went to the jail downstairs and counseled?

A I went to the jail downstairs. I did go up to her room. And the first time I went up there she was not there. I left a card. But I didn't make — you know, I didn't call her or really -- because it just didn't seem all that really important. And then I knew that I would, if she didn't call me back, I

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### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

would stop the following Wednesday, which I did. It was just if I happened to be in the same building where a friend is, I would stop. Sometimes we'd go to lunch or go get a soda or something.

Q Okay. So my question was did —

A I didn't always go to that building on a Wednesday. No, I did not.

Q Which building?

A To the courthouse is what I'm trying to say. But I was at the courthouse those two times, one when I left the card and one when I went up to see Laura's —

Q Okay.

A You know, and actually saw her

Q But you were in the courthouse those two days because that's where the jail was that you were doing your classes?

A That's correct. I just don't know what those dates were.

Q Right. I understand that. And but you just know it was a Wednesday?

A Yes.

Q And it was a Wednesday in July?

A That's correct,

Q And you made that clear to the police?

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Q Okay. And in fact when you first talked to the police in your statement, you looked at a calendar and you told them you thought it had been July 8 — or July 11th?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. But you made very clear you weren't sure of the date?

A That's right,

Q And at that time, how did the detectives force on you the dates?

A The date that I went to visit Laura was forced on -upon me because she said that she knew it was the date that she had pulled a urinalysis of somebody else.

Q Okay So you're talking about Laura forcing a date on you?

A That's correct.

Q Okay. But that's not the police,

A Well, because they were the ones that said that she could establish the date.

Q Okay. So what your testimony really is, the police were not concerned about what date you knew because Laura was aware of what date it was you came and talked to her. Is that fair?

A No. I think at first Laura wasn't even sure, And

V-110

### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

then she tried to stop --

Q Okay. I'm —

A -- and think about it,

Q Okay. So but that's not my question. When the police — you've talked about the State forcing this stuff on you. What I'm asking you is, based on what you just said, it was Laura forcing dates on you, not the police,

A I don't think Laura ever meant to force things on me. She just said I know it was this date because I did this urinalysis.

Q Okay. So —

A Okay\_

Q Is it fair to say then that maybe Laura is more sure of what date it was you talked to her than you are?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Now you were asked a question about the State rehearsing your testimony. Do you recall that question by the defense?

A Yes,

Q Do you feel the State has rehearsed your testimony?

A Not really rehearsed because —

Q Well, that --

A But -

Q That would entail us saying, okay, here's --

ENKEN - REDIRECT

A Okay.

Q -- what you answer to this question, correct?
MS. GREENBERGER: Your Honor, she's cutting -THE WITNESS: Well, okay,

MS. GREENBERGER: -- the witness off. Can the witness answer her question before the next question is posed?

THE COURT: If the witness is going to be responsive to the question, she may, The Court overrules\_BY MS, DiGIACOMO:

Q Go ahead.

A Okay. I was surprised when, you know, a copy of the transcript was provided to me. I mean, I really was.

Q Well ---

A But I've never really testified in a court case like this before and I know that a long period of time has happened. So everybody kept saying now make sure you read what you said before.

Q To refresh your recollection. Well, let's take it another way. It has been several years since you've talked to the police and testified?

A Oh, yes, it has,

Q Okay, And isn't it fair to say that somebody's memory is better closer in time to the event than years later?

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### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

A All you have to do is look in a classroom. There's a little thing, an exercise, that's given a lot of times, And, you know, when you say things, things can get out of whack. I'm sure that everybody here has played a little game in school at one time or the other, could have been as early as first or second grade, could be all the way in high school. You can start something with one student, and by the time it gets to the thirtieth student it doesn't even sound like what happened to the first student. And I think that happens over and over again.

Q Right. But, okay —

A But I think that even when I repeat something, I don't want to color anything. I don't want it to be different. But I do feel that when you are exposed to different things you're gonna hear different things and different things are gonna stick in your head, too.

Q Right. But I guess my question is would you agree that when you talked to the police in July, 2001 things were more clear in your mind about your conversations with Blaise, the things you knew, before you heard from other people other things, than it is five years later?

A Yes, That's true,

Q So knowing now five years later you have to recall these events, wouldn't you want your prior testimony and your

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TIENKEN - REDIRECT

prior statements to read to refresh your recollection as to what you had said before?

A I do think so, but I also think --

Q So are you saying that you would rather that the State had not have provided you with anything and made you come up on the stand and recall this on your own?

A I don't even think that it has to do so much with that as the fact that you came to my home just a week ago, a lot of different things. You know, it's really been a strange thing for me

Q So you do kind of feel that by us providing you with this stuff that you had testified to or stated before you felt like we were forcing upon you what we wanted you to testify to?

A Okay. It's not just the things that were provided to me; it's the other things that have been said. And, as you know, I asked you very point blank that I really wanted to —

Q Well --

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A -- know about the person that was dead because I know that at the last hearing that they tried to say it was two different incidents

MS. DiGIACOMO: Okay, Your Honor, I think she's getting beyond what she should be testifying to. I mean, it's starting to get non-responsive,

THE COURT: Sustained,

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### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

BY MS DIGIACOMO:

Q Is it fair to say since you had to deal with this back in 2001, 2002, that you've heard a lot of things about this case since that time?

A I've tried to not listen to a lot of things.

Q But you have heard it?

A You do hear it.

Q Okay, It's a small town, people talk, correct?

A Actually, I can truthfully say that I really haven't heard a lot of people talk about it in Panaca, only because if they bring it up, I haven't wanted to talk to them about it,

Q But you do kind of know what's going on with the case more than your small role that you play here, correct? I mean, you were just trying to talk about, you know, two different incidents just a minute ago. You didn't know that when you talked to Blaise in July, 2001

A No, I did not,

Q Okay. So it's fair to say you have heard some things since then?

A Yes, I have.

Q And in fact you've talked to the defense in this case, haven't you?

A I have

Q Okay. How many times have you talked to the

ENKEN - REDIRECT

defense?

A I met with the defense yesterday for a short time, not nearly as long as I've talked with you,

Q Did they ever come to your house?

A Not this time but last time,

Q Okay. So and let's include last time. I mean, so you've talked to them —

A But that's different lawyers this time,

Q Right. So it's your testimony that you've never spoken to any of these three lawyers or investigator even for these attorneys except for yesterday regarding this case?

A No, that's not true,

Q Okay.

A I've talked with them. I knew that the case was coming up. But do you know I didn't even know. I thought maybe the thing had been dropped because the last I heard —

MS, DiGIACOMO: Your Honor, getting non-responsive again.

THE COURT: Sustained,

BY MS. DIGIACOMO:

Q Okay, So you've talked to them several times?

A Well, not directly with them but with other people because at one time you were gonna have the court case —

Q Who's the other people if you're not talking to the

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### TIMKEN - REDIRECT

attorneys or their investigator?

A I believe it was Mary from the court's office because at one point you were going to have --

Q Okay. But —

A -- the trial many -- like almost --

Q Okay,

A -- eight months ago.

Q Okay. But --

A And I was in a cast I couldn't have come.

Q So you -- I'm not talking about scheduling and who you've talked to about subpoenas. I'm asking you how many times you've talked to the defense attorneys or their investigators or somebody on their team about this case.

A I've talked to them several times.

Q All right

A But I have only met in real person with them one time,

Q And that was yesterday?

A I'm trying to think. I think before the last time when we were gonna go to trial, I think I may have met with somebody before that,

Q Okay,

A At my house,

O Okay. From the defense side?

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IV v. LOBATO 9/15/06 TIENKEN - REDIRECT ENKEN - REDIRECT A Yes. When I was asking you questions and about looking on the Q Okay. Now, did you learn any new information, not 2 Internet, you said that you went all the way back to July 1, 2 3 talking to either side, on your own about this case since you've 3 But I meant June 1". previously been asked about it? 4 Q Okay. I've really tried to, without — without really trying to 5 Α I'm sorry, color it. 6 In fact it was defense counsel that pointed — 6 7 Q Okay. So have you, for instance, read newspaper A Yes. 7 Q — out your mistake, wasn't it? articles about this? 8 I can truthfully say I have not read any new 9 9 A Yes. 10 newspaper articles because I was asked not to, 10 And you also said that that was referenced before, that you had stated that before? 11 Q Okay. Have you -11 12 And so I have not read any since the last trial. 12 A Yes. 13 Q Have you seen any programs, television programs, 13 Q Okay. or newscasts regarding this case? 14 A And I think that it is somewhere in here because I 14 think that I read that when I went over this. I didn't make a 15 No. 15 16 Have you read anything on the Internet about this 16 big study of my past testimony but I did read it through, 17 case? 17 Q Okay, So in fact you've had three opportunities to I did read one thing. talk about this case. Is that fair to say? You gave a statement 18 18 to the police July, 2001. You were asked to testify August, 19 Okay. 19 It's — 2001 and again in May, 2002. Is that fair to say, you've had 20 Α 20 2.1 So — 21 three opportunities to talk about this? I did not read the latest things. 22 That's correct. 22 Okay, Q Okay. And is it your testimony that somewhere 23 23 Because I was made aware of it and they said did within those three transcripts June 1 is mentioned? 24 24 V-118 V-120 TIENKEN - REDIRECT TIENKEN - REDIRECT you do this, and I said no 1 I believe so. **Q** Okay, 2 Q Okay, If you could just go ahead and flip through 2 3 But a long time ago, I did. 3 those and let me know when you find it, Q A long time. Okay. 4 A Okay. 5 It was while --(Pause in the proceedings) Q Today you mentioned something about an 6 A Okay. When -- on page 14. attempted sodomy. 7 Q Of your statement? Α I didn't. 8 A Of the voluntary statement. This is one reference to 9 Q Do you recall that? May or June. And that was when I said about -- they asked A No. I'didn't mean a sodomy. That was my 10 10 me, you know, when I thought that she had been in Las terminology and that was wrong. And I said, no, that's wrong. 11 Vegas, And I said -- and he -- I said, "I believe it was in June I said that she -- that they tried -- that the man tried to put his 12 but it could have been in May." 12 penis in her mouth. And he said, question, "May or June of this year?" 13 13 And I said, "Yes," 14 Okay. 14 A And that is my mistake. Sodomy is not the correct "Did she tell you what establishment it was or" — 15 15 terminology, Okay. 16 16 Q Okay. So you weren't talking about something else; - "anything like that?" 17 17

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O Okay.

O But —

Q Yes.

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A — another one --

Q No. But what I'm —

where I say about --

There's that reference. But I know there is --

V-121

you were talking about the penis in the throat when you

discuss anything regarding the term "sodomy"?

Q So you haven't heard anyone else in this case

V-119

Okay. Now you had mentioned a few things today.

meant -- when you said sodomy?

A Yes

A No

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TIMKEN - REDIRECT

A -- the Internet use, too.

Q That's what I'm specifically asking you —

A Okay. I'm —

Q -- to find the reference.

A I'm trying to find that,

Q Okay.

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A And I don't know where it was. I just thought that I had read that back through again.

(Pause in the proceedings)

A I've read through the testimony up through 102 and I have not found it, and I think that it would have been prior to that. So maybe I was just wrong in thinking that I had that. Maybe when I read that other date of June, that's when I thought it, But I really did feel that I had read it in here,

Q So, well, you would agree with me you've read through the statement you gave to the police on July 26th?

A I've read through the statement on June 26<sup>th</sup> and I did not see it there, and I've read through the hearing, and I'm now reading through the —

Q The second hearing?

A The trial or whatever you want to call it. There was not two hearings. There was only one hearing that I'm aware of. One was a -

Q Well, there's two times you gave testimony at —

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TIENKEN - REDIRECT

A Yes.

Q -- two prior proceedings?

A Yes. And I do not see it there. But I did, you know, reference to that other thing of June, and so perhaps —

Q Right. When she — when you thought she had moved down to Vegas or gone down to Vegas?

A Right.

Q Okay.

A But I'm -- I am so sure that we did check back that far. And, again, if this could have been proven by something but now it can't be proven because I don't even have the same computer or anything. And if it had been thought that it was an important factor at that time, it could have been brought out at that time.

Q Okay, But you agree with me it was never mentioned to the police how far back your search was or in either -- any time you've testified?

A I feel confident.

Q Right.

A I feel really confident that I did mention to them, but maybe they did not ask any question about that,

Q Okay. So that would have been —

A In the police statement.

Q That would have been when it wasn't being tape-

EWEN - REDIRECT

recorded?

A Right.

Okay.

A Right.

And you --

A And, you know, I can only see what was written down, what you gave me a copy of. But there were a lot of things that were discussed with the police and —

Q But not on the tape?

A Right, And although a copy was given to me at the last trial, on the day that I left from, and I think this is important, on the day after I testified at the last court trial, I destroyed those copies. I didn't even take them back home.

Q So before the last proceeding, you were allowed to see copies of your statement and your prior testimony?

A That's correct.

Q Now since you've just kind of looked through your statements and all your testimony —

A Uh-huh.

Q — did you find anything in there talking about how her attacker was a big man?

A I wasn't looking for that specifically. But I do know that she and I really talked about that because we did this comparison —

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TIENKEN - REDIRECT

Q Well, and I —

A — with other students.

Q I understand you and her talked about it. But would you agree with me that it's not in the statement to the police, nor either time that you testified previously?

A I don't know that.

Q Okay, Would you like to go through?

A No, I don't.

Q Okay,

A Because the time is really going fast and I really need to leave.

Okay. So you won't agree with me that it's not in there?

A No, I won't agree with you because I --

Then I'm gonna need to ask you to go through all three again,

A I don't have time, I'm sorry. I cannot. I do not have time to do that at this point.

THE COURT: As I told you, you do not get to direct the questioning. When the question is directed to you, you need to respond to the question,

THE WITNESS: Well, I already responded, No, I won't say that,

THE COURT: You need to go through those three

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TIENKEN - REDIRECT

documents and review them for a reference to "big man."

(Pause in the proceedings)

THE WITNESS: Okay. Again, I do not see anything in here, and I have not read the whole thing through again but I've tried to go through it, where it says "big." But I do know that Blaise did talk to me and we did compare size and description with people, with students that was there, And I do know that on more than one occasion, I found it was really important to find out if he was a big man,

BY MS DIGIACOMO:

A And you know that as well because I questioned -- Q Okay.

A — you about it.

Q Okay, So —

Q Right. When we spoke last Friday,

A And I've questioned that before that.

Q Okay. But you would —

A That was questioned many times before that,

Q But you would — you'd agree with me, though, in the three recorded testimonies or statements we have from you it's not in there?

A No, at least I don't see it.

Q Okay, So you agree with me then?

A I agree that it's not in this, but that doesn't mean I

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**ENKEN REDIRECT** 

said to me older, to me.

Q She said older or old?

A Old

Q Okay. So and when she -- that's all she said was "old" and didn't describe it anymore?

A She also said "smelly."

Q No, no, no.

A That doesn't mean homeless,

Q No, no. I'm sorry, She didn't describe what she meant by "old" any more?

A No.

Q Okay, But you just interpreted it to be somebody such as your age or older?

A Right.

Q Okay.

A Maybe not even my age but well over her father's age.

Q Now you talked about that you have this alternative high school program that you ran?

A That's correct.

Q What specifically is it? I mean, obviously, instead of going to a regular high school you have this program, but what kind of kids get into your program?

A All different kids. I had many students that had

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### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

didn't state that many —

Q No.

A -- times before,

Q Okay, Now —

A It also said right from the beginning, and I can give reference to that --

MS. DiGIACOMO: Your Honor, there's no —

THE COURT: You don't have —

THE WITNESS: -- that it was an old man.

MS. DiGIACOMO: Your Honor.

THE COURT: Ms, Tienken, you don't have a question pending Wait for your next question.

THE WITNESS: Okay,

BY MS, DIGIACOMO:

Q Okay, Now you also talked about the fact you did say that her attacker was old or she said that her attacker was old?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Now, wouldn't you agree with me that somebody who's eighteen years old, even somebody thirty years old seems old to them?

A Sometimes. But I think she would have made more of a reference if he had been like her father's age, if she would have -- she would have made a reference to that. But she

### TIENKEN - REDIRECT

been home schooled up through middle school that came into my program that had never attended regular public school but wanted to get a high school diploma. I had students that had been suspended from the high school, and Blaise never was ever suspended, or that had court. If they have been involved with the court, whether they were on probation or parole, many times they're not allowed to attend the regular high school. But you must realize that there were probably just as many kids that never had any bad problems with the law as there were kids that did have problems with the law, And I think it's really important to realize that

Q Okay. Thank you. That wasn't my question regarding people with the -- that had problems with the law. I was just asking you the different types of people 'cause you said that there was all different ages,

A That's correct,

Q That was my only question.

A Okay

Q Now you had talked about that your house, you know, kids would come over. They felt comfortable coming to your house. It was a safe house,

A That's correct

Q And you said that Braise spent three hours with you that morning?

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That's correct.

That you talked to her in July. Is it true to say that when she left your residence that she felt better than when she arrived?

TIENKEN - REDIRECT

I would hope so,

Q Well, you saw her and her demeanor. You said when she first came --

A Okay. When she first came to see me, she wasn't crying when she first came there. She just told me that she had done something bad. She did end up crying when she was telling me about the incident but she also laughed about other things

Q Okay, Well, you know, isn't it true that when she first came she gave you a hug and she said --

Yes,

Q -- "I need to talk to you, I've done some" —

A "I need to talk to you "

Q You need to let me finish first. We both can't speak over each other. But, yeah, she gave you a hug. She said, "I've done something bad and I need to talk to you."

That's right.

But when she left, she -- is it your opinion she felt better than when she first arrived and needed to get this off of her chest?

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TIENKEN REDIRECT

A Yes.

Q Now you had talked about different kind of programs with Biaise that morning and you'd mentioned a drug program?

That's correct.

Q And then you said some other programs. What other programs?

A Anger management,

Q In fact, didn't you start an anger management counseling with her that morning?

Α Basically, we did.

Isn't it true also that when she was relaying to you what had happened to her with this attack that she told you it started because the gentleman said something to her or propositioned her in some way and she tried to brush him off?

A Okay, When I say proposition, I did not mean sexually proposition at first. I feel that he just tried to talk with her. And Blaise at that time in her life, if she didn't want to be bothered with you, she'd brush you off.

Q Okay. So it's your testimony then that you did use the term "proposition" when you spoke to the police?

A Yes. But I tried to make it guite clear, and I think that you'll see that it says that, too.

Q Right. No. I didn't say anywhere in your testimony

ENKEN REDIRECT

you — 2

A Okay.

— said sexually proposition,

4 A Okay.

Q It just says "proposition," correct?

That's right,

Q Okay. And it's also true that the reason that you had this impression that it might have happened, this attack happened, a couple of days before she came to see You was because she was so upset about it?

A She was upset about it.

Q Right. But it -- but that's the reason why you thought it might have happened a couple of days before. She never told you. You got that impression 'cause she was so upset?

A She never told me,

Q Okay. So is that a correct statement that you got that impression because she was so upset about it?

MS. GREENBERGER: Objection, asked and answered.

MS. DiGIACOMO: It's not been answered, Your

22 Honor,

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: I felt -- I don't know that I could

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TIENKEN - REDIRECT

say a couple of days but I thought that it had happened not a long time ago. It didn't happen like a year ago.

BY MS. DiGIACOMO:

Q Okay. Well —

A I know that you're gonna turn to something and you're gonna say that I said that, and that probably is there. But I'm also stating that after I've given a lot of thought to it, I don't believe that now,

Q Okay. So at the time you talked to the police, you thought it happened and you -- page 12, line 3, "A day or two days before that," because she was so upset?

A And I also say many other places —

Well, wait. Well, let's —

A -- throughout the whole testimony —

Q I understand that, but can we just -- that is correct what you said to the police?

MS. GREENBERGER: Your Honor, can the witness finish her answer?

MS. DiGIACOMO: She hasn't answered my question before she's saying her own answer.

THE COURT: Overruled.

BY MS. DiGIACOMO: 22

Q So it's —

I'm sorry. Say that again.

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TIENKEN REDIRECT

Q -- true on page 12 you do say, "I got the impression that it just happened a day or two days before that/' And they asked you what gave you that feeling. "Because she was so upset," Is that true that's what you told the police back in July of 2001?

A That's correct what I said to the police at that time. Q Okay. But you just don't believe that now? Yes or no.

A No, I don't believe that now.

Q Okay. Now today you said that when Blaise was first attacked that she tried to stab up first?

A That's correct.

Q And you said that on direct testimony?

A Yes

is

Q Okay. And I pointed out that it's not in your previous statement or your prior testimonies, correct?

A That's right,

Q All right. And then on cross-examination you expanded a little bit further, that she tried to stab up into the attacker's abdomen?

A Well, yes, because that's where he was positioned on her.

Q Well, what I'm asking you is do you recall her saying abdomen or not, or are you just assuming that's where she

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information, including, without limitation, newspaper, television, radio and Internet, and you're not to form or express any opinion on any subject connected with the trial until the case is finally submitted to you.

The jury may exit at this time.

THE WITNESS: Your Honor, I cannot stay.

THE COURT: You need to be quiet,

(Jurors recessed at 14:11:49)

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that the jury has exited.

Counsel at sidebar brought up to the Court's attention that Laura is out in the hallway. I don't believe that anybody has formally invoked the exclusionary ruler

MR. KEPHART: We haven't.

MS. DiGIACOMO: We haven't. But we're invoking it, I guess.

THE COURT: Okay. During this lunch recess, you're not permitted to speak about anything about this case with anyone, not with the attorneys for the State, not with the attorneys for the defense, not with your friend, Laura. You're not allowed to talk about what your testimony has been here today thus far. Somebody from the District Attorney's Office will be escorting you back to Panaca.

We'll be in recess 'til 3:15.

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tried to stab up?

A I doubt that she would have said abdomen. I think she said probably "stomach."

Q Okay, But you do recall her referencing that area? And do you recall — is that a yes or no?

A I believe so.

Q All right. And you do recall her --

THE COURT: I'm gonna ask counsel to approach, (Off-record bench conference at 14:09:27 until 14:1038)

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, we really did not anticipate that this testimony would be this lengthy and, obviously, we are having to move to plan B. I'm sure that everybody is hungry and so we're gonna take our lunch break at this time. We'll be resuming with this witness at 3:15.

The Court's gonna ask that at 3:15 you please be in the hallway, The bailiff will meet you there to return you to your seats in the courtroom. And I guess the good news is we shouldn't have to wait in line too long to get lunch at this point

During the recess you're admonished not to talk or converse among yourselves, nor with anyone else, on any subject connected with the trial, and you should not read, watch or listen to any report of or commentary on the trial or any person connected with the trial, by any medium of

(Court recessed at 14:13:26 until 15:26:15)

(Jurors are present)

THE BAILIFF: Department II is back in session. Please be seated.

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that we're resuming in the trial under Case Number C177394, State versus Kirstin Lobato. She is present, together with her three counsel, the prosecuting attorneys are present, the ladies and gentlemen of the jury are present as well.

We are going to be coming back to Dixie Tienken at a future point.

And the State will call its next witness at this time.

MR, KEPHART: Thank you, Your Honor.

Your Honor, for purpose of the record, I — we are going to be calling a witness out of order, and it's Tom Wahl,

THE CLERK: Please come all the way forward.

Remain standing and raise your right hand.

THOMAS WAHL, STATE'S WITNESS, SWORN

THE CLERK: Thank you. Please be seated. State your name and spell it for the record, please.

THE WITNESS: My name is Thomas Wahl. The last name is spelled W-A-H-L.

THE COURT: The State may proceed. MR, KEPHART: Thank you, Your Honor.

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WAHL - DIRECT

#### **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

BY MR. KEPHART:

Q Mr. Wahl, I want to draw your attention back to August of 2001 and ask you if you were employed here in Las Vegas at that time.

A Yes, I was,

Q And how were you employed?

A I was employed by the Las Vegas Metropolitan ☐ Police Department. I worked in the Biology DNA Analysis Unit.

Q How long had you been employed in that capacity?

A In 2001?

Q Yeah,

A In 2001, I'd been employed there for about six and a half years

Q Okay. And what are you doing currently?

A I am currently the senior forensic analyst with the forensic DNA facility located at North Dakota State University campus in Fargo, North Dakota,

Q Okay, Back in August of 2001, what was your main assignment or main duties as a analyst with the Metropolitan Police Department?

A My primary duties were to examine evidence collected in criminal matters for the presence of biological substances, to conduct -- locate these possible biological

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substances and then to perform presumptive and confirmatory testing on the substances to determine if they are indeed human blood or if it's semen or if they're hairs, things of this nature, saliva, and then following that analysis to perform what is now referred to as DNA extraction, to extract and purify human DNA from the biological substances and then perform what is known as DNA profiling to ascertain the DNA profile of the biological substance and then, if a DNA profile is obtained, to compare it to known DNA profiles of victims, suspects or any other human individuals involved in the case. Then I would issue a report regarding my findings and conclusions and then testify in courts of law if necessary.

Q Okay, What type of education and background do you have in order to —

A I hold —

Q — enable you to do that?

A I hold a bachelor's of science degree in medical technology, with a minor in chemistry. I have twenty-six years experience doing forensic genetics, of which the last eighteen or nineteen years have been strictly with doing DNA analysis, and I'm certified by the American Board of Criminalistics in molecular biology, DNA analysis.

Q Okay, Have you ever testified before in a court of law in your field?

WAHL - DIRECT

A Yes, I have.

Q Have you ever been qualified as an expert in that field?

A Yes.

MR. KEPHART: Your Honor, at this time I'd offer Mr. Wahl as an expert in the field of, I guess it'd be, detection of biological substances.

BY MR, KEPHART:

O Would that be --

A Of DNA analysis,

Q Okay.

A Which would include parts of that aspect, yes. MR, SCHIECK: No objection, Your Honor, THE COURT: Granted.

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Mr, Wahl, back in August, August 6<sup>th</sup> of 2001, were you requested by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department to conduct an examination on various items associated with the homicide and the defendant by the name of Kirstin Blaise Lobato?

A Actually, I was -- the request came to the laboratory in July 26 and then I started to do the analysis after that time, and I did issue my first report on August 6th,

Q Okay,

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A But yes.

Q When you say first report, are you talking that there's multiple reports with regards to -- that you authored?

A Yes. I issued one other report in addition to the first report.

Q Okay. Also, before I get to this, are you familiar with a laboratory by the name of Myriad? Do —

A Myriad.

Q Myriad?

A Yes, I am.

Q Okay. And how is it that you're familiar with that particular laboratory?

A Well, Myriad is a private company located in Salt Lake City, They do -- they're a biotechnology company that does a lot of work with pharmaceuticals, toxicology, things of this nature,, They opened up a forensic division, I'm not sure exactly when, maybe three or four years ago, But as in June of this year, they closed down their forensic division, They no longer do forensics there. But how I'm familiar with that is not only do I know people who work in that laboratory, I've also visited it and toured it. I was also offered a job there at that time, And I do know some people there. And Myriad was chosen by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Laboratory to outsource forensic cases due to our backlog, too, so they received federal

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WAHL - DIRECT

-- we received federal grant money and then outsourced cases to Myriad, so that's how I'm familiar with that company.

Q Okay, So you're saying that Myriad also conducted tested -- or conducted tests on behalf of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Lab or to -- because you were overloaded or too much backlog?

A Yes, And they do it for many other government laboratories throughout the country as well.

Q Okay. Well, let me draw you back then to your first report that's dated August 6<sup>th</sup> of 2001. And I want to ask you what items were you asked to examine?

A Would you prefer me to state them right from my report one-by-one?

Q August 6th of 2001?

A Yes.

Q Yes. What --

A I was asked to examine — well, there's reference standards from the victim, Duran Bailey, And by reference standards I mean known, a known biological sample, either a blood sample or a scraping of the inside of the mouth, called a buccal swab, in order to obtain a DNA profile from that person; a DNA buccal swab kit from the defendant, Kirstin Lobato; a wad of chewing gum that was stuck or affixed to a piece of cardboard that had apparent blood, and this was recovered

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from the crime scene,

Q Does it -- does it indicate who had booked it?

A Yes. Booked by — my report reflects it was booked by CSA Ford

Q Okay, Anything else?

A Yes. A torn condom pack with a piece of Kleenex recovered from the crime scene, book by GSA Ford,

Q Okay, Now that's a torn condom pack. Is that — does that have the condom in it?

A No, it did not have the condom in it. It was just the package that a condom was in that was torn open,

Q Okay, Anything else?

A A pair of black high-heeled sandals with apparent blood that were reportedly collected from Kirstin Lobato. That was booked by GSA Thomas. A pair of Nike Air shoes, black-and-white in color, reportedly collected from Kirstin Lobato, booked by CSA Carr, One aluminum baseball bat reportedly recovered from a vehicle. This was booked by CSA Renhard, One vehicle slipcover, red with white-and-black floral print design, recovered from the vehicle. A seat cover, two-tone grey, from the front left of the vehicle, recovered from a vehicle. One interior left door panel recovered from a vehicle. That was booked by CSA Renhard, An apparent blood sample and control swab swabbed from below a sandal at the crime

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scene, booked by CSA Ford, An apparent blood sample and control swab swabbed from the sandal at the crime scene, booked by CSA Ford. And another apparent blood sample, control swab, swabbed from the sandal at the scene, booked by CSA Ford, And then there were some small pieces of apparent plastic with silver-colored paper recovered from the rectum of the victim, Duran Bailey, at time of autopsy, booked by CSA Thomas.

Q Okay, With regards to that report, what Were you — do you recall what you were asked to do?

A Yes, With respect to — with respect to the wad of chewing gum on the cardboard, they requested that I examine the wad of chewing gum and see if I could ascertain any genetic identification profiles from the wad of chewing gum, to ascertain who may have chewed the gum, get some genetic information from it.

Q Were you — were you able to do that?

A Well, I was able to get a DNA profile from the wad of chewing gum. The wad of chewing gum was heavily stained with apparent blood. And I -- in order to answer the question regarding if there was any saliva present in the gum and whose saliva was it, I had to wash the blood away under the assumption that the blood was from the victim, Duran Bailey And there was blood on the cardboard that the

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chewing gum was affixed to, and I actually did do a DNA profiling on that and it was Duran Bailey's blood.

Q Okay. Did you --

A And --

Q Were you able to obtain any type of a mixture of DNA with the — with the wad of gum?

A Well, I ascertained that there was a mixture of DNA. My results determined that there was a mixture of DNA, and the mixture was a major component/minor component mixture. And what I mean by that is one of the sources of the DNA was in a very predominant, large quantity relative to the other source of DNA. The major component DNA was identified as coming from Duran Bailey, And it's unclear whether that DNA profile came from residual blood that was on the chewing gum or from the saliva itself, But there was also several DNA markers that were detected that were foreign to Duran Bailey and could not have originated from him, And those mark -- some of those markers were compared to the DNA profile of Kirstin Lobato and she was excluded as a source of that foreign DNA.

Q Okay, Can you explain to the jury what it means to exclude an individual from a source of DNA?

A It's when you detect a genetic DNA type that an individual does not possess, they do not have, that it's

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genetically impossible for them to have contributed the biological material to a piece of evidence because they simply don't have that DNA profile. And that would be referred to as an exclusion,

Q Okay. With respect to at least the chewing gum, I know we've got quite a bit to go through but at least with respect to the chewing gum, does that exclusion mean then that Kirstin Lobato never came into contact with that gum?

A I would -- I would just say that there is no evidence of her DNA on the gum.

Q Okay, So you can't say whether or not she ever came into contact with that piece of gum or not?

A No, I cannot because there was no genetic material that's consistent with her.

Q Okay. Were you also aware of — were you provided with any information with regards to where the chewing gum was found?

MR SCHIECK: Objection, that's hearsay, Your Honor.

MR. KEPHART: Judge, I think with respect to this individual and he is an expert giving his opinions as to what -- whether or not he can exclude certain individuals, I think he has a -- has a right to understand maybe the source of where it came from,

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MR. SCHIECK: Your Honor, he's a DNA expert. He can testify to the DNA results and anything that he knows from the -- about the crime scene is gonna come from other individuals, who I assume the State's gonna call to lay a foundation. I understand this witness is out of order and the other individuals that impounded the items will be called as witnesses by the State and they can say where the gum and the other items were found, but Mr. Wahl has no knowledge, no personal knowledge, of that.

MR\_kEPHART: I never asked with regards to his personal knowledge. I asked if he had any -- an idea with regards to where it'd come from in reference to my question, a foliowup question, about whether or not somebody can be excluded from having certain DNA on items.

THE COURT: The Court sustains the objection, BY MR KEPHART:

Q Okay. Mr- Wahl, you also looked at -- looked at a torn condom pack with a piece of Kleenex recovered from the scene?

A That is correct. Yes,

Q Okay, Were you able to discover or were you able to get any type of evidentiary value out of that?

A I was asked to determine if there was any semen on the Kleenex $\_$ 

WAHL - DIRECT

Q Okay. What'd you find?

A There was no indications of any semen on the Kleenex.

Q Okay. Did you —

A Or the torn condom pack, for that matter.

Q Did you get any type of evidentiary information from that then?

A No.

Q Okay. You were asked to look at some high-heeled sandals with apparent blood reportedly collected from Kirstin Lobato, is that correct?

A That is correct

Q And what was your finding with regards to that?

A When I examined the sandals, I did detect a human bloodstain in the big toe area of the right high-heeled sandal. I did perform DNA analysis on that and I did obtain a partial DNA profile. What I mean by a partial DNA profile is that in our battery of DNA profiling tests, we have the ability to detect thirteen different types of -- thirteen DNA types, plus the gender region of human DNA. I was only able to obtain, I do believe, three conclusive DNA types out of the thirteen possible. But that information was sufficient enough to exclude Duran Bailey as a source of that blood. It did not originate from him. And of the DNA types, I was able to

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conclusively derive they were consistent with the DNA types of Kirstin Lobato and she could be the -- could be the source of that blood.

Q Okay. Did you also look at -- and I'm just following your report, Mr. Wahl. Is that all right?

A That's fine, That's easier for me as well.

Q Okay. Were you also provided or asked to look at an aluminum baseball bat that was recovered from a vehicle?

A Yes,

Okay. And did you do that?

A Yes, I did.

And tell me what findings, if anything, did you have with regards to the aluminum baseball bat.

A I did not detect the presence of any blood on the aluminum baseball bat.

Q Okay, Since we're talking about you were looking for blood with regards to this baseball bat, can you tell us what type of tests that you would conduct to see whether or not you could find blood on a baseball bat?

A The first thing I do is I do a visual examination with the naked eye, And then I -- if I do not see anything that appears to me to be consistent in appearance with blood, I then take the baseball bat and I place it under a microscope called a stereo microscope which allows me to get a closer

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look at the surface of the baseball bat, to make sure that I don't miss something with the naked eye. The stereo microscope allows me to zoom in very close, It's not as powerful as a microscope which can actually observe individual cells, things as small as a cell, but it allows me to get in and look at the surface of items to see if there might be residual amounts of possible blood that I didn't see with the naked eye,

Q Okay. With regards to the baseball bat, the type of material that it's made up of, obviously, you wrote "aluminum baseball bat," is the aluminum baseball bat that you looked at, is it a type of material that would be absorbent, that would maintain or hold blood, for instance?

A The metal portion of the blood -- is basically nonporous. Assuming there's no cracks in it, through the baseball bat, it's nonporous. Something like blood would dry and stay on the surface. It wouldn't soak in.

Q Okay. And would you — with regards that it's not soaking in, would it be easily cleaned away, more so than something that would soak it in?

A Yeah. Object that are nonporous, such as metal, are easier to clean substances off it than something that is porous or absorbent, where something fluid would absorb into the material and be absorbed,

Q And in your profession, you're familiar with the fact

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that you can clean substances like blood away from different items?

A Sure. Yes.

A matter fact, when you -- you indicated that you do DNA in your lab?

A Yes.

Q Okay. What do you do to ensure that you have a sterile lab so then you would not be picking up somebody else's or some other foreign DNA when you test your DNA?

A The workbench area that I use to examine items, I clean the area down with a solution of bleach and ethanol, and then I work on top of clean butcher paper, white clean butcher paper, and then I wear latex gloves. Sometimes I wear a mask, depending upon what the evidence is, sometimes safety goggles.. But we try to handle the evidence such that we don't introduce some other biological material on to the back.

Q Okay, And is it safe to say with regards to blood at least, I mean, hospitals deal with blood every day?

A Yes.

Q And you don't walk into hospitals and see blood laying all over the floor all the time, do you?

A Well, with the exception maybe at an emergency room or something like that or a surgery, but no.

Q So they, obviously, they clean it up?

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WAHL - DIRECT

A They should be, yes. They have the strict procedure that they should follow to keep things sterile and clean.

Q Okay, Now, were you asked to also look at a vehicle slip cover you described as a red with white-and-black floral print?

A Yes.

Okay, And also you were asked to look at a seat cover you described as a two-tone grey from the front left vehicle, recovered from the vehicle?

A Yes.

Q And what were you doing with regards to looking at these two items? What was your purpose of looking at those items?

A I was asked to examine these items for the presence of blood and specifically to focus on areas that yielded a positive chemiluminescent result with a screening chemical for blood referred to as luminol. And it had been reported to me by the CSAs that there were areas on some of these items where they yielded a positive result. And the CSA had actually circled it with a black Magic Marker. I did look at the entire slip cover but I did focus on those areas that were circled, encircled.

Q Okay, When we talk about the slip cover, are we talking about something that you would put over a seat?

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A Yes, That's my understanding, yes.
MR. KEPHART: If I could approach the witness,

Varia Hanna

Your Honor.

THE COURT: You may.

BY MR. KEPHART:

Q Tom, we're showing you what's been marked as State's Proposed Exhibits 109, 110 and 111 and ask you if you recognize what these items are,

A They appear to be accurate representations, photographs, of the floral print red with black -- white-and-black floral print slip cover reportedly recovered from the vehicle.

MR, !KEPHART: Okay. Your Honor, I'd move to admit State's Proposed Exhibits 109, 110 and 111.

MR. SCHIECK: No objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Granted.

(State's Exhibit Nos, 109, 110 and 111 admitted) BY MR. KEPHART:

Q Now with respect to these -- with 109, this is actually a photo of them on the seat, is that correct?

A That appears so, yes.

Q Okay. And then you have 110. It actually says that's with them off the seat and it actually has it labeled "Left" on the bottom, is that correct?

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WAHL - DIRECT

A It appears so. Yes,

Q And 111 has it off the seat and it has it labeled "Right" on the bottom. Can you see that?

A Yes.

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Q Now you indicated that you were asked to look at the vehicle slip cover, red with white floral cover, recovered from the vehicle, And then you were asked to look at the left vehicle seat cover. Is that right?

A I'd have to check my notes. I don't know if I looked at just one or both This -- you're talking about the slip cover? Q Yes.

A Which is item -- 8, Item 4. I only looked at one slip cover with that floral design, according to my notes and my report.

Q Okay,

A But I do not know whether it's the right or left one.
MR. KEPHART: May I approach, Your Honor?
THE COURT: You may.

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Showing you what's been marked as State's Proposed Exhibit 112 and ask you to tell us what that is,

A It appears to be a photograph of a -- of a pair of positive chemiluminescent reaction from lumina It appears consistent with that.

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WAHL - DIRECT

Q On one of the slip covers?

 $\mbox{\ensuremath{\mathsf{A}}}\mbox{\ensuremath{\mathsf{Y}}\mbox{\ensuremath{\mathsf{e}}}\mbox$ 

MR, KEPHART: Okay. Move to admit Exhibit 112. MR. SCHIECK: No objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Granted,

(State's Exhibit No, 112 admitted)

BY MR. KEPHART:

Q Now you indicated a positive luminol reaction, Can you tell the jury what luminol is?

A Lumina' is a chemical solution that crime scene investigators utilize to try to detect possible blood at a crime scene or on any piece of evidence, blood that cannot be seen with the naked eye. It's a visual aid and a visual tool, And if - when blood reacts with the luminol chemical, there's a catalytic reaction that occurs and light is emitted, luminescent light, In order to detect a luminescent light, you do have to spray the area of interest and then have the lights out or lights very subdued to be able to see the chemiluminescence, And then if there are any areas that yield a reaction that -- a chemiluminescent reaction, then confirmatory testing needs to be done on those areas to confirm whether it indeed is — indeed is blood. Luminol is a presumptive test only, It is not a confirmatory test for blood. There are other things that do

WAHL - DIRECT

cross-react with luminol that are not blood,

Q Okay. Let me show you Exhibit 112 up here on the screen. Can you see on there what we're talking about, how it — what you're describing as a chemiluminescence?

A I see it,, It's a little easier on the -- on the photograph, though —

Q Okay.

A -- to see than here, But —

Q Well, okay. Can you just touch the screen and show us where you're --

A May I use a laser pointer?
Well, actually, if you touch the screen in front of you.

A Oh. Will it?

Q It will --

16 A Oh, okay.

Q It will come up on the screen. Maybe circle it.

A Well, actually, I'd prefer to use a laser point, I think, would be easier,

Q Okay, That's fine.

A From my recollection in looking at the photograph, we're looking at that area right there and that area right there, at least those two for sure. I'm not sure about that one, but my recollection from looking at the photograph was that spot

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WAHL - DIRECT

there and that spot there,

Q Okay, And that — what you talked about a chemiluminescence, that's some type of chemical that reacts with blood?

A Actually reacts with the iron that's in blood,

Q Okay, And --

A In the hemoglobin in the blood, which is a protein In blood that gives the -- imparts the red color.

Q Tell us how it is that you -- that you go about performing a luminol test.

A I have limited experience actually doing luminol from years -- in my early years of forensics, and I'm talking over twenty years ago. But, generally, there are two dry compounds that you —

MR, SCHIECK: Your Honor, could -- I'm sorry. Did he say he hasn't done luminol for twenty years? I would question whether he's qualified then to give an opinion concerning lumina!,

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Is that -- is that what you said?

MR. SCHIECK: Perhaps he could lay a better foundation.

THE WITNESS: I have experience in it. And if the definition of an expert is having knowledge that a layperson

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WAHL - DIRECT

doesn't have, I do believe I qualify.

THE COURT: It goes  $\mbox{\sc p}$  weight rather than admissibility. The Court overrules.

BY MR KEPHART:

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Q Well, before we get any further, these particular tests that you're talking about with your testimony is tests that are conducted by the crime lab?

A The Crime Scene Investigation Unit actually —

Q Okay.

A -- performs the luminol, And I have performed it on evidence myself. I haven't -- but I will admit that I haven't done it for quite a while.

Q Okay. But —

A I leave it up to the crime scene people to do that.

Q Okay. And you're familiar with this case, that you know that the crime lab conducted these tests. You didn't do these tests?

A I did not perform the luminol testing. No.

Q You were asked to conduct a further test beyond the luminol, is that correct?

A I was requested to conduct confirmatory tests to confirm that the areas that gave a positive chemiluminescent reaction are blood and could they be -- could it be human blood and, if it was, then to do a DNA analysis and to see if I

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WAHL - DIRECT

Q Okay, Now you were asked to look at a seat cover, two-tone grey, from the left front seat recovered from the vehicle, is that correct?

could determine any genetic information from the item,

A Yes.

Q And did you actually -- did they actually then take it off the seat so when you got it it was off the seat?

A Yes.

Q Okay: You didn't have the actual seat itself?

A No, I did not.

Q Okay, Let me show you what's been marked as State's Proposed Exhibit 113 and ask you if you can tell me what that appears to be.

A It appears to be a positive chemiluminescent reaction from luminol,

Q Okay, Does that appear to be on a seat?

A Yeah, it appears to be,

Q Okay.

A I can see the outline of the conformity of the seat,

Q Okay. And I'm showing you State's Proposed Exhibit 114 and ask you if you recognize what that is.

A Again, this appears to be a positive chemiluminescent reaction consistent with luminol, a positive lumina

WAHL - DIRECT

Q Okay. And what is it on?

A It is on a side panel of a door. It appears to be on like a carpet-type surface.

Q Can you tell from that photo what door it would be, the left or the right?

A It appears, looking at the orientation, it appears to be a left —

Q Okay.

A -- orientation.

Q Now, were you asked to actually look at an actual door panel?

A Yes. It was actually removed and brought to or booked in the evidence vault,

MR,, KEPHART: I'd move to admit 113 and 114.

MR, SCHIECK: No objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Granted.

(State's Exhibit Nos. 113 and 114 admitted)

BY MR. KEPHART:

Q So the jury knows what we're talking about, I'm showing you 113. And this is what you described as a luminescent reaction to what appears to be the seat?

A Yes. It's consistent with what you would — you would see in a positive chemiluminescent reaction with luminol.

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WAHL - DIRECT

Q Okay, And Exhibit 114, a luminol reaction that appears to be on a door panel?

A Yes. Similar, yes.

Q Okay. And that -- and what we're talking about the reaction is the lighter area, is that correct, where I'm pointing right — well, you go ahead and point,

A This area here and these areas right up in here.

Q Okay. Now when you examined — when you examined the seat cover, which is 113, can you tell us what that material was made of?

A I have to refer to my notes, please. Well, it's made out of some type of a cloth material, That's all I can tell you.

Q Okay. It's not leather?

A It's not leather, no.

Q It's not vinyl?

A No, it was not vinyl.

Q It's a cloth?

A It's some type of a cloth.

Q Okay, Cloth.

A Synthetic cloth maybe.

Q Is it porous?

A Yes, it can be depending on how tight the weave is. But, sure, things absorb into it,

Q Okay, And the door panel, when you examined

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porous?

nonporous.

# WAHL - DIRECT

WAHL - DIRECT

A If I understand your question, I do believe this was

Q Okay. Of the two, what are — which are the more

A This does have some absorbent qualities but it -- my

recollection was it was synthetic and kind of a plastic synthetic,

plasticized or synthetic type of fibers. And it's not as porous as

a seat cover but it's certainly -- I would not consider it totally

Q Okay. And what about the plastic on the door,

Again, assuming there is no cracks there, I can -- I

In my opinion, it would be anything that's nonporous

Q Okay. Of the -- of the two on the door itself, could

you tell me if someone wanted to clean those items, say they

got something on them, say they got blood on them, what of

contains some cellular matter as well. And if it's a nonporous

V-162

surface, it would not soak through, it would stay on the top,

the two — which of the two items would be easier to clean?

because if we're talking about blood now, it's a fluid that

that, can you tell me if there's two types of substances there

some -- this would be some type of plastic, and this was kind

on the door panel itself?

of like a synthetic carpet material,

upper portion of the door itself?

would classify that as a nonporous surface.

## Q So it'd be similar to the bat?

A Yes,

 $\boldsymbol{Q}$   $\boldsymbol{N}$  Nonporous. Different materials, obviously, but nonporous?

A Yes,

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Q Okay, And so you would expect to see the harder portion to clean would be on the bottom on the -- on the door here Would that be correct?

A Surfaces that have absorbent properties, I think, would be harder to clean just because you would have to — you'd have to assume that if there was blood present it would -- some of it would soak in further into the material and it'd be harder to get out

Q Okay. Now you said that when you were asked to examine this that you were aware that there were certain items that had a reaction to the luminol test, and the actual crime scene analysts had circled the areas and asked you to check them further, is that correct?

A Yes, 'cause you have to understand that the -- as I stated earlier, the chemiluminescent, the luminescence, is only visible in the dark and then it will fade after a while. So when I received the evidence, I can't -- I couldn't visibly see anything that appeared to be consistent with the appearance of blood.

WAHL - DIRECT"

Q Okay.

A So the reason why they circle that area is so that I know when I look at it visibly that this is the areas that they observed a positive chemiluminescent reaction,

Q Okay. So luminol is a presumptive test for the detection of blood?

A It's used as a presumptive test for the presence of blood. Yes,

Q Okay. And in — with regards to what you've just testified to, there was a positive reaction to the luminol test and you call that chemiluminescence?

A Yes. The luminescent qualities of that test is referred to as chemiluminescence.

Q Okay. And you conducted another presumptive test, is that correct?

A Yes, There are other, are a number of different presumptive tests for blood. Luminol is usually primarily used only in -- for the crime scene investigators but, on occasion, it can be used in the laboratory as well. But in our laboratory when we -- the presumptive test that we use for blood is referred to as phenolphthalein.

Q Okay, Of the two tests, is -- can you characterize one or the other one as more sensitive than the other?

A Yes, There are literature that cites the sensitivity of

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WAHL - DIRECT

the various presumptive tests.

Q Okay. And of these two, which one would be the more sensitive?

A The literature cites the luminol as being more sensitive than phenolphthalein.

Q Okay. And when you — when you conducted the phenolphthalein test, were you able to get any type of reaction to that test?

A I was only able to get a weak positive result with phenolphthalein on one area of the seat cover and one area of the side door panel, and it was a weak positive,

Q Okay. And what we're talking about is this seat cover here and this door panel?

A Yes,

Q Okay. And when you say a weak positive, what do you mean by that?

A In the phenolphthalein reaction, you take a sterile cotton tip swab, you moisten it with sterile water and then you swab the surface that you want to test or the stain, if there's a visible stain there, and then you add some drops of reagent and you can get an instant pink color that forms. This is a positive result with using phenolphthalein, When I'm referring to a weak result, the intensity of the color was very weak and it formed a little slower than you would normally get on a

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WAHL - DIRECT

strong reaction.

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that Mr, Kephart before that last question had put two different photographs on the viewer with —

MR. KEPHART: I'm sorry, Judge. It was 113. It was the -

THE COURT: And it's the grey seat cover rather than the floral one.

> MR. KEPHART: Right. And 114 was the door panel, THE COURT: Thank you.

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Okay. And getting back to where I was, the — when you -- when you got that reaction in conjunction with the -what you knew from the luminol, the positive luminol test, can you say then you actually got a positive test on the phenolphthalein?

A Yes. There was a color change and, based on my many years of experience, I recorded it as a weak positive result.

Q Okay. And did you do anything then, anything further, to determine whether or not it was blood? Did you do any type of confirmatory tests?

A The areas that gave me a weak positive result with phenolphthalein, I then focused on those areas and performed

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## WAHL - DIRECT

some very vigorous swabbing in those areas to see if I could transfer whatever may have been on the material to the swab and then performed a confirmatory test for the presence of

Q Okay, And what do you do with that? What type of test is that?

A It's a test where we have an antibody that's been developed by a biotechnology company that reacts specifically with an antigenic site on the hemoglobin. In other words, the antibody is looking for a biochemical structure and attaches to it if it is human. And then you get a positive result that's actually visible. You get a visible result.

Okay. And what -- did you have any result with this?

Α I got a negative result,

Okay. Does that mean then that that -- these items here are not blood?

It could mean that it's not blood, it could mean that the substance could be blood but it's animal blood, or it could be human blood but the blood has been altered somehow, been degraded somehow. Cleaning solutions, harsh cleaning solutions, could degrade the proteins in the blood such that the antibody cannot react with the antigen. An analogy I could use is suppose you have a key that opens up a lock in a

WAHL - DIRECT

door, and the key works and it'll unlock a door. But if you then took the key out of the doorknob and took a screwdriver and jammed it into the doorknob and kind of destroyed the tumblers, destroyed the keys inside the knob, and then you put the key in and then the doorknob won't open, it's a similar analogy. The blood proteins could be degraded such that the antibody can't recognize it anymore and so you would get a negative result. That's also a possibility. But which of those three it is, I do not know,

- Okay. And you're indicating that, certainly, certain cleaning agents could affect the presence of blood, could affect your ability to do a — to do a confirmatory test?
- There -- if the cleaning reagents had chemicals in the reagents that were harsh enough to cause degradation of proteins and things of that nature, it's possible, yes.
- And you testified earlier that in your own lab, to sterilize your lab, you use bleach. Would you consider bleach some -

MR. SCHIECK: I'm gonna object, Your Honor. He said bleach and another substance,

THE COURT: Sustained.

BY MR. KEPHART:

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Q Is that correct, bleach and another substance?

I don't know what he's referring to. Bleach? Are

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## WAHL - DIRECT

you referring to cleaning the -- sir, are you referring to when I clean the counter tops in the laboratory?

MR. SCHIECK: I think that's what he was referring to,

THE WITNESS: Yes, Following the bleach we would use ethanol.

MR. KEPHART: Okay.

THE WITNESS: Which is alcohol, basically, what you drink. Alcohol. Ethanol is what's in booze.

BY MR. KEPHART: 10

Q Like rubbing alcohol maybe?

It's not rubbing alcohol. Its actually absolute alcohol.

Q Okay. So that's what you use to sterilize, but you use bleach?

Well, it's used to sterilize but it's also used just to remove any possible contaminations that may be on the counter top and we want to remove those before we examine evidence on there to minimize cross-transfer of contaminants.

Q Okay, Are you also aware that there's many detergents out there that claim that they clean blood, just household detergents?

Q Okay, And to the degree of which they clean them,

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WAHL - DIRECT

you don't know?

A I'm not an expert in that, but I do know that they can be fairly effective. Sure,

Q Okay. And so with regards to this particular car, with the items that we'd shown you that you -- that you've actually examined, is it your testimony today that you just — you can't say it's blood but you can't say it's not blood?

A That'd be -- that would be an accurate statement\_ I can't confirm that what gave a positive chemiluminescent reaction with luminal and a weak positive with phenolphthalein is blood to any absolute certainty. It's one of the possibilities.

Q Okay. Were you also asked to conduct various tests with regards to -- let me turn you, go forward now to — well, let me back up. I'm sorry. I'll stay where we were. Just so we know, the type of tests that you're talking about, the luminol test and the phenolphthalein test, they also may cause a -- happen from a false positive, is that correct?

A Yes. A false positive would be any substances that would give a positive result but are not blood, not due to blood.

Q Okay, And do the — each test, is there any □ significance between the two tests, the effect they may have on each other or the effect they may have on their result if you do them together? Do you understand my question?

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## WAHL - DIRECT

A I think I understand what you're saying- There are certain substances that are known to give false positive results with luminol and they also can give false positive presumptive with phenolphthalein testing. There are some substances that give false positives with one and not the other. So when you use them in conjunction, you may eliminate some — when you use the phenolphthalein and lumina' in conjunction with each other as a presumptive test, you may eliminate some things as being false positives but still include others,

Q Okay. And what's the general literature that you're aware of that talks about false positives with both substances?

A What is it?

Q Mm-hmm,

A Copper salts, metallic salts are, like bronze, copper, are known to give false positives with both luminat and phenolphthalein. And some plants that contain peroxidase, plant peroxidase, enzymes, have been known to give false positives, both.

Q Okay Now I'm gonna jump ahead now October 15<sup>th</sup> 2001, did you do a -- perform a test on certain items on that day as well or draft a report at least as of October 15'1 2001?

A Yes, I did,

Q And what were you asked to do there?

WAHL - DIRECT

A I was requested to examine the left and right fingernail clippings of the victim, Duran Bailey, and the left and right hand swabbings of Duran Bailey, and these items were collected at time of autopsy by the Medical Examiner's Office, and the purpose was to determine if there was any foreign DNA on the clippings or the swabbings,

Q Okay, And were you able to -- did you come to a conclusion with that?

A I did not detect any foreign DNA. The DNA profile I obtained was consistent with Duran Bailey and he, Duran Bailey, was identified as the source of the DNA in those items.

Q Okay, So he didn't have anything under his fingernails like he scratched somebody or something that got in his fingernails?

A There was blood there but it was Duran Bailey's blood.

Now I asked you earlier about a lab by the name of Myriad.

A Yes

Q Okay. And were you able to -- did you have an opportunity to look over Myriad's report and what was conducted and what they were asked to do?

A Yes, I was requested -- I was requested to look at the report last night in my hotel room.

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## WAHL - DIRECT

Q Okay, And what were they doing?

A I don't have the actual request that was submitted to Myriad, but looking at the evidence I could surmise that they were — Myriad was asked to examine the penile swabs, and these are swabbings of the penis of Duran Bailey and swabbings of the rectal or rectum of Duran Bailey at the time of autopsy to determine if any evidence of semen was present,

Q Okay, And this would have been part of the sexual assault kit?

A The medical examiner's kit, which the medical examiner usually or may collect these swabs. I don't know what their policies are on all deceased individuals but --

Q Okay, And this is something that you have done before yourself in your lab?

A Examined medical examiner's kits?

Q Yes.

A Hundreds and hundreds of times, yes.

Q Okay. So you're familiar with what they're talking about here, And the lab actually sent these out to Myriad?

A That's correct. I'm very familiar with this. This is a typical analysis that crime labs all over the country and the world would do on medical examiner's kits.

Q Okay. Can you tell me what the results and conclusions are of what they did?

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#### WAHL - DIRECT

A III just read verbatim from their report. "On the results and" --

MR, SCHIECK: Can we identify the date of the report, Your Honor, to make sure I have the same one?

THE COURT: Yes.

THE WITNESS: Okay, The report is dated February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006,

MR, SCHIECK: Thank you.

THE WITNESS: On the second page of the report under "Results and Conclusions," the first statement is, "Semen was detected on Items 1B," which were penile swabs, "and Item 2A," rectal swabs, "as evidenced by the detection of protein P30."

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Okay, Did it go further as to identifying whose semen it is?

A Well, in order to do a DNA analysis, the next step would be to determine if any sperm cells were identified on the smears that are prepared by the medical examiner from the swabs. The medical examiner or an assistant would swab the surface of the penis or swab the anal cavity or the rectum of the victim, and then they will take the swab and roll it over a clean microscope slide, and then the swab is air dried, the slide is air dried, and then you can stain the slide and look at it

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## WAHL - DIRECT

for the presence of sperm cells. And so Myriad, it appears that they had examined the slides made from the penile swabs and the rectal swabs and the oral swabs, There were oral swabs collected as well.

Q Were they able to come to any conclusion with regards to that?

A No semen was detected on one of -- there was more than one penile swab. And it says here, "No semen was detected on penile swab A." But they did detect semen on penile swab B. And there was no semen detected on the oral swabs, And it appears that there was only one -- I can't tell from the report whether there was more than one rectal swab, They do cite "rectal swabs" in the plural so --

Q Okay\_ Were they able to determine the source of the semen?

A They then examined the penile smears and the rectal smears and they did not identify sperm, so they went no further. There was no sperm to identify. There's no sperm cells to get a DNA profile from so they didn't proceed any further at that point,

Q Okay. And you wouldn't be the one to talk to with regards to the presence or lack of presence of semen in a man's penis, would you? Would that be the medical examiner?

A Well, I do know that there was -- there are

WAHL - DIRECT

reservoirs of semen in the testicles, I do believe, and that that's about all I know. That might be better offer of pathologist. But, yes, there are reservoirs of semen in every male here and it stays there until ejaculation occurs.

Q Was there also a request you know of that they -- in the sexual assault kit they did pubic hair combings and pulled pubic hairs?

A Yes, Those were apparently collected by the medical examiner at time of autopsy.

Q Okay. And were you aware that those weren't analyzed by Myriad but analyzed by another portion of your lab?

A I'm reading from Myriad's report, and it appears that they opened up the packaging from a debris -- an envelope labeled "Debris Collection." They state that, "Four apparent hairs were collected from the debris collection envelope. All apparent hairs were mounted on a hair collection card and repackaged with the evidence." My understanding is that Myriad does not do hair comparisons and they may not have been requested to do DNA in any hairs if they were found,

Q Okay. Do you have any independent knowledge of whether or not the lab that you used to work with — what's her name? Kristina Paulette, do you know her?

A Yes, I do.

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WAHL - DIRECT

Q Were you aware that she had actually done testing with regards to that, what you just talked about?

A Yes. I was aware when they contacted me regarding the upcoming trial and then they happened to mention that, In fact I talked to Kristina and she was mentioning that she was in the middle of DNA analysis of, I do believe, a pubic hair, apparent pubic hair.

Q And you were also asked and you gave a report on the August 6, 2001 in reference to a small piece of apparent plastic with silver-colored paper recovered from the rectum of Duran Bailey at autopsy.

A Yes.

Q Did you look at that?

A I did examine it both with the naked eye and under a stereo microscope.

Q Were you able to determine what it was?

A All I could say, that it appeared to be composed of wax. And I say appear to be composed of wax, not plastic, And I do believe in my, sorry, in my report I did say that on one side of each piece there is a silver-colored coating which may, and I stress the word "may," be paint, vinyl or foil of some kind and no further examinations were performed by myself,

Q So you couldn't determine what that was?

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A No.

Q You hadn't seen it before?

A No.

Q You weren't familiar with it?

A No

Q Okay\_ Now I want to go back to the — your testimony with regards to the luminol and the phenolphthalein. And you said that you did a confirmatory test. And have you heard of the term "hemoTracen?

WAHL - DIRECT

A Yes.

Q Did I say that right?

A Yes.

Q What is that?

A It is a diagnostic test used to confirm the presence of blood and human blood\_

Q Okay. What's the sensitivity with regards to that in comparison to the luminol or the phenolphthalein presumptive tests?

A Hemotrace is a fairly sensitive test but it is not nearly as sensitive as the presumption tests of luminol or phenolphthalein.

Q Okay. Can you give me some numbers with that?

A Well, I don't know what the numbers are, but the □ order of sensitivity would be luminal that is the most sensitive,

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WAHL - DIRECT

followed by phenolphthalein, then hemotrace.

Q Of those three?

A Of those three, hemotrace is the least sensitive of those three.

Q Okay. And you indicated that — well, what are you testing in the hemotrace? Is it the hemoglobin?

A You're testing for the hemoglobin protein in humans or higher primates.

Q Okay. you're aware that there are certain cleaning agents that break down the hemoglobin?

A Yes, Biological substances can be altered by environmental insult, and it could be harsh chemicals, it could be extreme heat and humidity. There are -- it's a well-known fact and it has been for years in dealing in forensic biological sciences

MR. KEPHART: The Court's indulgence, Your Honor. (Pause in the proceedings)

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Are you familiar with CODIS?

A Yes.

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Q What is that so we know what that is?

A CODIS is an acronym that stands for Combined DNA Index System.

Q Okay. And what do you do with it?

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WAHL - DIRECT

A It's a database. CODIS is a database that contains databases of convicted felons in different state jurisdictions. It contains DNA profiles from unsolved crimes And the purpose for the database is to aid in solving unsolved crimes or nonsuspect crimes where DNA laboratories in the country may have a non-suspect case, and III use a rape case as the most common example, where they've identified sperm on a case and they have a DNA profile from the sperm donor but they it doesn't match any suspects or they have no suspects so they upload this profile into the DNA database system and then this profile is searched on a constant basis, day-to-day, against local DNA databases, state DNA databases and then eventually national databases. And at times, unsolved cases, you get what's referred to as a database hit where an unsolved case, a rape, let's say for example, the sperm DNA profile all of a sudden will match somebody in the database and it may be somebody who is already in prison, it may be somebody who has been released from prison or it may match against another unsolved case in another jurisdiction. So —

Q Kind of like fingerprints?

A Yes. The AFIS system. Yes. It's a database to compare forensic evidence to other forensic evidence or to other individuals to try to solve unsolved crimes or non-suspect crimes-

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WAHL - DIRECT

Q And you were telling us that when you look at DNA there's certain -- there's quite a few aspects to DNA?

A In the DNA profiling systems that are used in the United States and, basically, worldwide they generally comprise anywhere from thirteen to sixteen different DNA typing systems. In other words, individuals have a DNA type in thirteen to sixteen different regions of their human DNA. And so you can actually derive anywhere from thirteen to sixteen DNA types and the combination of DNA types is what's referred to as your DNA profile.

Q Is there any number that you have to meet in order to be able to upload it into the CODIS?

A My recollection was you have to have a minimum of, I do believe, ten DNA types to upload into the national database.

Q Okay, In this particular case with regards to the chewing gum, were you able to upload the foreign DNA in the database?

A No. There was not a sufficient number of -- or on the chewing gum you're referring to?

Q Yes,

A The chewing gum, the major component DNA profile was consistent with the victim so there was no reason to upload that. We identified the victim. The foreign DNA, I only

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WAHL - DIRECT detected foreign DNA in three of the -- three or four of the DNA types. And it's minor component DNA, and that still would not — you still would not be allowed to upload that in CODS. It's very -- there is very limited genetic information from the minor component on the chewing gum to be able to upload into COD'S.

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Q Okay. A couple more questions and then I'll pass, Luminol has been around for over twenty years now, is that correct? How long has it been around?

A I don't know offhand, but it's been around awhile, I started out in forensics in 1980 and luminol was around then and for some years prior to that. So it's at least, I would say it's probably around thirty years, give or take a few years, at least.

Q Are you familiar with whether or not there's been improvements over those thirty, give or take, years?

Yes, Before I came here to testify, I did some web searches just to see what came up on the web searches, and there are certain companies that have developed reagents that — to be used for screening blood similar to luminol. And the purpose of this was to develop reagents that may not have as many false positive reactions or may not have false positive reactions. I think that's -- and they may be easier to use, things of this nature.

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WAHL - CROSS

Q Okay, And what —

A And they are out there. There's one referred to as HemoGlow [phonetic] I saw, but I know very little about it other than that,

Q Okay. What about the phenolphthalein?

Phenolphthalein has been around for a very long time. It's also commonly used in chemistry labs in colleges as a titration end point indicator. Phenolphthalein has been around a long time,

Q Okay. And both of those are accepted practices to use for presumptive tests for detection of blood —

Yes. I would --

Q -- at least in a crime?

It's safe to say that they are used routinely in many, many laboratories and have been for many years,

MR. KEPHART: I'll pass the witness, Your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: Cross,

MR. SCHIECK: Thank you, Your Honor,

**CROSS-EXAMINATION** 

BY MR SCHIECK:

Q Good afternoon, Mr, Wahl,

A Good afternoon.

Q And we sort of ended with you talking about the

WAHL - CROSS

gum. Let me talk about the gum for a minute. And correct me if I'm wrong in my understanding of DNA and the tests you performed and correct me if I make any misstatements, okay? You tested this piece of chewing gum which had blood on it that you could visibly see, correct?

A Yes,

Q And that blood, there was also blood on the cardboard where the gum was adhering to?

A Yes.

Q You tested the blood that was on the cardboard and it came back as belonging to Mr. Bailey?

A That's correct, Yes.

Q Did you extract some of the blood from the actual chewing gum and test it to see if that was also Mr, Bailey's?

A No, I did not.

Would it be fair to say you assumed because it was sitting in the blood of Mr. Bailey that the blood on the gum was Mr. Bailey's also?

Yes. That's a strong assumption,

And then you attempted to clean the blood off of the gum in order to check for other DNA?

A Yes, because chewing gum is placed in the oral cavity usually, and I was trying to determine if I could ascertain any generic information from saliva on the gum, who

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WAHL - CROSS

chewed the gum.

Q And after you had cleaned the blood off of the gum to the best of your ability, you then performed some further DNA testing on the gum itself?

Yes, I did. Α

Q And it came back as a major hit for Mr. Bailey and a minor on an unknown person, is that correct?

A I referred to — yes. I referred to it as major/minor component, in other words, there is DNA, there's a mixture of DNA, DNA from more than one person, and the predominant source of DNA was attributed to Mr. Bailey, and the minor component DNA was foreign to Mr. Bailey but it was also foreign to the defendant, Kirstin Lobato.

And there were only three areas of DNA that you were able to extract —

If --Α

-- from the minor component?

A If I may refer to my notes. I was only able to detect three genetic loci or genetic regions where I detected minor component DNA.

Q But those three loci were not Mr. Bailey and not Ms. Lobato?

A On two of the loci, there was a DNA marking that is foreign to both Kirstin Lobato and Duran Bailey, Therefore,

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WAHL - CROSS

both of those individuals are excluded as being the source of the minor component DNA,

Q Does that mean then there's another source for that DNA component?

A In addition to Mr. Bailey, yes,

Q And it's not Ms. Lobato?

A It's not Ms, Lobator

Q Now, when did you stop working here for the crime lab here in Las Vegas and go to North Dakota?

A I retired from Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on December -- or January 1 of 2006.

Q 2000?

A '06. This year,

Q '06, Okay. And during the period of time until you retired, you continued to do the same type of work you were doing in 2001?

A I did not do any bench work. I was doing I was actually working for ome friends here in Las Vegas in their business, which is not forensic science-related, but I also was doing some consulting for a friend of mine who has a private DNA lab in Florida.

Q And during the period of time that you were working for the Metro crime lab, you would get items to test how? How would they come into your possession to be tested?

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WAHL - CROSS

A What happens is the investigator or, at times, the District Attorney's Office will issue a request for DNA analysis or an analysis of evidence. And then I take the request and I go to a computer that's our evidence computer, and then I create a list using the computer and submit the list to the evidence vault, and then they go find the evidence in storage and then they bring it up to me, bring it to me usually the next day. And then I sign for the evidence and then the evidence gets put into a temporary storage locker until which time I'm ready to start analyzing it,

Q I'm gonna show you two documents in just a ☐ second, just to have you identify if we're on the same page.

MR KEPHART: May I approach, Your Honor? THE COURT: You may.

BY MR. SCHIECK:

Q If you could just look at these, tell me if these are the forms you would generate or would have generated there at the crime lab.

A I would not generate these. These would be generated by the requester, whoever that may be. But, yes, it appears to be a representative example of a laboratory request,

Q Okay. So the detective or whoever is making the request would prepare one of these and send it to you. You

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would enter the computer and request that the evidence be provided to you so you could test it?

A Yes. It would be -- it would be sent to the DNA lab and then whoever was next, whatever analyst was next up to accept a case, if that happened to be the next request up on line, I would -- it would be assigned to me. It would be assigned to me,

Q And you would test the items that you're requested to test, correct?

A In the vast majority of the times, yes. Sometimes I may have a discussion with a detective and we decided not to examine something, but that would be in consultation with the detective,

Q Would you ever have consultation with the detective and say is there any other evidence that I can test or suggest that you might want to test other evidence?

A At times, there may be if it's -- if I'm made aware of certain things about the case or if the detective takes the time to come and meet with me and sit down and go over what's been collected, then we may decide mutually what to test and what not to test at least initially.

Q Do you recall in this case if the detective ever met with you or consulted with you over what items to test?

A The -- I never -- my recollection was I did not

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WAHL - CROSS

consult with anybody in person. I did have a phone conversation with Detective Thowsen on July 30 of 2001, and it was just a cursory, a discussion of the initial request, and I got some information about where it was recovered and whether anything needs to be tested or not tested based on the request, written request.

Q And then you would perform your testing and prepare a report as to the results of your tests, correct?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And that report then would typically include the items that were provided for you to test and the results of your testing, correct?

A Typically, yes,

Q And in this case you have a report dated August 6, 2001 that reports those results?

A Yes.

Q Other than those results, did you request to test any other items?

A Did I request?

O Yes.

A No, I did not,

Q So you only tested those items that the homicide detectives asked you to test?

V-189

A Yes,

**ROUGH DRAFT JURY TRIAL - DAY 5** 

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WAHL - CROSS

Q And you're not involved at the crime scene or in the collection of the evidence during a particular case, correct?

A No. I'm not.

Q And you certainly weren't involved in this case in the collection of evidence?

A No, I was not.

Q Okay. And you really don't know what other evidence was available to be tested in this case?

A At that time. I wasn't. No.

Q Later you received another request to perform some additional testing?

A Yes.

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Q But until that request was forwarded to you, you didn't know that there was other evidence?

A Oh, I knew there was other evidence that was collected but --

Q You just --

A There wapot -- nothing was -- that evidence was not requested to be analyzed by the detective or the D,A.'s officer

Q Okay, So unless you're requested to do it, basically, for the most part, you're not testing anything?

A For the most part, unless I'm made aware of □ something that I think might need to be tested. But I'd have

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WAHL - CROSS

to be made aware of it.

Q Now the -- in your conclusions you talk about finding, and this is from the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2001 report, that you tested a shoe and found a stain in the big toe area of the right high-heel sandal, is that correct?

A That is correct, yeah.

Q Would it be fair to say that you had both shoes and would have tested both shoes so, therefore, the left shoe would have ben negative?

A I'm not sure I understand your question. I did examine both shoes,

Q Okay,

A And I only detected one stain that gave me a positive presumptive test for blood, and then I proceeded to do confirmatory testing, that was positive, and then I went ahead and did DNA testing.

And what type of confirmative testing did you do?

A I do believe I did hemotrace.

Q So hemotrace is a confirmatory test?

A For blood, yes.

Q For blood in --

A In conjunction with DNA extraction, If I extract DNA and I get human DNA recovered, that is also considered a confirmatory test for blood in combination with the hemotrace.

WAHL - CROSS

Q Would hemotrace give you a confirmatory result if it's blood but not human blood?

A It would, There are two citations, there are literature citations that I'm aware of, higher primates will give a positive result with hemotrace. And by higher primates, I'm talking about gorillas, apes, chimpanzees. And there has been reported in the literature that ferret blood has given false positives. However, I have tested seven or eight different ferret bloods and have not ever seen a positive result, but that's not to say that someone else may have. So but it has been reported in the literature,

THE COURT: I'm gonna request a clarification because there was more than one pair of shoes within the —

MR. SCHIECK:

THE COURT: — items to be tested.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

THE COURT: I want the record to be clear as to -- as to which shoes.

THE WITNESS: Defense counsel, are you referring to the — what I have listed at 5, Item 1, it's a pair of black, high-heeled sandals reportedly collected from Kirstin Lobato? That's what you're referring to, correct?

BY MR. SCHIECK:

Q Correct.

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WAHL - CROSS

A Okay, But getting back, yes, there are things that can give positive results with hemotrace that are not human blood.

Q And while we're talking about the -- was there another pair of shoes that you did test also?

A A pair of Nike Air shoes, black-and-white color, reportedly collected from Kirstin Lobato. And I did not detect any blood on those shoes,

Q Did you perform any testing or did you just visually inspect those shoes?

A I visually inspected the shoe and I may have tested a couple areas that -- just to ensure that I didn't miss anything if it was on if it wasn't a --

Q The request report on both pair of shoes requests that the photographs be taken of the tread of the shoe. Is that something you would do or someone else would do?

A No, that would go to another area of the laboratory. But if a request has been made to examine a pair of shoes, for example, for the presence of blood, it would go to my section first for my examination. And if blood was detected, I would proceed with the analysis before I would send it over to the individual who does the shoe print,

Q With respect to the condom pack, you had indicated that you had checked for semen, is that correct, on the

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WAHL - CROSS
Kleenex that was found with the condom pack?

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And did you check for blood with respect to that item?

A May I refer to my notes? When I -- if I'm asked to request -- if I'm requested to look for -- look at something for semen, if I do see blood on there, I will note it in my report and may do a presumptive. And if I deem it necessary, I will go ahead and perform DNA profiling, But there was no apparent bloodstains observed according to my notes, so I didn't —

Q Okay,

A -- do any further testing,

Q So that it was negative on that item also then?

A There was no -- there's no apparent appearance of blood there so I didn't do any presumptive testing.

Q Okay. Now when you examined the baseball bat, it was an aluminum bat, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Do you recall what -

A I'm assuming it's aluminum. The only metal bats I know of are aluminum.

Q Do you recall whether or not it had a rubber handle on it where the batter would grip the bat?

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WAHL - CROSS

A Yes, it did.

Q And that is -- that is not a smooth metal surface. That's more of a porous-type surface so that you can get a grip on the bat, is that --

A My recollection was it was a relatively nonporous surface. It's a smooth surface is my recollection. I'd have to look at the bat again but --

Q It wasn't -- it wasn't metal. It was some —

A It was not metal, no. It was some type of a rubber.

Q Did you check the grip area for the presence of blood also?

A Oh, most definitely, yes,

Q You would have checked the entire bat?

A Exactly, Definitely,

Q Now with respect to the items from the car, you indicated that on the left interior door panel of the vehicle luminol testing had been done and had a presumptive result, is that correct?

MR, KEPHART: Here, It's right here,

THE WITNESS: It was reported to me that it was a positive presumptive result, yes,

BY MR, SCHIECK:

Q Were you provided with photographs at the time?

A At the time, no.

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Q So when you got -- when you got the door, I mean, they actually took the whole door and brought it to you, is that correct?

A I think my recollection was they removed the door panel and the door panel came to me or was submitted to the evidence vault,

Q But when you got it, the illumination wasn't there because it fades with time?

A It fades relatively quicker from my -- from what I understand, sir.

Q But, however, the crime scene analysts or whoever had done the luminol testing had circled it with a black ink pen, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Okay, So you were able to determine the areas they wanted you to look at?

A Yes, without having to respray it myself or take it back to be resprayed,

Q And with respect to the door panel that you -- that you saw and tested, you attempted a confirmatory test on that?

A There was only one area. I took phenolphthalein, I took numerous swabs and swabbed areas within the black encircled area, and there was only one area that gave me a

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weak positive result. The other areas that I tested were negative.

But phenolphthalein is a presumptive test, correct?

A Yes, it is.

It's not a confirmatory test?

A That's correct.

Did you do any confirmatory testing on the door panel?

A The only area that I did a confirmatory test would be on the area that gave me a positive, a weak positive presumptive test for blood using phenolphthalein.

Q Okay, And the confirmatory test you did was the hemotrace?

A It was the hemotrace. And I also extracted the swab for DNA to determine if I could get any human DNA from the swabbing as well,

Q Okay. Well, on the confirmatory test it was negative?

A The hemotrace was negative, yes.

Q So you weren't able to confirm through scientific testing that that was in fact blood?

A That's correct,

Q And you attempted, and I think your words were, "vigorously swabbed" the area to try to just to extract DNA

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A The purpose for swabbing it vigorously is to try to increase the efficiency of transfer. When I'm swabbing the area, I'm trying to transfer whatever is there that is giving the positive results onto the swab, and then I extract the swab and test the swab.

WAHL - CROSS

And on the door panel you were unable to find any DNA?

A There's no detectable human DNA with the swab.

Even with the vigorous swabbing that you had done?

A That is correct,

Okay, So we have a presumptive test that says it's positive but no confirmatory tests and no finding of DNA?

A That is correct. Human DNA,

Q And we talked about false positives, and you indicated that there were a number of things that could give false positives on the luminol testing, correct?

A Yes.

Q Okay. What are some of those?

A Copper salts, some metal salts, some plants that contain what's referred to as plant peroxidase, which are -- it's an enzyme. Those substances have been cited in the literature as giving false positive results with both luminol and phenolphthalein,

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WAHL - CROSS

Q Are you familiar at all with the Pioche/Panaca area of Nevada?

A I have been through Panaca and Pioche years ago. I've driven through that, but that's as familiar as I have with that area.

Q Are you familiar with the fact that it was a mining area?

A I'm aware that Pioche was an old mining town at one time.

Q Rich in chemicals in the soil?

A Well, rich in some type of elements that warranted mining, yeah. That'd be an assumption, good assumption,

Q That could include copper?

A Yes. I don't know for sure, but I wouldn't be surprised if copper was mined there,

Q And a variety of salts also?

A Sure. Possible. Sure.

Q And those things could provide false positives?

A Sure.

Q And, again, a confirmatory test on those items would come back negative because it's not human blood?

A Assuming there was no blood in with those items, yes, it would come back negative.

Q And with respect to the car seat, you indicated that

WAHL - CROSS

there were -- the presumptive tests came back positive on the left one, is that correct?

A If I may refer to my notes. The seat cover, according to my report, the seat cover was reportedly recovered from the front left of the vehicle. That's what was written on the evidence package.

Q And that's the one where the presumptive test came back positive, the same as on the door of the car?

A Yes. Again, I did a vigorous swabbing of the encircled areas and only one area yielded a weak positive result with phenolphthalein, and then I did vigorous swabbing and treated that area just like I did with the other item evidence. And there was -- it was negative, negative hemotrace result, and no human DNA was detected from the extract.

Q And with respect to the -- to the grey car seat that we've been talking about, did you have even any type of a hit on it when you -- there at the lab?

A Which item are we talking about? Is this on my report, 8, Item 5? I only --

Q Yeah,

A According to my notes, I only examined one seat cover. So if this is 8, Item 4 -- or Item 5, excuse me.

Q All right.

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WAHL - CROSS

A Yes.

Q Item 5,

A Yes.

Q Okay, Which is a two-tone grey?

A Yes.

Q Okay, Which is separate and distinct from the slip cover which is red-and-white?

A That's correct. Yes.

Q Okay. But they both came from the front left of the vehicle?

A Yes,

Q Okay. And the results of that testing was what?

A I think we just discussed that, didn't we?

Q We talked about the red-and-white one.

A Oh, we did? Oh, I'm sorry.

Q Let's talk about Item 5,

A The — well, I thought you were talking -- the redand-white one, I don't think -- that was not detected on the vehicle slip cover, red with white-and-black floral print, so I want to clarify that.

Q Okay.

A And when I was talking about the weak positive phenolphthalein and the positive luminol, that was the twotone grey seat cover I did that test on. I did test the vehicle

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WAHL - CROSS

slip cover, red with white-and-black floral print, and I tested those areas that supposedly gave a positive luminol result but I got a negative phenolphthalein. I swabbed that area very vigorously and did not obtain any positive results with the phenolphthalein test, Therefore, I didn't go any further.

Q Mm-hmm. Now the photograph that's in front of you, and for the record it's State's Exhibit 113 which has been admitted, that shows the luminol while it's still luminescing, is that correct?

A Yes. Because it does fade following spraying a surface with luminol, the area is made dark, and then they had their photography equipment ready to go to take a photograph because if something does chemiluminescent, it eventually will fade. And my understanding is it fades, you know, fairly quickly. So they want to be able to take it when it's luminescing at its most intense.

Q So they take it as soon as they can, as soon as it fully luminesces, topreserve what they've found?

A That is my understanding.

Q And just so that I'm correct on this, this car seat, this would be the top of the car seat, to your understanding?

A I assume so, yes, The conformity of it and when Mr. Kephart showed me the photograph, it appears that that's the top, the top of the photograph is the top headrest area and

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WAHL - CROSS

then going down.

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Q So your lumina' -- the luminal testing actually comes back with a presumptive positive for clean up on top of the — of the car seat itself?

A Clean up? I'm just —

Q Well, I mean, as far as we can see on the photograph anyway,

A Well, if your -- if I understand your question, you're pointing to thatgarea, that's the top of the car seat. And then it appears that there is chemiluminescence from the top down to the -- to the bottom.

Q Okay. And all along the -- what would be the left hand side of that car seat there appears to be like splotchy areas of that appear a little bit darker than the others, is that correct?

A It appears so, yes,

Q Any explanation for that in your experience with luminol?

A I don't know if that's something to do with the way the photograph was taken or whether those areas actually chemiluminesced or not I don't know.

Q You're not familiar at all with the car where the seat was removed from?

A I have never seen any -- I have seen photographs of

WAHL - CROSS

the interior of the car but I haven't actually seen what the car looks like on the outside. I actually know very little about the car,

Q So you don't know if there's a sunroof on that car?

A I do not know.

Q And whether something could be poured through the sunroof inside the car, hitting on the car seat?

A I do not know.

Q When you do a presumptive test using luminol, does it tell you how old the substance is that it's reacting with?

A No

Q How old could it be in your experience?

A Well, literature does cite that older bloodstains actually chemiluminesce more intensely than fresher bloodstains. So I have read about bloodstains being as old as fifteen to twenty years old that will still chemiluminesce, will yield a positive reaction with chemiluminescence, a strong reaction,

Q A strong reaction to the -- to the luminol as much as fifteen to twenty years after the fact?

A Well, if something is fifteen to twenty years old, that's an old bloodstain and the literature does cite that old bloodstains tend to luminesce more intense than fresher bloodstains.

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WAHL - CROSS

Q What about on the confirmatory tests; can you age things based on results you get from confirmative tests?

A Not with any absolute certainty, no

Q And with — we talked about the age of the item that the luminol is reacting with. The luminol test doesn't tell us anything about how that, whatever it's reacting with, got on the seat either or on the -- on the surface, correct?

A How it got on there?

Q Yes,,

A No.

Q So we don't know when and we don't know how and it could be quite a long time ago as far as the lumina' testing is concerned?

A Yes, that's possible.

Q And without a confirmative test we don't even know it's human blood?

A We can't confirm it as so, no.

Q Okay, And without the DNA tests we can't confirm, if it is blood, whose blood it is?

A That's correct,

Q And that's basically what the results of your testing were in this case?

A Yes,

Q The testing that you did perform?

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WAHL - CROSS

A Yes,

Q Now, apparently, later there was some additional testing requested in this case?

A While I was still employed at Metro you mean? Q No. Yes. Yes, while you were still employed at

A Yes.

And that was the testing that you performed on the scrapings, is that correct?

A On the report I issued October 15<sup>th</sup> of 2001, and I was requested to examine the left and right fingernail clippings of Duran Bailey and the left and right hand swabbings of Duran Bailey.

Okay. Now you're familiar with sexual assault kits, correct?

A Yes.

Okay, I mean, you test those a lot in your line of work?

A Yes

Okay, The various items that are collected from a sexual assault kit?  $\hfill\Box$ 

A Yes.

Q Okay, There are a number of items that can be tested that are collected from a sexual assault kit?

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WAHL - CROSS

A Yes,

Q Okay, But in this case, from the sexual assault kit, you were -- the request form that you received from the homicide detective was for fingernail clippings and hand swabs and that's all?

A That's all, yes.

Q You weren't requested to check the combings from the pubic hair, the debris collected from the pubic hair, you weren't asked t9 check the penile swabs or the rectal swabs, correct?

A That is correct.

Q But those were in the same sexual assault kit that the scrapings were in and the clippings?

A Yes, they were

Q And, again, those testings came back with just DNA of Mr. Bailey?

A Human blood was identified in those items and the human blood was identified as being Duran Bailey's blood.

Q Did you actually attempt to determine if there were foreign substances besides the DNA, dirt or things of that nature?

A Yes When I — when I have fingernail clippings, the first thing I do is I look at the fingernail clippings under the stereo microscope to see if there is any apparent tissue

WAHL - CROSS

material adhering to it, fibers, things of that nature.□

Q Did you find anything in this case?

A Nothing apparent to me, no,

Q So all you tested was the apparent blood that was under the fingernails?

A That's correct.

Q And on the hand swabs?

A Yes.

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Q Okay. In a sexual assault case, where are the hand swabs collected from? It's kind of a vague term.

A Sometimes on the out -- I don't know if they actually swab the entire hand, both the top or bottom. Sometimes they may designate on the envelope where they exactly swabbed them. I could check my notes. I can see what they — my notes said if you want to hold on a second.

Q If you could, please. Thank you.

A Thank you. The containers contain the swabs, my notes reflect that two plastic vials marked L and R, each containing one swabbing of the left and right hands of the victim, Duran Bailey. So there is no information provided to me exactly how those swabbings were performed. You'd have to ask the person who collected them.

Q All we know is somewhere on the hands?

A Yes.

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WAHL - CROSS

Q There was additional testing done after your involvement with the case, is that correct, the testing by Myriad?

A To my knowledge, yes, I just recently found out about that. So --

Q And all you've done is review the Myriad report?

A Yes. I -- that's the only report of additional testing that I have reviewed.

Q And that report was dated when, do you recall?

A February 13, 2006.

Q And so your last testing was done in October of 2001, and then four and a half years later some additional testing was done in February of 2006, is that —

A Yes,

Q And that testing, it appears that on the first page of that report there's a complete description of everything that was in the sexual assault kit, is that correct?

A Yes

Q And that would have been the same sexual assault kit that was available to you back in 2001?

A That's correct,

Q When you were requested just to test the scrapings and the hand swabs?

A That's correct.

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WAHL - CROSS

Q What was tested, of all the items that are included in this list that was given to Myriad, what was tested by Myriad?

A They analyzed the penile swabs and the rectal swabs. No DNA was performed on those items because no sperm were found. They collected or they examined the debris collection container and found four apparent hairs. They simply mounted the hairs on a collection card and repackaged the evidence. My understanding was they were informed not to do anything with the hairs by the Metro DNA lab, for reasons to keep costs down, The -- there has to be some limitations on what is sent out to the private labs to analyze based on how much money we have, how much money they have in the grant, the grant fund, They -- and as it says here, "As per client request the Items 5, left hand swab, 6, right hand swab, 7, left hand fingernails and right hand fingernails, pubic hair combings, and pulled pubic hairs and pulled head hairs were not analyzed." I had already analyzed the hand sobs and the fingernail clippings. But the pubic hair combings, the pulled pubic hairs, the pulled head hairs were not — were requested not to be analyzed by the client, which is Metro. Metro lab.

Q Okay. When you do DNA testing, does information from the -- from the blood samples or the samples of DNA that you have give you an idea of the sex of the person that's

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WAHL - CROSS

involved?

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A Yes The DNA profiling system does examine the region of the sex chromosomes to determine gender, so we can determine the sex or the gender of a biological sourcer

Q What about ethnicity?

A There -- our laboratory, Metro laboratory, cannot do that. There are some laboratories that are doing forensic application DNA testing to try to put some type of high probability on wliat the ethnic or the race or ethnicity of someone is I'm aware of these labs. I don't know much more than that.

Q And on the -- back to the chewing gum just for a second on that area Were any of the indications you had on the two unidentified sufficient to tell you the sex of the person's DNA or the ethnicity?

A May I refer to my notes?

Q Sure,

A I need to look at the actual data to answer that question No, because the major component DNA was from Duran Bailey so there was no way to know, there's no way to know with any certainty whether the gender of the minor component DNA is male or female.

Q Okay. And one last area. Are there other bodily fluids that will give a positive reaction to the luminol tests?

/ANL REDIRECT

And by that, I'm talking about things such as vomit or feces.

A They will give a positive result if there is blood in those, in the feces and in vomit, and blood can occur in those body fluids.

Q So those body fluids could give a positive reaction to the -- to the presumptive tests?

A If there's blood in those body fluids, yes.

And were you provided with any vomit to test in this case?

A No, not -- no, not to my knowledge.

Do you see any reports where any was collected?

A Where vomit was collected? No.

MR, SCHIECK: Thank you, That's all I have, Your

Honor,
THE COURT: Redirect,

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Mr. Wahl, can you -- can you tell me in reference to parts per million how sensitive the luminol test is? Are you familiar with the literature on that?

A I have seen literature cited that it's 1 in, I do believe, 10 million,

Q Okay. So what does that mean, like --

A Some of you may be familiar with parts per million

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WAHL - REDIRECT

where, for example, if something is sensitive to 1 in 1 million. For example, let's say you had 1 drop of blood and then you dropped it in a big vat with 1 million drops of water and you stirred it up, you should be able to get a positive presumptive test for blood, if you dilute the blood 1 in a million. 1 in 10 million would mean that it would be more sensitive, the test would be more sensitive. They can detect a more dilute substance.

Q What about phenolphthalein?

A Phenolphthalein, I've seen literature cited at 1 in 1 million.

Q So with regards to the seat covers that we have here, and that's the left seat cover. See down here it says "Left"?

A Mm-hmm,

Q On the bottom. And then you identified this.

MR, KEPHART: That was Exhibit Number 110, Your Honor, for the record,

BY MR. KEPHART:

Q 112, you actually would testify as to being able to identify the luminescence on this seat cover here?

A Yes, I recall that. Yes,

Q And that's on the left, came from the left seat. That is actually Exhibit 113. You see that?

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WAHL - REDIRECT

A Mm-hmm.

Q Okay. Now these seat covers are, obviously, removable, You could simply take it off the seat, Would you agree with me there?

A Yes.

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Q And the seat covers are of a nature that they are cloth. You could simply throw them in the washing machine.

A Yes, you could do that.

Q Would you agree with me there?

A Yes, I agree.

Q Now, on the other hand, the seat itself, you couldn't throw that in the washing machine.

A Unless it was a big washing machine, but no

Q Nor could you throw the door panel in a washing machine?

A No I would say no.

Q So is it surprising to you to see that little of what reacts to luminol ort.tbe seat cover versus the reaction to the seat, assuming that the seat cover was on the seat when anything, substance, got on it?

A I'm not sure I understand your question. Could you rephrase it?

Q What I'm saying, is it surprising to you to see the small amount of luminescence on the seat cover from

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## WAHL - REDIRECT

something that appears to have that large amount of luminescence on the seat?

A Assuming that the seat cover was on that seat?

Q When the — when anything was deposited on it.

A Well, the seat cover just had a couple small spots, if I recall, with chemiluminescence, at least what I could see in the photograph.

Q Mm-hmm,

A And ttlere's quite a bit there, So --

THE COURT: On the seat?

THE WITNESS: On the seat, So I guess I wouldn't be that surprised if assuming, you know, particularly if the seat cover could be washed,

MR, KEPHART: Okay,

THE WITNESS: And what was on -- if the seat cover was on that seat, and whatever is causing the chemiluminescence on the seat could possibly be on the seat cover, but you could wash the seat cover. I wouldn't be surprised to see a smaller amount of the chemiluminescence on the seat cover.

MR. KEPHART: Okay.

THE WITNESS: Whatever is causing it.

BY MR, KEPHART:

Q Are there certain types of cleaning agents, though,

/AHL - REDIRECT

that could give false positives as well?

A With lumina!?

Q Yes.

A Yes, those have been cited in the literature as well,

Q Okay, What about with phenolphthalein?

A I'm not -- I don't recall cleaning reagents causing false positives with phenolphthalein. It's -- I imagine it's possible, but I have done a lot of tests myself using phenolphthalein on cleaning solutions. I have yet to see a positive result. It doesn't mean there couldn't be some type of a cleaning solution out there. It's an oxidation reaction, a chemical oxidation reaction with phenolphthalein. So if there is a cleaning solution out there that has a strong oxidation capability, it's possible it could yield a false positive with phenolphthalein as well.

Q Okay, And now you said that the tests, obviously, you weren't able to positively identify what was on the seats as blood. Are you then saying that it is not blood that caused that?

A I can't, using the tests I used, I cannot confirm it's blood. That doesn't necessarily mean it's not blood but I can't say it is blood on there,

MR. KEPHART: Okay, Thank you. I have nothing further, Your Honor,

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WAHL - RECROSS

MR. SCHIECK: Just a couple, Your Honor.

THE COURT: You may

RECROSS EXAMINATION

BY MR, SCHIECK:

Q Mr. Wahl, what cleaning solutions give you the false positives with luminol?

A I've read literature that cites some bleaches and some cleaning solutions, but I can't cite a particular brand off the top of my head,

Q What component of bleach would cause a false positive?

A I do believe it's sodium hypochlorite, which is — which is basically bleach, and it's a very strong oxidizing reagent,

Q You indicated, though, that you use bleach in your lab to clean off the lab top?

A Yes, I do,

Q Aren't you worried you're gonna get false positives from the bleach that you use in your lab when you clean?

A That's why we wipe it off with ethanol and that's why I work on top of a piece of butcher paper that covers the counter top.

Q So but it's only certain bleach product. Is that what you're saying? It's not -- if I went down and got Clorox, am I

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gonna get a positive reaction?

- A Well, bleach is bleach, sodium hypochlorite.
- Q So if bleach is used, any place I use bleach, is gonna give a false positive with luminol?
  - A It may or may not. It might.
- Q I don't understand. Why might it and why might it not?

A Maybe there's certain other chemicals in with the bleach that might cause the positive reaction. I don't know, I'm not a chemist,

MR. SCHIECK: No further questions, Your Honor. MR. KEPHART: Nothing further.

THE COURT: You may step down from the stand.

Ladies and gentlemen, we'll be taking our evening recess and resuming on Monday at 10:30. At 10:30 Monday morning, please be in the hallway. The bailiff will meet you there to return you to your seats in the courtroom.

During thisjecess you're admonished not to talk or converse among yourselves, nor with anyone else, on any subject connected with the trial, and you're not to read, watch or listen to any report of or commentary on the trial or any person connected with the trial, by any medium of information, including, without limitation, newspaper, television, radio and Internet, and you're not to form or express any opinion on any

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THE COURT: And this particular witness, Mr. Wahl, had the plane to catch tonight to go back to North Dakota. And so --

MS. DiGIACOMO: Right. And he's flying out to go to Columbia tomorrow, I believe.

THE COURT: Is Ms. Tienken in the hallway? MS, DiGIACOMO: She should be, yes.

THE COURT: Would you ask her to step into the courtroom?

Ms. Tienken, would you please return to the witness stand? The Court reminds you that you remain under oath,

DIXIE TIENKEN, STATE'S WITNESS,

#### REMAINS UNDER OATH

THE COURT: You had been instructed to respond back at 3:15 and, apparently, got back about 3:30. Something held you up and just got you running a little bit late?

THE WITNESS: It was about 3:25. Yes, Trying to get all the way to the hotel after I met with this lady in the purple. She can tell you. And the other lady. And then I had to go to my hotel room and then I came right back.

THE COURT: Okay. Unfortunately, because you were late and we didn't know where you — where you were or when you'd be arriving, we proceeded forward with the next witness out of order. So we're gonna need to come back to

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subject connected with the trial until the case is finally submitted to you.

You all have a good weekend and we'll see you at 10:30 Monday,

The jury may exit,

The Court will ask that counsel remain, (Jurors recessed at 17:07:20)

THE COURT: The record shall reflect that the jury has exited.

When we came back from lunch, the State advised that Dixie Tienken was not returned here at 3:15, that she had gone to a hotel room, and it was unknown why she was not back at 3:15. About 3:30, I saw a gentleman wearing a county badge around his neck come in and clear his throat to catch Ms. DiGiacomo's attention and leaned over and whispered something to her, And I thought that perhaps that was your investigator with some information about the witness.

MS. DiGIACOMO: That's correct. That was the investigator letting us know that Dixie was back, Ms. Tienken was back at that time, just about -- it was about 128, I believe, by my watch

THE COURT: Okay,

MS DiGIACOMO: So she was just late.

you next week now. Are you able to be back here on Monday at 10:30?

THE WITNESS: No, I cannot. I can be back Monday afternoon but I cannot possibly be back before late afternoon 'cause I'm working.

THE COURT: Okay.

THE WITNESS: I also -- since I have retired from teaching, I work for Nevada State Parks as a guide.

THE COURT: Okay. I'm not sure what the State's anticipated lineup for witnesses was for the beginning of next week.

THE WITNESS: I would say I could be here, depending on traffic, I could be here by maybe 3:00 o'clock, 2:30, 3:00 o'clock.

MS. DiGIACOMO: That's fine.

THE COURT: Okay. So just as soon as you can on Monday, come in.

And should she report to Victim Witness?

MS, DiGIACOMO: Yes. She's working with the out-of-state desk there,

THE COURT: Oh, okay. And the lady in purple is — MS. DiGIACOMO: She's here.

THE COURT: -- from Victim Witness. And so when you get back on Monday check in with them and then,

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depending where we are with the other witnesses, well fit you in . Okay?

THE WITNESS: Okay.

THE COURT: Thank you

Is there anything further that we need to make of record at this time?

MR. SCHIECK: No, Your Honor.

MR. !KEPHART: Not by the State, Your Honor.

THE COURT: The Court had admonished her not to

talk to anybody about her testimony, including counsel for both sides, The Court's gonna have that admonishment remain in effect until she returns to the witness stand on Monday,

THE WITNESS: I won't be available anyways.

THE COURT: That will make it easy.

You may step down.

THE WITNESS: Thank you

THE COOT: We'll be in recess 'til Monday at 10:30.

MS, GREENBERGER: Thank you

COURT ADJOURNED AT 17:12:44, UNTIL MONDAY,

SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

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## **CERTIFICATION**

I (WE) CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A **"ROUGH DRAFT"** TRANSCRIPT FROM THE ELECTRONIC SOUND RECORDING OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE ABOVE-5N-ill\_LED MATTER.

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4/29./07

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#### **AFFIRMATION**

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding Transcript filed in District Court, Case No. C177394 does not contain the social security number of any person,

Lin Dunbar Transcriber

4/29/07 Date

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