

1 (INTERVIEW OF ALBERT L. HOFF, JR., #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT = Special Agent Christopher Tissot

6 AH = Albert L. Hoff, Jr.

7 CT: My name is Christopher Tissot, Special Agent with  
8 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement out of  
9 Fort Myers. Today's date is currently August 9th,  
10 2016, and the time is currently 11:12 p.m. This is  
11 in reference to an incident which occurred at the  
12 Punta Gorda Police Department, 1410 Tamiami Trail,  
13 Punta Gorda, Florida. I will be taking a sworn,  
14 taped statement from Albert Leroy Hoff, Jr., date of  
15 birth August 12th, 1966, currently residing at 29235  
16 Palm Shores Boulevard in Punta Gorda, Florida. Is  
17 it okay if I call you Albert or would you --

18 AH: Yes, sir.

19 CT: Okay.

20 AH: That's fine.

21 CT: All right. Before we begin I have to ask you, do  
22 you know what perjury is?

23 AH: Yes, sir.

24 CT: In your own words, can you tell me what it is?

25 AH: Hmm. Pretty much not just telling the truth.

26 CT: Correct. Perjury is lying under oath.

1 AH: Uh-huh.

2 CT: And that could occur one or two way -- in a couple  
3 of ways, excuse me: either telling an outright lie  
4 or misleading me by leaving out all or part of  
5 information, okay, in order to mislead the  
6 investigation. In the state of Florida, if you're  
7 found to have perjured yourself, it is a  
8 misdemeanor. We tell everyone that. Okay?

9 AH: Right.

10 CT: Um, being a law enforcement officer, I'm empowered  
11 to swear you in under oath. Okay? So would you  
12 please raise your right hand? Do you swear and  
13 affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and  
14 nothing but the truth?

15 AH: Yes, sir.

16 CT: All right. Okay. If you would, please, um, just  
17 start from the beginning when you got here tonight,  
18 approximately what time, all the way to the very  
19 end. Take your time. Just be detailed if you  
20 would.

21 AH: Okay. Yeah. We got here a little bit early, uh,  
22 about 5:15. The, uh, function was supposed to start  
23 at 5:30. We did a little meet-and-greet out front  
24 and then we were brought in -- into the facility,  
25 uh, sat down. Uh, we were able to meet the, um --

1 is it the sheriff or the Punta Gorda city --

2 CT: You're talking about Chief?

3 AH: The chief.

4 CT: Okay.

5 AH: The chief, uh, Tom. And, uh, he did a little  
6 presentation, went over some things. Um, then he  
7 broke us up into three different groups and we were  
8 able to tour certain areas of the facility; and then  
9 we were able to go out where they had the, um,  
10 police cruiser, bicycle, um, and -- and the, um,  
11 patrol boat.

12 CT: Okay.

13 AH: And we was able to look and see how they were set up  
14 and any questions and stuff that we had. And then,  
15 um, they were gonna do a, uh, shoot-or-don't-shoot  
16 scenario. Um, when we were first brought into the  
17 building we were given pamphlets, and in some of the  
18 pamphlets he had a business -- one of his business  
19 cards in there and it either said "weapon," I  
20 believe, or "Taser."

21 CT: Okay.

22 AH: There was two "weapon," um, business cards of his  
23 and two "Taser" business cards of his, and, um,  
24 those people were chosen to do the shoot-or-do-not-  
25 shoot or the Taser, which we didn't get to.

1           Uh, so they were getting ready to do the drill,  
2           I guess you would call it, as the shoot or don't  
3           shoot. Um, they brought the first lady out and, uh,  
4           there was a gentleman by a car and he was, like,  
5           looking in the window and he had a hoodie on and a  
6           mask. Um, and she was approaching him with, I  
7           guess, not a real -- real gun but whatever the  
8           officers use to practice with. He, um -- the Chief  
9           explained to us that there was a real casing,  
10          powder, and then it was a, um -- uh, detergent --

11   CT:   Okay.

12   AH:   -- in -- in -- in the end of it. Um, so she went to  
13          approach him as I guess she was instructed, because  
14          she was instructed of the scenario I guess before  
15          going over there --

16   CT:   Okay.

17   AH:   -- um, and how to handle the weapon. And then the,  
18          uh, gentleman with the hoodie and the mask on, he,  
19          uh, got on his cellphone. I could barely hear what  
20          he was saying, but I know he was saying something.  
21          He slid the cellphone across the top of the car. He  
22          walked around the front of the car and then it was  
23          pap, pap, pap. And I was like, wow, what's going  
24          on? It looked like he had a revolver in his hand.  
25          And she was an elderly lady; and I seen her grab her

1 side, but I thought maybe she might have been having  
2 a heart attack or something.

3 CT: Right.

4 AH: And then that's -- other than what somebody else  
5 seen and mentioned to me about the blood on her  
6 shoulder.

7 CT: Okay.

8 AH: Um, the Chief was in the crowd with us kind of just  
9 talking, you know, and he had turned around and  
10 immediately dropped everything, rushed over there.  
11 Then everybody else, um, from the department rushed  
12 over there. They tried to get EMS from next door  
13 out there and we were ushered back into the  
14 building.

15 CT: Okay. How many shots do you think you heard?

16 AH: I heard the first one and -- and it was just like a  
17 regular shot, but then it was pap, pap.

18 CT: Okay.

19 AH: It might have been three.

20 CT: Okay.

21 AH: Three, but I can -- I mean four, but I definitely  
22 know there was three.

23 CT: Okay. All right. So just going back, um, so  
24 everybody's here. Um, the group eventually goes  
25 outside and looks at the boats, the cars and all

1           that. Right?

2   AH: Yes, sir.

3   CT: Before you went to the scenario.

4   AH: Yes, sir.

5   CT: Did everyone go to the scenario together, the group?

6   AH: Um, pretty much. There were some stragglers, um,

7           but the, uh, Chief waited for everybody --

8   CT: Okay.

9   AH: -- to get there so that they can all --

10   CT: When did he explain the gun to you about -- you were

11           saying detergent and all that. When was that

12           explained?

13   AH: Um, that's when we were all in a group, before the

14           lady was taken away to --

15   CT: Okay. So outside?

16   AH: Yeah, was taken outside.

17   CT: So now the scenario took place on the blacktop

18           outside, correct, in the back?

19   AH: Yes, sir. In the back, yes, sir.

20   CT: Right. How far were you, the spectators,

21           approximately from the scenario when it occurred?

22   AH: I was towards the back. I want to say I was a good

23           50 feet. So maybe the closet people might have been

24           40 feet.

25   CT: Okay. So you were in the back of the crowd now?

1 AH: Yeah, I was towards --

2 CT: All right.

3 AH: -- the back of the crowd.

4 CT: So when you guys were out there, you said they took  
5 Mary. Um, did -- did she already have the gun or  
6 did they give her that gun when Chief Lewis was  
7 telling you about it? I mean, when did -- do you  
8 know when she got that -- that gun, when she was  
9 given it?

10 AH: Um, yeah. Chief Lewis was telling us all about the  
11 gun and explaining a little bit, um, to her --

12 CT: Okay.

13 AH: -- about it and -- and to us --

14 CT: Okay.

15 AH: -- of course, you know, that it was --

16 CT: Okay.

17 AH: -- just like a real one that the officers do handle.

18 CT: Okay.

19 AH: Um, that the rounds weren't live. He had the clip  
20 out --

21 CT: Right.

22 AH: -- and showed us.

23 CT: I gotcha.

24 AH: And, um, then he gave it to another officer, and  
25 then that officer and Mary walked away from the

1 crowd.

2 CT: Where'd they go?

3 AH: Um, just probably 20 feet over from us.

4 CT: Okay.

5 AH: And that's where she --

6 CT: All right.

7 AH: -- started to approach the --

8 CT: (Unintelligible) than that. Just these -- these are  
9 my cars.

10 AH: Uh-huh.

11 CT: Can you just kind of line how -- how it looked?

12 Like the officer playing the bad guy, how -- how was  
13 that all set up?

14 AH: Okay. There was like the two cars here and then of  
15 course the building.

16 CT: Okay.

17 AH: Uh, we were -- we were standing over here about  
18 where your recorder is.

19 CT: Okay.

20 AH: And they brought Mary over here and, uh, the  
21 perpetrator or whatever you want to call him was  
22 over here, you know, like looking around in the  
23 window. He came around to the back and then they  
24 sent Mary over.

25 CT: Okay. So the front of the cars were facing that



1 way?

2 AH: Well, they're facing the building.

3 CT: Okay. Okay. I gotcha.

4 AH: The -- the buildings.

5 CT: Okay. I gotcha.

6 AH: Um, so the -- if we're here --

7 CT: Okay.

8 AH: You know, if the -- where we're at, the building's  
9 here. Then these cruisers were here, and then the  
10 driveway and then --

11 CT: Oh, okay.

12 AH: -- the, uh, fire station.

13 CT: Okay. I gotcha. Keep them.

14 AH: So, uh, she approached. She had -- I think she was  
15 left-handed, and she had the weapon in her left hand  
16 and she had her right hand up. I really couldn't  
17 hear if she was saying anything or not. I can hear  
18 the gentleman, uh, through his mask barely saying  
19 some words. I knew he was saying something.

20 CT: Right.

21 AH: But what it was I don't know. Then he act like he  
22 was on the cellphone. And by this time they're both  
23 between the vehicles and he starts to go around  
24 towards the front. He slides the cellphone on top  
25 of the car. And by the time he gets three-quarters

1 of a way back around over here to the driver's side  
2 is when the first shot was fired.

3 CT: And when that happens, where's Mary?

4 AH: Mary is standing about middle ways above --

5 CT: Okay.

6 AH: -- uh, cars.

7 CT: In between the cars?

8 AH: In between the cars.

9 CT: Okay. So the officer playing the perpetrator is  
10 like the front driver's side?

11 AH: Yes, sir.

12 CT: And Mary's like in the middle of the cruisers.

13 AH: Right.

14 CT: And is that when the shots are fired?

15 AH: Yeah. It was one. It was, um, pap. And that's  
16 when I looked at him, 'cause I wasn't expecting him  
17 to have a gun.

18 CT: Right.

19 AH: You know, we didn't know what was going on. And  
20 then I looked, and it looked like it was a revolver.

21 CT: Okay.

22 AH: But it was, you know, a single round, but then it  
23 was like a shot, shot, one right after another,  
24 almost like a semiautomatic. So I don't know --

25 CT: Okay. Did you happen to have a camera, cellphone or

1 anything filming the incident?

2 AH: No, I did not.

3 CT: Do you know if anyone around you did?

4 AH: Uh, no, I did not, but I know I do have some  
5 pictures on my phone that weren't taken at that  
6 area, so to speak.

7 CT: Do you mind showing me?

8 AH: No. I'll show you. Um, Sharon had taken those  
9 photos. So we start right there with the -- the  
10 boats.

11 CT: Oh, this is before you guys went over to the --

12 AH: Yeah, right before we went over there.

13 CT: Okay. I see. Okay.

14 AH: Yeah. Well, the -- yeah. Oh, is that the last one?  
15 Um, where are we? We're by the patrol car. But you  
16 can see the lady in the blue right there, that's  
17 Mary.

18 CT: Oh, in between the two gentlemen?

19 AH: Two gentlemen, yeah.

20 CT: Oh, okay. I gotcha.

21 AH: Yeah, that's Mary. But this is before --

22 CT: Before you went over to the scenario.

23 AH: -- we went over there. That's the only pictures I  
24 have.

25 CT: Besides Mary, were there any other civilians or

1 members of the Chamber taking part in that scenario  
2 or was she the only one?

3 AH: At that point in time she was the only one. The, uh  
4 -- wound up being another lady. I believe her name  
5 was Debbie Malinowski.

6 CT: Okay.

7 AH: Something close to that. Um, she was back in -- in  
8 the facility where we were grouped up.

9 CT: Okay. So she didn't get to go yet?

10 AH: Right.

11 CT: Okay.

12 AH: And -- and it was like, you know, who wants to go  
13 first? And --

14 CT: Okay.

15 AH: And they decided and --

16 CT: How about, um, officers involved in that scenario;  
17 was there any other officers besides the one who's  
18 playing the perpetrator?

19 AH: Um, as far as --

20 CT: That was actually being involved in the scenario,  
21 like playing a bad guy or anything like that?

22 AH: Not that I seen.

23 CT: Okay.

24 AH: Not that I seen. Now, when we were walking over  
25 there, there was two officers, like I said. The one

1 was getting ready with the mask and the -- the  
2 hoodie or whatever.

3 CT: Right.

4 AH: And there was another gentleman that was in shorts  
5 and had a vest on and everything, but I figured he  
6 must have been --

7 CT: Okay.

8 AH: -- the second --

9 CT: So there were other officers, just not necessarily  
10 involved in that particular scenario.

11 AH: Right. It was --

12 CT: Okay.

13 AH: -- only the one officer and Mary --

14 CT: Okay.

15 AH: -- on that --

16 CT: Do you know who that officer is, his name or  
17 anything?

18 AH: No, sir.

19 CT: Okay.

20 AH: I never got it.

21 CT: Okay. All right. Well, um, I don't have anything  
22 else. Is there anything you could think that I  
23 might have forgot to ask you?

24 AH: Not that I can think of.

25 CT: All right.

1 AH: Um --

2 CT: Well, in that case --

3 AH: Nah, I can't --

4 CT: All right.

5 AH: Can't think -- I mean, I pretty well -- I mean, I  
6 kind of skipped around there a little bit, getting  
7 ahead of myself on things, but --

8 CT: I think -- I think we got it all put together pretty  
9 much, so --

10 AH: Yeah.

11 CT: Well, I appreciate it, Albert. Um --

12 AH: No problem.

13 CT: If that's the case, then I'm gonna end this  
14 interview the same day, August 9th, 2016, at 11:26  
15 p.m.

16 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

17 Transcribed by: lam/lam/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF BRADLEY TEETS, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell

6 BT = Bradley Teets

7 JO: It is approximately 10:51 p.m. on August 9th, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell, is present  
9 here with Bradley Teets. If you could, please state  
10 and spell your name for the record.

11 BT: Uh, Bradley Teets; B-R-A-D-L-E-Y, T-E-E-T-S.

12 JO: If you could, uh, please raise your right hand. Do  
13 you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and  
14 nothing but the truth, so help you God?

15 BT: Yes, ma'am, I do.

16 JO: Um, so if we could start, uh, what brought you to  
17 the Punta Gorda Police Department tonight?

18 BT: Well, there was a Chamber of Commerce sponsored  
19 event for like a Police Academy or Police Night or  
20 whatever they called it.

21 JO: Uh-huh.

22 BT: Uh, it was supposed to be from 5:30 to 8 p.m. where  
23 we, uh, met as a group of, say, 30-some people and,  
24 uh, we took tour of the facility and got a  
25 presentation to begin with about the police  
26 department, and then we went outside to check out

1           some of their equipment, the police car and the boat  
2           and that kind of thing.

3    JO: Uh-huh.

4    BT: And then we came back inside and got ready to do  
5           the, uh, actual demonstrations, first the Shoot or  
6           Not Shoot I think they called it.

7    JO: Uh-huh.

8    BT: And then they were gonna do a Taser thing I guess  
9           after that. But the people that were chosen were,  
10           uh -- they gave us little books of the police  
11           department. Apparently three or four of the  
12           people's books had business cards in the back and  
13           they were the ones that got selected to do either  
14           the shooting or the -- the Tasing part.

15   JO: Uh-huh.

16   BT: And so we were all excited about learning the  
17           demonstration and, uh, so we moved back outside.  
18           And they wanted to proceed with it, uh, because it  
19           was starting to storm off over the harbor and they  
20           didn't want to miss out on the events that we were -  
21           - supposed to take place.

22   JO: Uh-huh.

23   BT: And so we were standing at the end of the sidewalk  
24           out -- I guess they call it behind the police  
25           department and, uh, they had the first person come



1 up to -- and they explained how the -- you know, the  
2 -- the fake police person's gun would -- would work.  
3 And it had, uh, I guess laundry detergent in the  
4 shells to -- you know, that if they did go off that  
5 it -- it would hurt, but the -- you know, the -- the  
6 criminal or the prowler, uh, had like a -- you know,  
7 a special suit on so that it wouldn't hurt him if he  
8 got shot by the police officer.

9 So we were standing around and they explained  
10 how it would work. And so then the, uh -- Mary took  
11 her gun and went over to the side and then was --  
12 she was supposed to check out this prowler that was,  
13 you know, peeping in cars or -- that they had lined  
14 up in the back. And, uh, she went over and -- and  
15 of course, you know, she's real active in the  
16 community and with the library and so on, but she  
17 was -- she appeared to be somewhat hesitant about  
18 the -- you know, the process of what she was  
19 supposed to do. But she was over there between the  
20 cars and right about the driver's doors and, uh,  
21 between the two cars.

22 And, uh, the prowler had gone to the car that  
23 was to my left and was sort of behind the car. And  
24 I don't recall that -- whether she said too much to  
25 him, um, but I think he threw something on top of

1 one of the cars, whether it was something he had in  
2 his hand or whatever, whether it was part of the --  
3 the demonstration. And then, uh, she kind of had  
4 her -- I think her gun down to her side and, uh --  
5 'cause she wasn't real aggressive, let's say. She  
6 probably wouldn't make a good police person. And  
7 the prowler or the criminal peeping or whatever was,  
8 uh -- said something about, "Why do you have your  
9 gun out?" or -- you know, as part of the program.

10 And all of a sudden, you know, he pulled a --  
11 looked like a real small revolver but wasn't paying  
12 that much attention, and started firing at least --  
13 I don't know. I didn't count them, but it seemed  
14 like three or four shots. And she sort of partially  
15 slumped over like you would if you had a real bad  
16 stomachache. And I thought she clutched her  
17 stomach, but, uh, you know, everything happened so  
18 fast. And so then she was partially bent over at  
19 about a 45-degree angle and then she turned, and  
20 then she was kind of bent over while still on her  
21 feet, which if this would have been a younger person  
22 playing the role, I would have thought all along it  
23 was just a game, you know, like you'd see on a TV  
24 set or a movie set, and they would then get up and  
25 smile and wave and everything.

1           But she just kind of held that position for a  
2 short time, maybe a second, and then she kind of  
3 went down on her face. She turned. And I figured,  
4 well, she's not faking that, but yet how could --  
5 how could -- I thought maybe she fainted, actually.  
6 Um, and, you know, from being -- because the gun --  
7 you know, the gun made a lot of noise. And they  
8 didn't warn us that the -- the -- the prowler was  
9 gonna have a gun.

10 JO: Uh-huh.

11 BT: And, um, so it made a lot of noise and I could see  
12 it scaring somebody that close. And -- but then she  
13 kind of went down like on the side of her face, and  
14 then she went further down, uh, just sort of almost  
15 face down on the ground. And it was like -- you  
16 know, but then I think at that point the officials  
17 in charge realized that either she fainted or it was  
18 real shots or whatever and -- and they started to  
19 rush over. And I just -- it just all happened so  
20 fast. But, uh -- and then they, you know, decided  
21 it really -- she was hurt and that they were gonna  
22 do -- you know, try to get -- obviously the police -  
23 - or the fire department's close, so they could  
24 bring paramedics or whatever, the EMTs to -- to work  
25 on her. But, uh, it was just -- it all happened so

1 fast.

2 JO: Certainly.

3 BT: I don't know if you have questions for me or -- and  
4 then -- and then they told us -- once they started  
5 to work on her, they brought us back inside.

6 JO: Sorry about that.

7 BT: That's okay. Because, you know, before we started  
8 they explained how -- how careful they are about the  
9 different types of shells and the --

10 JO: Uh-huh.

11 BT: -- those went into her gun her gun were the blue-  
12 tips. I -- I never saw the other gun close enough  
13 to know what kind of tips they had, but --

14 JO: Did you see it any type of distance?

15 BT: It was -- like across the parking lot is the closest  
16 I saw the prowler's gun. The gun Mary had, uh, it  
17 was right -- just a couple people -- like far away  
18 as that chair --

19 JO: Okay.

20 BT: -- when she was standing there. And they were --

21 JO: Three feet?

22 BT: Yeah, 3 or 4 feet. And they -- 'cause I remember it  
23 being blue. But then the actual -- when they showed  
24 -- they put the magazine up and they showed that  
25 they were the blue tips.

1 JO: Uh-huh.

2 BT: They were like -- they looked kind of blue anyway,  
3 almost like laundry detergent.

4 JO: Uh-huh.

5 BT: And how that they were -- you know, could really  
6 hurt you if they hit you. Like, you'd get welts,  
7 they said, for months before they'd go away.

8 JO: Uh-huh.

9 BT: But they weren't meant to be deadly. But I had no  
10 idea. They didn't explain what was in the other gun  
11 or what -- they didn't explain there was another  
12 gun.

13 JO: Okay.

14 BT: Uh, but, I mean, I don't know how all that stuff is  
15 done. I guess I watch too many "Columbo" shows, but  
16 I've had all evening to think about it. I have to  
17 wonder if somebody was either trying to, you know,  
18 sort of frame the guy that was -- I don't know if  
19 that was a policeman, I guess, or a trainer or  
20 something that was in that big suit.

21 JO: Uh-huh.

22 BT: Uh, where they were trying to frame him or do damage  
23 to the police department or the City or whatever,  
24 because I assume those shells aren't in the same  
25 box, you know, real shells versus --

1 JO: Uh-huh.

2 BT: But, I mean, as far as we know at this point, one or  
3 more of them were real shells. I don't know how  
4 many of them were real shells or if -- I assume they  
5 were. I -- I have no idea. But obviously she was -  
6 - must have been hit by at least one shell.

7 JO: So let's go back to when you saw Mary and the  
8 burglar, um, near the cars.

9 BT: Uh-huh.

10 JO: You -- just so -- I want to make sure I understand.  
11 You saw the burglar put something on the roof of the  
12 car?

13 BT: I thought he threw like a little -- maybe about that  
14 big around, but it looked like a little pouch of  
15 something.

16 JO: Okay.

17 BT: Uh, you know, like a little -- maybe a drawstring  
18 bag or something, but I have no idea what it was  
19 because it -- it -- it was kind of getting dark.

20 JO: Okay.

21 BT: You know, it was overcast and the clouds were off to  
22 the --

23 JO: Yeah.

24 BT: -- the west and you couldn't see real well and it  
25 was across the parking lot.

1 JO: Okay.

2 BT: But, uh, the two cars were -- were sitting side by  
3 side, parallel. And Mary was off to my left to  
4 start with, way off to the left, and the prowler was  
5 looking in the cars and snooping all around first  
6 with the car that was on my right. And then she  
7 approached and went up between the cars and was  
8 about -- as I say, about the driver's doors. Excuse  
9 me. And by that time the prowler was -- had moved  
10 behind the left car --

11 JO: Okay.

12 BT: -- as I recall. And that's when the -- the verbal  
13 confrontation about, "Well, why do you have you gun  
14 out?" or whatever --

15 JO: Uh-huh.

16 BT: Whatever he said. I don't know. And then all of a  
17 sudden -- I don't know if he had it in his pocket or  
18 something he had hidden, and I couldn't see where it  
19 came from because the roof of the car would have  
20 blocked up to about here on the --

21 JO: Okay.

22 BT: -- the prowler guy. And so I don't know where it  
23 came from, but he had it somewhere, and he pulled it  
24 out and fired what I think is three or four times.  
25 But I could be wrong. I --

1 JO: And you saw him pull out a revolver you said?

2 BT: I would describe it as a small revolver.

3 JO: Do you know what color it was?

4 BT: It looked silverish, but I don't know if it was

5 normal gun silver or -- uh, or if it was chromed.

6 JO: Okay.

7 BT: Uh, it wasn't enough daylight for me to tell.

8 JO: Yeah, of course. Just trying to get a picture.

9 BT: Light color. It wasn't like -- you know, a lot of

10 the guns now are black --

11 JO: Okay.

12 BT: -- or real dark.

13 JO: Uh-huh.

14 BT: But it was -- I would call it a silverish tone.

15 JO: Okay.

16 BT: It looked like -- really in his hand, it didn't look

17 much bigger than his hand.

18 JO: Okay.

19 BT: You know, it wasn't a big long barrel on it.

20 JO: Can you describe his position when he was shooting?

21 BT: Um, you know, I was looking back towards the two

22 cars.

23 JO: Uh-huh.

24 BT: So I would describe his position by the time he was

25 getting ready to shoot as facing almost from my left



1 to my right, but obviously maybe tilted a little bit  
2 towards the cars. But I would describe it as being  
3 behind the car on the left.

4 JO: Okay.

5 BT: But pretty much, you know, as much looking from the  
6 one car trunk to the trunk behind -- or the back  
7 bumper --

8 JO: Uh-huh.

9 BT: -- of the other car, but obviously his arm had to be  
10 out enough to shoot towards the -- over the trunk of  
11 the car I would say.

12 JO: Did you see what angle he was shooting at? Can you  
13 describe the way his arms came out?

14 BT: I -- the one arm. I don't remember what he was  
15 doing with his left arm, but he -- he raised his  
16 right arm. And I would say it would be like out  
17 over the trunk of the car.

18 JO: Okay.

19 BT: The left car, because she was -- as I say, she was  
20 sort of between the driver's doors. And maybe by  
21 the time he actually shot, she was more towards the  
22 back doors of the cars. Uh, so he would have had to  
23 shoot at about a -- I'll guess a 30-degree angle  
24 from where he was standing, to his right.

25 JO: Okay.

1 BT: You know, like, uh -- like if you're a car -- or  
2 there's two cars.

3 JO: Uh-huh.

4 BT: He would have been back there and she'd a been about  
5 here.

6 JO: Okay.

7 BT: And he was shooting at an angle towards her. And  
8 obviously he was a good shot, so --

9 JO: What about the direction of his hand? Did it look  
10 like he was shooting straight across or down or --

11 BT: I would say pretty much straight out from him.

12 JO: Okay.

13 BT: But he's a good-size guy, I mean.

14 JO: Okay. How --

15 BT: He wasn't a little runt like me.

16 JO: How -- how tall would you describe the burglar?

17 BT: Oh, at least 6 feet tall.

18 JO: Okay.

19 BT: Maybe more. But, you know, he had like the hood  
20 thing on, too, to protect his -- and the goggles.

21 JO: Yeah.

22 BT: And I don't know how much space is between the top  
23 of his head and that -- you know, how thick that  
24 thing was. But I would say he's at least 6 if not  
25 more.

1 JO: Okay.

2 BT: I'd be very surprised if he was less than 6 feet  
3 tall.

4 JO: Okay. And you heard three to four shots?

5 BT: That's what I remember.

6 JO: Okay. And then you saw Mary start to fall?

7 BT: Well, it was like she, uh, kind of like bent over  
8 like that.

9 JO: Okay.

10 BT: And then I thought she --

11 JO: Like grabbing her abdomen?

12 BT: Yeah.

13 JO: Okay.

14 BT: Sort of. And then she kind of turned. And I  
15 couldn't swear which way, but then she ended up at  
16 about this position.

17 JO: Okay. So falling forward but not --

18 BT: She fell forward.

19 JO: -- facing you.

20 BT: Well, I would have been over there.

21 JO: Oh, okay.

22 BT: So sort of facing us but off at about a 30-, 40-  
23 degree angle.

24 JO: Okay.

25 BT: But then she fell, it appeared, on her face, which

1           would have been -- you know, it wasn't like she was  
2           trying to catch her fall.

3    JO:   Yeah.

4    BT:   She had stopped.  Either she was too concerned about  
5           her abdomen -- I think it was more her abdomen than  
6           her chest, but I -- I don't know.

7    JO:   Okay.

8    BT:   Um, but she didn't fall at a -- what you think of as  
9           a natural way.

10   JO:   Okay.

11   BT:   It was like -- it was like she was bent 90 degrees  
12           at the waist and then just fell on her face from  
13           there.

14   JO:   And what kind of response happened after that from  
15           police?

16   BT:   Um, well, I mean, initially everybody was just kind  
17           of -- we didn't know what to think, uh, but then the  
18           -- the people in authority, you know -- I don't know  
19           what they said.  I don't even remember.  But it was  
20           like they were startled that she had fallen like  
21           that.  And -- but I think initially the reaction  
22           might have been that she fainted or had a heart  
23           attack or --

24   JO:   Uh-huh.

25   BT:   -- something more natural.

1 JO: Uh-huh.

2 BT: Uh, till they got over there, and then I think they  
3 knew something because that's what they're used to  
4 seeing. Uh --

5 JO: Did you see, um, a rapid response from the police?

6 BT: Yeah, I'd say it was pretty -- I mean other than the  
7 initial shock of --

8 JO: Yes.

9 BT: -- oh, she fell, you know, and what do we do now.  
10 But -- and then they just rushed over there and then  
11 said get the -- you know, get the EMTs or whatever  
12 they said.

13 JO: Uh-huh.

14 BT: I mean, they were calling for -- you know, get help  
15 fast, you know.

16 JO: Did you see them perform any type of, um, medical  
17 response on Mary?

18 BT: Right. They were -- I -- I think they pulled her  
19 shirt open to see what really happened and --

20 JO: Uh-huh.

21 BT: And they were starting, but by that time they were,  
22 you know -- and I -- I just stopped looking really  
23 because I --

24 JO: Okay.

25 BT: I figured, well, there's enough of them. Wasn't

1 anything I could do to help because --

2 JO: Yeah.

3 BT: -- I'd just be in the way. And I just -- you know,  
4 even if she had fallen, had a heart attack, I just  
5 felt for her because I know her from the community.

6 JO: Uh-huh.

7 BT: And just didn't look anymore really.

8 JO: Okay. Did you see the Fire or the EMS respond?

9 BT: They came out -- I'm not sure if it's the same door.  
10 They must have come out a different door because  
11 they're a little further south in the building.

12 JO: Uh-huh.

13 BT: But somehow they came in. They had the little --  
14 little, like, trays of stuff and --

15 JO: Okay.

16 BT: -- like a little -- I think a little suitcase thing  
17 and, um -- and then I think they did CPR on her  
18 right away, but I -- I don't know.

19 JO: Okay. And were you -- at that point were you  
20 escorted back to the classroom?

21 BT: Right. They --

22 JO: Okay.

23 BT: They led us back to the -- the center where we  
24 started.

25 JO: Did you ever leave the classroom?

1 BT: I went to the bathroom a bunch of times, but --

2 JO: Okay. But you didn't go back out to the -- the

3 crime scene?

4 BT: No, I didn't.

5 JO: Okay.

6 BT: No. No, I didn't.

7 JO: Did you take any pictures or videos?

8 BT: No, I didn't. I mean, they told us early -- when

9 somebody asked if we could take pictures of the

10 presentation, they said you could take all the

11 pictures you want, but I didn't even think about it

12 'cause it was so dark. I didn't figure --

13 JO: Okay.

14 BT: -- they'd show up.

15 JO: Yeah.

16 BT: Would have been great to -- you know, had it been

17 the fun thing it was supposed to be --

18 JO: Uh-huh.

19 BT: -- to film and see the -- the -- the -- you know,

20 the --

21 JO: Yeah.

22 BT: -- play scene.

23 JO: Of course.

24 BT: But, no, I didn't because I just thought it was too

25 dark.

1 JO: Okay. Is there anything else that you can think of  
2 that I haven't asked you?

3 BT: Uh, just that I -- I don't -- I don't know enough  
4 about police training --

5 JO: Uh-huh.

6 BT: -- to know how -- like that training gun and the --  
7 the gun that the prowler had and so on, how those  
8 are handled, but I just can't imagine that that -- I  
9 -- I just don't know how that would have happened  
10 for -- if real bullets did get --

11 JO: Uh-huh.

12 BT: -- in a play gun or a test gun or whatever, training  
13 gun, whatever they're called, um, without somebody  
14 knowing about it, but --

15 JO: Uh-huh.

16 BT: I have no idea how many people handle it or who  
17 stores it or who loads it or --

18 JO: Uh-huh.

19 BT: -- you know, whether the person that's gonna shoot  
20 it loads it or somebody else loads it or -- it --  
21 it's just something that is gonna eat at me, you  
22 know, because I'm sure the guy that was in that big  
23 suit had no intention of --

24 JO: Uh-huh.

25 BT: -- hurting that little old lady.



1 JO: Uh-huh.

2 BT: Um, and that's just gonna -- I mean, I've just been  
3 shaking like a leaf all evening and --

4 JO: Of course. Did -- did you see his reaction when the  
5 -- the gun went off?

6 BT: Um, well, I think he acted surprised, but then  
7 again, I'm not sure what his play acting was  
8 supposed to be. But, you know, he had that -- well,  
9 I couldn't see -- like, he had that whole suit and  
10 hood thing on, so I don't know about facial  
11 expressions or anything. But I think he was maybe  
12 one of the first ones to realize that this -- she  
13 wasn't supposed to fall down. Uh, but I don't know  
14 if he jumped down on the ground with her or not. It  
15 was just like --

16 JO: Blurry?

17 BT: -- people swarmed around.

18 JO: Uh-huh.

19 BT: And, I mean, obviously he would have looked  
20 different, but I just didn't look anymore.

21 JO: Okay. I understand. I appreciate your time.

22 BT: Oh, you're welcome. Do you have any questions for  
23 me or --

24 JO: Um, I -- I think we've covered everything.

25 BT: You've probably heard the same thing a dozen times

1 by now.

2 JO: That will conclude this interview at approximately  
3 10:11 p.m.

4 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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24 Transcribed by: lam/lam/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF BRENDA LYNCH, 2016-0108)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

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5 BL = Brenda Lynch

6 JO = Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell [phonetic]

7 JO: It is approximately 9:45 p.m. on August 9th, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell, with the

9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement, is here with

10 Brenda Lynch. If you could, please, um, state and

11 spell your name.

12 BL: Brenda Lynch, B-R-E-N-D-A L-Y-N-C-H.

13 JO: If you would, please raise your right hand. Do you

14 solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing

15 but the truth, so help you God?

16 BL: Yes.

17 JO: So, can you please tell me what brings you to the

18 police department this evening?

19 BL: We came for the Citizen's Academy for the Punta

20 Gorda Chamber of Commerce.

21 JO: And what did you observe in this, um, event?

22 BL: From start to finish or --

23 JO: A -- a brief overview of -- of how you guys started

24 the event.

25 BL: Um, we came in. We had a little side presentation,

26 um, by, uh, Tom Lewis, and then we took a brief, um,

1           tour of the facility, and then we went out and we  
2           looked at the vehicles and the -- the boats, you  
3           know, the boat and, um, you know, got to see, you  
4           know, what was going on with that. And then we  
5           moved over to the, um, to the -- where the garage is  
6           and the parking lot, um, to do the demonstrations  
7           for, um, you know, um -- what did he call I, um, to  
8           shoot or not to shoot.

9    JO:    Okay.

10   BL:    You know? As far as, you know, as an officer  
11           whether you should shoot or -- or not. Um, and  
12           that's when, um, there were supposed to be two  
13           volunteers. Um, Mary was the first volunteer. Um,  
14           do you want me to just kind of go through those  
15           events?

16   JO:    Yes, yes.

17   BL:    Okay. So, she was the first volunteer. They showed  
18           her the -- the gun with the paint pellets in it.  
19           And, um, there was a -- there was a gentleman, um,  
20           officer that was over by the two police cars, um, on  
21           the other side of the parking lot. We were all on  
22           the one side. Um, and he was kind of dressed as,  
23           like, a burglar and was kind of looking in -- in the  
24           police cars and kind of opening the doors and  
25           things. Um, so they had Mary go over acting as a,

1       um, as a police officer, um, and she had -- she had  
2       the paint gun in her hand, um, and she was supposed  
3       to, um, decide, you know, whether to shoot or not to  
4       shoot, um, and so she went over.

5  
6       She was between the two cars and, uh, the gentleman  
7       was making his way around the back of the car on the  
8       left-hand side. Um, and she didn't really have a  
9       chance to do much of anything but, um, as the -- the  
10      burglar, um -- he all of a sudden -- I -- I wasn't  
11      really paying attention to him, per se, but you  
12      heard -- I heard -- I heard, I believe, three  
13      gunshots. Um, and I was watching Mary and I just  
14      saw her face go white, um, and I didn't know if she  
15      -- if that was part of the -- the exercise, that  
16      they had told her to act like, um, she was shot.  
17      Um, she had turned around a little bit and kind of  
18      was facing us, and then she just kind of slouched  
19      over and, um, at that point I still thought it was  
20      part of the exercise. And then, um, her head hit  
21      the -- the pavement and slid across the pavement and  
22      she -- she was face down, and at that point I think  
23      we all knew that something had happened.

24  
25      I didn't know at the time whether it was a, you know

1 -- because of the -- the three shots that it, you  
2 know, caused a heart attack or whatever. I didn't -  
3 - we didn't know. Um, but then, when they turned  
4 her over there was blood, and -- and it was -- you  
5 know, everyone said get 911 and, you know, get the  
6 ambulance there.

7 JO: And you saw the ambulance arrive?

8 BL: Well, it's, um -- we kind of -- it -- it's the same  
9 facility --

10 JO: Uh-huh.

11 BL: -- so we just, you know, um -- they -- they came  
12 running out, um, and at that point they tried to get  
13 us all to step away and, um -- 'cause some of us ran  
14 over there to, um, to see if she was okay. And, um  
15 -- so then they just had us all kind of, uh, kind of  
16 pushed us back and had escorted us back into the  
17 building and, um, came and talked to us after a  
18 couple minutes.

19 JO: Do you know where the shots came from?

20 BL: Uh, the shots came from -- well, I'm -- I didn't --  
21 just trying to -- to play it back in my mind. The  
22 shots came from the gentleman that was, um, acting -  
23 -

24 JO: The burglar?

25 BL: -- as the burglar. Correct.

1 JO: Okay.

2 BL: Um --

3 JO: Did you see a -- a weapon?

4 BL: Did I see a weapon? No.

5 JO: Okay.

6 BL: I did not see the weapon because when it happened I

7 heard the shots and I saw her turn around and -- and

8 fall. So, I was more focused on Mary than I was on

9 him.

10 JO: Okay.

11 BL: And then I just kind of, you know --

12 JO: Of course.

13 BL: So, yeah.

14 JO: Did you know Mary personally?

15 BL: Um, yes.

16 JO: Okay.

17 BL: I know she's been in the Chamber of commerce for

18 quite some time and, um, I knew her as a chamber

19 member. Uh, I didn't know her as a friend or --

20 JO: Uh-huh.

21 BL: -- you know, uh, but I -- I know her. Yes.

22 JO: Did you know the police officer involved in the

23 scenario?

24 BL: No.

25 JO: Okay. Leading up to the scenario did they go over

1 any type of safety precautions?

2 BL: Um, with her or with us?

3 JO: Either. Anything you saw.

4 BL: Um, so they asked us to, you know, step back, you  
5 know. So, we were -- we were kind of in, um, the  
6 driveway part. Um, you know the -- the road kind of  
7 comes across and then we were back in here, and the  
8 two cars were on the other side of, like, the  
9 roadway back where the -- there was -- there's a  
10 garage and everything back there. So, um, so as far  
11 as, you know, they -- they did tell us to stay back.  
12 Um, they did -- and I wasn't real close to where  
13 Mary was, but they were showing her the gun and it,  
14 you know, how it was loaded and it -- and then they  
15 showed us the -- the paint, um, pellets --

16 JO: Uh-huh.

17 BL: -- um, or whatever they are, detergent pellets or  
18 whatever. They showed us those. Um, but they  
19 didn't do anything with his weapon.

20 JO: Okay.

21 BL: So, it was all on Mary's side and, you know, this is  
22 a -- a replica of --

23 JO: Uh-huh.

24 BL: -- the actual guns that -- that the officers use.

25 JO: Okay.



1 BL: So --

2 JO: Is there anything else that you can think of that I  
3 haven't asked you?

4 BL: No, I think I went through everything the way that I  
5 believe it happened. Um --

6 JO: Did you hear her say anything?

7 BL: No.

8 JO: Okay.

9 BL: No. After it happened?

10 JO: Yes.

11 BL: No.

12 JO: Okay.

13 BL: No, I think she, um -- by the time she was falling  
14 over I think she was already out or, you know.  
15 Because when she hit the ground she didn't even, uh,  
16 try and, uh, brace herself or anything so --

17 JO: Prior to hearing the gunshots did you see the  
18 burglar's weapon?

19 BL: No.

20 JO: So, at no point did you see the burglar with a  
21 weapon?

22 BL: No, I believe he had something in his hand, but I  
23 don't -- I don't -- I don't know exactly what it  
24 was. Um, when he was -- he had something in his  
25 hand when he was going through the cars.

1 JO: Okay.

2 BL: So, there was something in his hand. I don't know  
3 what it was. It didn't -- you know, to me it didn't  
4 look like a gun, but I couldn't tell you what it  
5 was, so -- and then he went around the back of the  
6 car, so I didn't see, um -- I didn't -- I -- and, to  
7 be honest with you, I don't know at what point he  
8 shot at her. Um, he may still have been behind the  
9 car, but as soon as I heard that my attention --

10 JO: Okay.

11 BL: -- went right to, uh -- 'cause we were --

12 JO: Yeah.

13 BL: -- none of us were expecting, you know, those shots.

14 JO: Yeah.

15 BL: So, um, our -- my focus went right to her.

16 JO: So, when you heard the shots he may have been behind  
17 the car?

18 BL: He had gone around the car so --

19 JO: Okay.

20 BL: -- I don't know how far around --

21 JO: Yeah.

22 BL: -- he was, if he was out in the open yet or if he  
23 was just behind the car.

24 JO: And then where was Mary?

25 BL: Mary was between the two cars.

1 JO: Okay. All right. Um, there's nothing else.

2 BL: Okay.

3 JO: Okay. That will conclude this interview at  
4 approximately 9:55 p.m.

5 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: hmc/hmc/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF CATHERINE E. PERRY, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT = Special Agent Christopher Tissot

6 CP = Catherine E. Perry

7 CT: All right. My name is Christopher Tissot. I am a  
8 Special Agent with the Florida Department of Law  
9 Enforcement out of Fort Myers. This is in reference  
10 to an incident which occurred at the Punta Gorda  
11 Police Department, 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda,  
12 Florida. Uh, today's date is August 9th, 2016. The  
13 time is currently 10:51 p.m. I will be taking a  
14 sworn, taped statement from Catherine E. Perry, P-E-  
15 R-R-Y, uh, date of birth January 15th, 1957,  
16 currently living at 1506 Casey Kay -- Casey Key  
17 Drive, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. Do you prefer -  
18 - is it Catherine?

19 CP: Cathy's fine.

20 CT: Cathy? Okay. All right. Okay, Cathy. Before we  
21 begin, ask you if you know what perjury is.

22 CP: I sure do.

23 CT: And in your own words.

24 CP: It's lying.

25 CT: Correct. Perjury is lying under oath. Uh, it could  
26 really be done in two ways: either telling an

1           outright lie or leaving out all or part of  
2           information in order to mislead, uh, an  
3           investigation.

4   CP:    Sure.

5   CT:    Okay?  And we tell everybody that in the state of  
6           Florida, perjury is a misdemeanor.  Okay?

7   CP:    Uh-huh.

8   CT:    Um, being a law enforcement officer, I'm empowered  
9           to swear you in under oath.

10  CP:    Okay.

11  CT:    Okay?  So if you'd please raise your right hand.  Do  
12           you swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole  
13           truth, and nothing but the truth?

14  CP:    Absolutely.

15  CT:    Okay.  Thank you.  Okay.  As I said, I'm here --  
16           we're investigating what happened tonight at the  
17           Punta Gorda Police Department.

18  CP:    Uh-huh.

19  CT:    Tonight, this evening.  If you would be so kind just  
20           to start from the very beginning as -- you know,  
21           about when you got here and just take me through  
22           everything.

23  CP:    I believe I arrived around 5:15, um, met in the  
24           lobby till the rest of the group came in.  We were  
25           brought back to the conference room, where Chief

1 Lewis gave a presentation, about a 25-, 30-minute  
2 presentation. Um, told us a couple things we'll be  
3 going through. Um, showed us around the police  
4 department, um, told us -- showed us the police  
5 vehicles and the, um -- the water team, you know,  
6 the boat, and the bike team that are on bikes. Um,  
7 then he brought us to the back of the building and  
8 explained the scenarios that were gonna happen with  
9 the, um -- I guess, you know, shoot-or-not-shoot  
10 situations, what he called it.

11 CT: Okay.

12 CP: And, um, that's -- I don't know what the term is,  
13 but that's what they were calling it, shoot-or-not-  
14 shoot scenario in which how would you respond. And  
15 I understand there was two people that were going to  
16 be doing the scenario along with trained police  
17 officers that were going to be, I guess, the  
18 perpetrators or --

19 CT: Okay.

20 CP: -- the people involved in it, um, doing a crime.

21 CT: Okay.

22 CP: And I guess the -- the basis was to see how they  
23 would react.

24 CT: Okay.

25 CP: And, um, show us what it's like on the other side of

1 the -- the scene, I guess.

2 CT: Right.

3 CP: Uh, I know, um, Mary Knowlton was one and Deb  
4 Malinowski was another who, um, drew what we'd call  
5 a firearm card. He had placed cards in our  
6 notebooks and said -- you know, rather than  
7 assigning it to people, they were chosen --

8 CT: Okay.

9 CP: -- by the notebook.

10 CT: Like a random draw?

11 CP: Yeah, exactly.

12 CT: Okay.

13 CP: Um, and I guess Mary was gonna be the first one, uh,  
14 or she appeared. And then Chief Lewis started going  
15 through -- showing us the gun, the Glock, and  
16 showing us that the bullets -- they weren't bullets.  
17 They were -- what do you call it, blanks?

18 CT: Okay.

19 CP: Um, and they had different colors so that when  
20 they're in -- you guys are in training scenarios,  
21 you could tell from each person what -- who shot  
22 what shot --

23 CT: Okay.

24 CP: -- during a training scenario, um, 'cause there was  
25 laundry detergent or something inside these.

1 CT: Okay.

2 CP: So, um -- and then he, uh, was explaining to Mary  
3 how to hold the gun.

4 CT: Okay.

5 CP: And then Mary -- uh, while he was doing this, the  
6 gentlemen, um -- police officers, I assumed, that  
7 were gonna be in the scenario, um, act the scenario  
8 out, were by the vehicles. One had a hooded  
9 sweatshirt on with like a mask to protect his face.

10 CT: Okay.

11 CP: And the other gentleman I think was just all dressed  
12 in black. So Mary went over -- behind most of the  
13 crowd over to the side to where another police  
14 officer I guess was there to tell her when it was  
15 time to go.

16 CT: Okay.

17 CP: And then the gentleman in the gray sweatshirt  
18 started his scenario and Mary started walking in --

19 CT: Okay.

20 CP: -- to the scenario. So she was walking around the  
21 car, from the rear to the right-hand side of the  
22 car, and then he had, um, roleplayed a little bit  
23 and he said to her, "Why do you have a gun?" And I  
24 don't know whether she was laughing or just, you  
25 know, trying to play along with it.



1 CT: Right.

2 CP: Um, and then he went -- and I -- I don't recall  
3 exactly. I think he went in front of the car and  
4 over to the other side, the left front, and started  
5 shooting.

6 CT: Okay.

7 CP: And they were very loud noises. Um, three or four  
8 shots I think it was. And next thing, we saw Mary  
9 go down.

10 CT: Okay.

11 CP: I believe she was grasping her stomach.

12 CT: Okay.

13 CP: Uh, just leaning down and on her knees. Started to  
14 lean forward, and as she really started to go down,  
15 it almost looked like she had blood on her.

16 CT: Okay.

17 CP: And I don't know whether it was on her arm or what I  
18 was seeing, but it looked like blood. Now, I  
19 thought it was just one of those pellets that was of  
20 the colored ink.

21 CT: Okay.

22 CP: Was just what I observed. And then Chief Lewis  
23 obviously knew something was wrong and just dropped  
24 everything and ran over there and -- and the young  
25 man that was on the -- playing the scenario was

1 right on top of her, um, lifting up her shirt,  
2 trying to get her going and talking to her and  
3 yelling, "Call 911; call 911." And next thing, just  
4 everybody on top of her, trying to help her. So  
5 then we were led back into the, um, conference room.  
6 CT: Okay. Excuse me. Okay. I'm just gonna go back.  
7 CP: Uh-huh.  
8 CT: Just kind of ask some questions. Now, did you  
9 happen to have a camera, cellphone or anything to  
10 film the scenario?  
11 CP: No, didn't take any of it out.  
12 CT: Okay. Did -- did you see anyone with a camera,  
13 cellphone filming?  
14 CP: Uh, there was one lady next to Chief Lewis, but she  
15 was filming the crowd.  
16 CT: Okay.  
17 CP: Not filming the area where that all took place.  
18 CT: Okay. Now --  
19 CP: I don't think she was filming. I think she was  
20 taking a photo. That --  
21 CT: Oh, okay. I gotcha.  
22 CP: I have no idea which way it was.  
23 CT: All right. So originally you guys come here. You  
24 meet in like the conference room or whatever.  
25 CP: Uh-huh.

1 CT: And, uh, eventually make your way outside to see the  
2 boat and the cars. And then does everyone as a  
3 group make their way to the shooting scenario?

4 CP: Yes.

5 CT: Okay. And about how many -- and you're part of the  
6 Chamber, Punta Gorda Chamber?

7 CP: I am.

8 CT: And about how many people were here?

9 CP: I heard there was about 39 of us. I'm not positive.

10 CT: Okay. Okay. So now Mary's selected. Um, now, as  
11 far as the actual scenario, as far as you know --

12 CP: Uh-huh.

13 CT: -- how many civilians -- and when I saw civilians, I  
14 mean Chamber people -- were involved in that  
15 scenario? Was anyone other than Mary involved as  
16 far --

17 CP: At that time, no.

18 CT: Right.

19 CP: Just --

20 CT: Okay.

21 CP: Just Mary.

22 CT: And how many officers playing bad guys or officers  
23 at all were involved in that scenario?

24 CP: I only saw two.

25 CT: Two. Okay. So you said there was one with a hood

1 and a mask?

2 CP: Yeah, almost like a black mask, but it was a clear  
3 face shield.

4 CT: Okay.

5 CP: I -- I would assume to protect his face.

6 CT: Okay. And there was --

7 CP: 'Cause if she had that blank --

8 CT: Okay.

9 CP: -- I don't feel --

10 CT: And then there was one in all black?

11 CP: Uh-huh.

12 CT: Okay. Now, they were both -- am I correct, were  
13 they both actively involved in the scenario with  
14 Mary or --

15 CP: No; just the gentleman in the -- in the gray  
16 sweatshirt.

17 CT: All right. What was the other one doing; do you  
18 recall?

19 CP: I honestly don't know.

20 CT: Okay.

21 CP: I don't recall where he was.

22 CT: So you said they showed you Mary's gun and all that  
23 stuff that she was gonna be using?

24 CP: Uh-huh.

25 CT: Where did they do that? I mean, was that inside or

1 outside where they're showing --

2 CP: When Mary first came out --

3 CT: Okay.

4 CP: -- and she was preparing to do this, um, Chief

5 Lewis, um, asked her if she knew what -- I forget

6 the name of it. They put the finger on the side.

7 CT: Right.

8 CP: So she wouldn't --

9 CT: Okay. I gotcha.

10 CP: I don't know what you call it.

11 CT: Laser somebody?

12 CP: No. Something finger?

13 CT: Okay.

14 CP: I don't know.

15 CT: I gotcha.

16 CP: So he was explaining it to her and then, um, he

17 said, uh, "You can go over there and he'll explain

18 it to you a little bit more --

19 CT: Okay.

20 CP: -- if you want." You know, I -- I guess --

21 CT: Okay.

22 CP: I don't know whether she was totally clear or not,

23 um, or if that was all --

24 CT: Okay.

25 CP: -- he needed to say to her.

1 CT: So, now, it -- it -- it occurred in the back of this  
2 area, in the back of Punta Gorda Police Department.  
3 Correct?  
4 CP: Uh-huh.  
5 CT: Um, on the blacktop?  
6 CP: Yes.  
7 CT: Correct? How far were spectators from the actual  
8 scenario? I mean --  
9 CP: Uh --  
10 CT: -- could you estimate?  
11 CP: I'd say probably two to three car lengths.  
12 CT: Okay.  
13 CP: I don't know what width that is, but --  
14 CT: Okay. Two to three car lengths?  
15 CP: Right.  
16 CT: From -- from the scenario?  
17 CP: Uh-huh.  
18 CT: Okay. So you were pretty close. Is that correct?  
19 CP: Yes.  
20 CT: So did you have a -- a good view as to what was  
21 happening?  
22 CP: I think so.  
23 CT: Okay. Um, so once the scenario began, what did Mary  
24 do? Did she start walking? Where did she start  
25 going?

1 CP: She started walking from behind the car to around  
2 the right-hand side of the car.

3 CT: Okay. How many cars were involved in the scenario?

4 CP: There was -- there was two parked there.

5 CT: Okay.

6 CP: Um, so I think just the main -- one main car was  
7 there. It was like a white or a silverish car.

8 CT: Okay. And -- and the officer playing the bad guy,  
9 was he around there?

10 CP: Yes.

11 CT: In that area?

12 CP: Uh-huh.

13 CT: Okay. So he's around that car. And what was he  
14 doing? Like, was he --

15 CP: He started out with, um, peeking in the car like he  
16 was --

17 CT: Okay.

18 CP: -- gonna do something with the car. Was talking on  
19 his cellphone, acting all toughish --

20 CT: Okay.

21 CP: -- I guess --

22 CT: Right.

23 CP: -- the scenario. Um, acting very suspicious in  
24 other words.

25 CT: Okay.

- 1 CP: And, uh, then he started going to the front of the  
2 car and just moving and he'd like -- then he sees  
3 her come to the back and says, "Why do you have a  
4 gun"?
- 5 CT: He -- he sees her come --
- 6 CP: He --
- 7 CT: -- to the back or he comes -- he came to the back?
- 8 CP: No. She comes to the back of the car.
- 9 CT: Oh, okay.
- 10 CP: Goes over to the right side.
- 11 CT: Okay.
- 12 CP: By this time while she's coming over there -- well,  
13 he had confronted her at that point.
- 14 CT: Okay.
- 15 CP: And he said, "Why do you have a gun?"
- 16 CT: Okay.
- 17 CP: And then he went in the front of the car to the left  
18 side of the car and that's when the shooting  
19 started.
- 20 CT: Okay. So he went to the front, to the left side?  
21 Did he stay in the -- as far as you remember, did he  
22 stay in the front or go to the rear of the car?
- 23 CP: No. He -- he stayed towards the front.
- 24 CT: Okay.
- 25 CP: And he was no further than the -- the driver's door.



1 CT: Okay. And when did the shooting happen? Was it --

2 CP: Right there.

3 CT: Right at that point?

4 CP: Yeah.

5 CT: Okay. And you said -- how many -- three to four

6 shots you said you heard?

7 CP: Yeah, I think so.

8 CT: Okay. So did -- do you remember anything specific

9 he said when he was shooting?

10 CP: Didn't hear anything.

11 CT: Didn't hear anything?

12 CP: No.

13 CT: Okay. So he was towards the front of the car. She

14 was in front of him, obviously.

15 CP: She was on the other side of the car.

16 CT: Other side. So is it correct in me saying he shot

17 across the vehicle?

18 CP: Uh, yes.

19 CT: Okay.

20 CP: Yes.

21 CT: So he shot across -- he shot across the front, like,

22 hood area?

23 CP: I would say so. Uh-huh.

24 CT: Okay. And, uh, so you heard the shots. You saw --

25 you had a good view. Is that correct?

1 CP: Yes.

2 CT: Okay. Um, I mean, I know it's graphic, but describe  
3 it --

4 CP: That's okay.

5 CT: -- as detailed as you can, I mean, the actual --  
6 when the shots were fired and what you saw.

7 CP: We all jumped, and I know specifically I did,  
8 because I don't think any of us expected it to be  
9 loud.

10 CT: Right.

11 CP: Or if there was any noise at all. I don't think  
12 anybody was prepared whether there would or wouldn't  
13 be any noise from the, um -- the gun. And, um, Mary  
14 -- we heard the shots, saw her. And we kind of  
15 thought she was in shock for a minute or laughing  
16 about how it happened, but it wasn't -- she was  
17 bunched over.

18 CT: Okay.

19 CP: And then went down on her knees.

20 CT: Okay.

21 CP: And was just kind of like stiff, almost like she was  
22 in shock.

23 CT: Right.

24 CP: And then just keeled over.

25 CT: Okay.

1 CP: And -- and -- and everybody was right on top of her  
2 right away.

3 CT: Did they ever tell you anything about the -- the  
4 officer's gun? They told you about her gun. Did  
5 they tell you anything about his gun, like what it  
6 was -- how it was gonna be set up, or did they  
7 mention his gun, the officer playing the bad guy?

8 CP: I think we were under the impression that he was  
9 gonna have the same type.

10 CT: Okay.

11 CP: That he'd be shooting blanks.

12 CT: Did you just assume it or did they tell you that?

13 CP: I don't recall.

14 CT: You don't -- okay.

15 CP: No.

16 CT: Okay. That's fine. That's fine. And then after  
17 she went -- finally went down, um, you guys were  
18 brought back in here eventually?

19 CP: Uh-huh.

20 CT: Okay.

21 CP: You know, I don't know anything about his gun  
22 because they were explaining to Mary -- or all of us  
23 what those pellets were like.

24 CT: Okay. I understand.

25 CP: And I think he was dressed, prepared, uh, something

1 -- Chief Lewis did tell us if one of them hits you  
2 that you would get --

3 CT: Right.

4 CP: -- a good-size welt.

5 CT: Right.

6 CP: So he was dressed prepared for --

7 CT: Okay.

8 CP: -- that, should she have responded.

9 CT: Okay.

10 CP: But I don't know what his -- his weapon was supposed  
11 to do or not do.

12 CT: Okay. Did -- did you know or do you know the  
13 officer that was involved?

14 CP: I don't.

15 CT: No? Do you know his name? Have you ever --

16 CP: I only know what I've heard.

17 CT: Okay.

18 CP: So --

19 CT: So you didn't know him before that or anything like  
20 that.

21 CP: I do not. I do not, no.

22 CT: All right. All right. Well, is there anything else  
23 you think I should know or you think I forgot to ask  
24 you or anything else that'd help me?

25 CP: xx 00:14:35(Unintelligible).

1 CT: Okay. Well, I --

2 CP: Just an accident.

3 CT: I appreciate your help, your cooperation, staying --  
4 hanging around for us.

5 CP: You're welcome.

6 CT: If nothing else, Then I'll end the interview the  
7 same day, August 9th, 2016, at 11:06 p.m.

8 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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24 Transcribed by: lam/lam/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF CATHERINE PETERSON, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DM = Dan Maler [phonetic]

6 CP = Catherine Peterson

7 DM: This is Special Agent Dan Maler; Florida Department  
8 of Law Enforcement. Today is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It  
9 is approximately 10 p.m. I'm here at the Punta  
10 Gorda Police Department with Kate -- do me a favor  
11 and, uh, give me your full name and date of birth.

12 CP: Catherine Peterson; January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1946.

13 DM: Okay. Thank you. Um, we're just gonna talk, like I  
14 said, about, you know, what happened tonight. Um,  
15 if you don't mind, could you raise your right hand  
16 for me? Do you swear that everything you're gonna  
17 tell me is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing  
18 but the truth?

19 CP: Yes.

20 DM: Okay. Thank you. Um, just start from the beginning  
21 -- um, how you got here or why you got -- you came  
22 here tonight and kinda just tell me what happened.

23 CP: Uh, my husband's running for city council. We  
24 thought it would be a nice thing to kind of mingle  
25 with people and wear our little signs --

26 DM: Okay.

1 CP: -- and, uh, also, Bob wanted to show his support for  
2 the police and, um, so we wanted to participate in  
3 this event and, um, we got here a little bit late,  
4 uh, saw a little bit of the building and then went  
5 outside, looked at the equipment --

6 DM: Uh-huh.

7 CP: -- and then they had us all go over to the one spot  
8 'cause they were gonna do this little routine. Um,  
9 Bob knew what was happening because he was -- he  
10 just went through Charlotte Leadership and they had  
11 done it for Charlotte Leadership. So he was telling  
12 me, you know, what -- what they're gonna do.

13 DM: Gotchu.

14 CP: And, um, so they did the routine and, um, the guy  
15 fired the shots and she grabbed her stomach and  
16 kinda swayed a little bit and then when she  
17 collapsed, then everybody realized she wasn't just  
18 kidding by holding her stomach -- that something was  
19 wrong and then they asked us all to, um, you know,  
20 wait in the room.

21 DM: Okay. Do you know who -- who either of the  
22 participants were? Do you know their names by any  
23 chance -- the -- the -- the female who was involved  
24 with the scenario?

25 CP: I know -- I know her name is Mary, but I don't know

1 her personally.

2 DM: Okay. All right. Do you know who the officer is?

3 CP: No.

4 DM: Okay. And you say you got here just in time for  
5 part of the tour, I guess, through the building?

6 CP: Yeah.

7 DM: Okay. And you went outside, got to see the cars and  
8 --

9 CP: Uh-huh.

10 DM: -- (unintelligible)? Okay. Um, at -- at any point  
11 did they talk to you guys about the scenario as far  
12 as what was gonna happen during the scenario or just  
13 kind of, "Here. Watch this?"

14 CP: Oh, well, they -- no -- the -- yeah, they explained  
15 that they had these little bullets with the, um,  
16 dishwashing soap or soap in the points of them.

17 DM: Okay.

18 CP: That, um, the woman who was playing the police would  
19 have and that the guy who was playing the potential  
20 criminal, you know, was all covered in case she  
21 started firing those things because they can, uh,  
22 hurt.

23 DM: Uh-huh.

24 CP: And I don't think they explain -- I don't remember  
25 them saying he would have blanks. Well, they



1           didn't, because we didn't even know that he -- if he  
2           had a gun or not.

3   DM:   Right.

4   CP:   They were just going to go through that.  Um, so,  
5           uh, they gave us that much of an explanation that  
6           she was supposed to -- you know, we're all supposed  
7           to kinda think that we -- well, what we do with --  
8           if we were an officer and we had that situation.

9   DM:   Okay.  So when you hear the -- you see the rounds go  
10          off, he fires his weapon, do you know how many times  
11          he fired it or do you?

12  CP:   I heard three.

13  DM:   Three?  Okay.  And you said that she had -- she  
14          grabbed herself?

15  CP:   She grabbed her stomach.

16  DM:   Okay.

17  CP:   And because they hadn't said he usually has blanks,  
18          I thought, oh, my goodness, he hit her with one of  
19          those, um, you know, the fake bullets --

20  DM:   Uh-huh.  (Unintelligible).

21  CP:   -- because she --

22  DM:   Uh, (unintelligible) rounds?

23  CP:   -- grabbed her stomach.  Yeah.  She got hit in the  
24          stomach.  Yeah, the soap things.

25  DM:   Okay.

1 CP: Um, but then, you know, when she collapsed and we  
2 realized something else was wrong.

3 DM: Did you hear any of the officers, uh, yelling  
4 anything when -- after she collapsed or --

5 CP: Well, uh, yeah, a lot of people rushed towards her.

6 DM: Okay.

7 CP: And fairly soon, one of the officers came from this  
8 direction and I heard him say they were real  
9 bullets.

10 DM: Okay.

11 CP: And --

12 DM: You heard -- so you heard an officer say that?

13 CP: So I did say -- hear -- hear that. Yes.

14 DM: Okay. Um, do you know who that officer was by any  
15 chance?

16 CP: No.

17 DM: Do you know who he was talking to when he said that?

18 CP: No. It doesn't -- re really -- it wasn't like he  
19 was -- he -- he was -- certainly wasn't yelling --

20 DM: Okay.

21 CP: -- and I don't remember who was close to him that  
22 he, uh, talked to.

23 DM: Yeah. He -- maybe he said it to himself or --

24 CP: He -- he certain -- he may have said it to himself  
25 or maybe there was another officer closer that I

1 just don't remember.

2 DM: Okay.

3 CP: Uh-huh.

4 DM: Okay.

5 CP: And it may have been his shock of saying, you know,  
6 those are real bullets. So -- I don't know.

7 DM: Absolutely. Um, so after she went to the ground,  
8 what happened? You said people are rushing to her.

9 CP: Several people rushed towards her. Yes.

10 DM: Okay.

11 CP: And then other people rushed towards the fire  
12 department to get the EMS people.

13 DM: Okay. And were you there when EMS came?

14 CP: I saw the -- uh, they were wheeling the cart down to  
15 pick her up, but they were rushing -- they were  
16 getting -- herding us into the -- um, into the room.

17 DM: Okay.

18 CP: So that's all I saw.

19 DM: Do you know who was leading the ushering of  
20 everybody back into the building?

21 CP: Uh, the female officer that's been here all evening.

22 DM: Okay. Is there anything that I haven't asked you  
23 that you think I should know or --

24 CP: Uh-uh.

25 DM: Do you know if there's any -- uh, you know if

1           anybody recorded this -- uh, recorded the scenario  
2           by any chance?

3   CP:  No.

4   DM:  Okay.

5   CP:  I mean, um, there's one lady from the -- the, um,  
6           newspaper that was taking, I think, still pictures.

7           I don't know whether she got any or not, but, you  
8           know, nobody was expecting anything.  So --

9   DM:  Of course not.

10  CP:  -- as far as I know, nobody recorded anything.

11  DM:  Um, do you -- do you think that there's -- do you  
12           think that this was anything other than a tragedy?

13           Do you think that this is, you know, anything  
14           suspicious that stuck out in your mind or --

15  CP:  Uh, no.  I -- you know, obviously, the police have  
16           to find out how -- why real bullets were in the gun.

17  DM:  Right.

18  CP:  And, um, (unintelligible), that's --

19  DM:  But you don't think there was any malcontent behind  
20           it --

21  CP:  No.

22  DM:  -- or anything like that?

23  CP:  No.

24  DM:  Okay.  All right.

25  CP:  No.  No.  I feel -- I just feel badly for both of

1           them.

2   DM:   Absolutely.

3   CP:   And, uh, I -- I hope the young man didn't do -- you  
4           know, wasn't careless or -- you know, they find out  
5           why there were real bullets in the gun and -- and it  
6           just wasn't really his fault, I hope.

7   DM:   Absolutely.  Absolutely.  Uh, that's why we're all  
8           here.  So, um, did you -- did you take any pictures  
9           or videos on your phone tonight?

10  CP:   Uh-uh.  Not (unintelligible).  I don't even have my  
11           phone with me.

12  DM:   Okay.  Did -- did your husband, by any chance?

13  CP:   Uh, no.  His was in the car.  A little bit later he  
14           -- they let people out to get their phones.

15  DM:   Okay.

16  CP:   But, no.  He didn't take any.

17  DM:   All right.  Um, I don't think I have any other  
18           questions for you.  I appreciate you coming and  
19           talking to me.  Um, if -- if you have anything else  
20           that you -- no?  Okay.  Um, I'm gonna go ahead and  
21           end this recording.  It is now approximately 10:10  
22           p.m.

23                                   (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

24  Transcribed by: dml/dml/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF CHRISTINE PONTORIERO, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DA = Special Agent Dan (unintelligible)

6 CP = Christine Elizabeth Pontoriero

7 DA: This is Special Agent Dan (unintelligible) of  
8 Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today is  
9 August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It's approximately 11:05 p.m. I'm  
10 currently here at the Punta Gorda Police Department  
11 with -- Christine, state your full name for me.

12 CP: My name is Christine Elizabeth Pontoriero.

13 DA: And your date of birth is?

14 CP: October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1944.

15 DA: Okay. Uh, do me a favor; raise your right hand for  
16 me. You swear that everything we're gonna talk  
17 about tonight is the truth, the whole truth and  
18 nothing but the truth?

19 CP: I do.

20 DA: Thank you. Okay. Um, you were telling me earlier  
21 that, you know, uh, you happened to be the front  
22 person in line --

23 CP: Yeah.

24 DA: -- and I do wanna hear about that, but kind of walk  
25 me through the beginning of the evening as far as  
26 when you got here, what you did here and, uh --

1 CP: Okay. Um, I was late as usual. They had already  
2 started. Um, there were approximately 35, maybe 35  
3 -- 30, 35 people in the room. And there was only  
4 like one seat that was left. And I looked around  
5 and I recognized some of the people that were here.  
6 And got myself together and I sat down and as I  
7 looked up, Mary, who I did not know, um, and still  
8 don't know but I sure said a lot of prayers for her  
9 tonight, looked over her shoulder and she smiled at  
10 me. And I smiled back. And they were -- they were  
11 quick and concise about the rest of the program and  
12 keeping everybody on board.

13 Uh, we did a tour of the building and it was a  
14 quick tour. And, of course, there were some jokes  
15 that were made about, you know, the chains with the  
16 handcuffs on the end of 'em and -- and the bench  
17 that's out there. And -- and, um, couple people  
18 made some comments about the cameras in the one room  
19 where you think if you whisper, you're still gonna  
20 hear everything anyway, and the cameras are still  
21 gonna record you. And then we went from place to  
22 place to place. And it was -- it was -- it was  
23 clean and concise is what it was. And then we went  
24 outside and we took a look at, um, the car -- one of  
25 the cars. And they were --

1 DA: Excuse me.

2 CP: -- they opened the trunk and the things that were in  
3 the trunk, and they opened the doors.

4 DA: Uh-huh.

5 CP: And the police officer whose car it was is also on  
6 the SWAT Team so he had some extra paraphernalia in  
7 there. And -- and they were kidding because they  
8 said, "How do you get somebody in this backseat?"  
9 And I started to laugh and I said, "Oh, well, I've  
10 been in that backseat before but I wasn't being  
11 arrested. Okay?" Um, there was an incident that  
12 happened and this -- this wasn't here. This was  
13 back in Pennsylvania.

14 DA: Uh-huh.

15 CP: So we all kind of chuckled over it. And -- and, um,  
16 there was -- one of the women, uh, who was in the  
17 group got in the car and, you know, she like -- I  
18 don't know if she was -- she had been a police  
19 officer or not. It really didn't matter. But she  
20 wanted to know how things worked and whatever. And,  
21 um, Officer Angelini, it was his car, uh, said,  
22 "Well, here, I'll show you this." Well, he pressed  
23 the button and nothing happened. It's because the  
24 car wasn't started. It wasn't on. So the minute he  
25 turned it on, of course, bells and whistles and



1 sirens and everything. And I -- and I remember  
2 standing there plugging my ears 'cause I'm no  
3 further than couple of -- maybe a foot and a half  
4 from the car. So --

5 DA: Yeah.

6 CP: Um, so then they said, "Okay. Well, we're gonna --  
7 we're gonna go over to this other area and we're  
8 gonna do a simulation of, um -- of -- of an actual  
9 perp. Uh, to me it's a perp. Whether he said that  
10 or not, I don't know. But to me --

11 DA: No, that's fine.

12 CP: But it was, um -- um, the most common, um -- the --  
13 the most common, um, criminal act, uh, here is  
14 somebody breaking and entering into a car.

15 DA: Uh-huh.

16 CP: So, um, the young man who, um, I assume was an  
17 officer, he was standing in the -- way in the back,  
18 um, and he was kind of, you know, starting to act  
19 like a -- like the perp. Okay? I mean, God, you  
20 watch enough television and, you know, all of a  
21 sudden it becomes your language. So, um -- and the  
22 two women who had volunteered to do this left with  
23 one of the officers because they came inside. One  
24 was going to do the hands up and not shoot, and the  
25 other one was going to shoot. Well, while that was

1 going on, um, the police chief was explaining to us  
2 what the gun was. And to me it looked like a zip  
3 gun. I mean, you know, it was -- but apparently it  
4 is not.

5 Um, and, um, he explained that the bullet that  
6 was in it was basically a bullet that was, um, made  
7 out of, um, laundry detergent. So that way you  
8 could see who hit what, and if there are other  
9 offices involved when -- when they're doing these  
10 simulations, that you would know who hit what  
11 because they have the different color bullets. So  
12 he was explaining all of that. And -- and, um, in  
13 the meantime it's starting to cloud over a little  
14 bit and, you know, everybody's kind of like dancing  
15 around.

16 And the, um, Mary came out. And Mary is left-  
17 handed. And I could identify with her because I'm  
18 left-handed, and it's unusual, people our age that  
19 are left-handed because in most cases the nuns used  
20 to make you right-handed when you're in grade  
21 school. But, I foxed them. I'm still left-handed.  
22 So anyway, Mary had come out and she was with the  
23 officer. And -- and, um, the chief was going to  
24 swear her in and she had a badge and -- and the gun  
25 and -- I'm not -- there -- I believe there was

1 something else but I don't remember what the other  
2 thing was. I wasn't paying -- I mean, I was paying  
3 attention but I didn't really care because I was  
4 interested in what was going to take place.

5 DA: Right.

6 CP: So, um, the officer said to, um -- um, the chief,  
7 "She's left-handed." And it seemed to be a -- not  
8 that it was a problem but nobody's left-handed  
9 anymore. And he said, "Well, that's okay." He  
10 said, "We can deal with it." And he showed her the  
11 gun. And, um, I think it's called indexing --

12 DA: Uh-huh.

13 CP: -- where you keep your finger on the top part of the  
14 barrel, and the only time you're gonna put it in --  
15 into the, um --

16 DA: Trigger guard?

17 CP: -- the trigger is when you're gonna shoot. And, um,  
18 that was new to me. I didn't know about the  
19 indexing. And -- and I'm -- I'm really taking this  
20 on as a learning experience, this whole thing. I  
21 thought, Well, gee, that's kind of interesting. I  
22 gotta remember that. So, um, at that point he  
23 explained to her what was going to happen and that  
24 this individual -- and all the while this was going  
25 on, the individual was dressed with a hood on and a

1 -- and -- and a piece over his face. And, um, it  
2 was black and, um, he was kind of like dodging in  
3 between the cars, like looking in the windows. And  
4 -- and at that point, um, I wanna say that the  
5 captain -- or the chief kind of like walked her  
6 over. And she seemed to know what -- I mean, she  
7 seemed to understand what was going to happen.

8 DA: Okay.

9 CP: And as she walked over, she says to him, "Uh, wait a  
10 minute. What are you doing? What are you doing?"  
11 In the meantime she had the gun in her left hand.  
12 And he said to her, "Why do you have a gun? Why --  
13 why is your -- why is your gun drawn?" And she -- I  
14 don't -- I didn't overhear what she said. And the  
15 police officer said -- or -- I'm sorry -- the perp  
16 says to her, "Um, I'm looking for my dog. Can't you  
17 see my dog? I'm looking for my dog." I mean, he  
18 was -- he was -- he was sort of simulating like he  
19 was on drugs or -- I mean, he was playing his part -  
20 -

21 DA: Uh-huh.

22 CP: -- and he was playing his part well. And Mary said,  
23 "Stop." Well, in the meantime she goes around in  
24 between the middle of the cars, and now he is on the  
25 other side of the second car. And she said, "Stop.

1 Stop." Or she said something to that effect. And  
2 then the next thing you know the gun -- the gun went  
3 off. And that's the part that I can't forget 'cause  
4 I can still see her getting hit. And what she did  
5 was she came over with her shoulders this way.

6 DA: Uh-huh.

7 CP: And I'm thinking, Is she role -- I mean, this was --  
8 it was such a, um, surrealistic happening. And I'm  
9 thinking, Well, is she role playing --

10 DA: Uh-huh.

11 CP: -- or maybe she got hit with the -- the -- the --  
12 the -- the blank bullet, or -- or he had the same  
13 kind of thing. But I didn't see any powder.

14 DA: Uh-huh.

15 CP: And she was like this, and then the gun -- it was  
16 bang, it had to be I wanna say at least four shots.  
17 And at that point she kind of turned and her -- her  
18 shoulder -- her arm went up like she got hit in the  
19 -- like -- like she got hit in the arm. And then  
20 kind of turned almost -- almost -- it was almost  
21 like a triangle effect. And she went -- she went  
22 down. And all of a sudden it dawned on all of us in  
23 that front row she's hurt. And with that she went  
24 down on the ground and her head was facing -- facing  
25 the people when she went down. Her head was here

1           and her body was this way.  And she went down like  
2           this.

3   DA:  Was she on her side or on her stomach?

4   CP:  She had rolled over.  Because when the, um, chief --  
5           everybody went running over to her --

6   DA:  Uh-huh.

7   CP:  -- kind of brought her -- kind of brought her back  
8           over.  And then all I could hear the chief saying  
9           was, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  And, I  
10          guess, you know, everybody realized that she had  
11          really been hurt.  And then of course we didn't know  
12          anything about the real bullets being in the gun  
13          until we got inside and it was announced to us that  
14          it was very much a tragedy and unfortunately those  
15          were real bullets that were in the chamber of the  
16          gun.

17  DA:  Okay.  Did you hear any of the -- any of the other  
18          officers yelling anything during the time that this  
19          occurred?

20  CP:  No.

21  DA:  Okay.

22  CP:  Uh, everybody went running towards her.  And then  
23          one of the officers took off and -- to get a -- I  
24          don't know if it was a -- some sort of an EMT bag,  
25          whether it had a defibrillator in it or not, I -- I

1 don't know. And I -- I -- I don't know if they  
2 started doing CPR on her or whatever. But, um, at  
3 one point when they had -- when she had -- they had  
4 brought her back, um, the, um -- I don't -- it was  
5 either a police officer or it was the, um, chief of  
6 police had his -- her head in his hands. And after  
7 --

8 DA: When they rolled her you saw her (unintelligible)?

9 CP: Yeah.

10 DA: Okay.

11 CP: Yeah. And, uh -- and that was -- I can -- I see her  
12 getting hit and she did this. 'Cause it -- it  
13 looked like she was hit right here.

14 DA: Okay.

15 CP: And I have to tell you, I know what that's like  
16 because I had triple hernia surgery right there.  
17 And there are many a times I was like this, and  
18 that's what it reminded me of. And then we came  
19 inside. And -- and then, um, the chief came in and

20

21

22 DA: Do you --

23 CP: And we -- no, I did not discuss this with anybody.

24 Uh, we -- we -- you know, people started talking

25 about it and -- and then somebody -- somebody else

1           said, as I was going to say it, "Don't talk about it  
2           because we're all gonna be interviewed and let's not  
3           get our stories screwed up."

4   DA:   And that was absolutely true.  Um, do you think that  
5           any part of the evening, any of this was more than  
6           just a tragedy, or do you think that that's what it  
7           was?  Like do you think that there was anything  
8           suspicious or there was any ill --

9   CP:   Oh, God no.

10  DA:   -- intent?

11  CP:   Oh, God no.  No, no.

12  DA:   Okay.

13  CP:   No, no.  This was -- this was surrealistic and so  
14           unfortunate and so unbelievable at this point.  I --  
15           you know, everybody was in a good mood.  Like I  
16           said, this place is like a family.  And they treat  
17           each other like a family.  There's no -- there's  
18           nobody laying out like smartass remarks or -- or  
19           anybody, you know, gnawing at somebody's heels  
20           because of something, or there wasn't any kind of --  
21           no, they're -- they're all -- I find this police  
22           department to be far and above away a lot of the  
23           departments that I've ever been in.  And, um, for  
24           this to happen here, it's more than a tragedy.  It's  
25           -- it's -- there are no words to describe it.



1 DA: Okay. Um, did you take any photos or video with  
2 your phone --

3 CP: No.

4 DA: -- or anything like that? Okay.

5 CP: No, I was stunned.

6 DA: Okay.

7 CP: I was stunned.

8 DA: Prior to the incident?

9 CP: No.

10 DA: Okay.

11 CP: No because to be honest with you, I work on two  
12 different, um, political campaigns and I'm always on  
13 with taking pictures and videos and Snapchatting and  
14 (unintelligible) --

15 DA: So this was your break? You didn't really want to  
16 bother --

17 CP: Yeah, this was -- you know what? This was my night  
18 for me. 'Cause I thought, oh, you know, for once I  
19 don't have to put up with any politicians. I don't  
20 have to hear, Christine this or Christine that. Not  
21 that I -- I don't mind doing it. I really don't.  
22 But after a while it gets old and I just -- I wanted  
23 a break from it and to have this happen tonight is  
24 more than a tragedy. And I can't think of a word.  
25 I really can't think a word to describe it other

1 than surrealistic.

2 DA: Do you know any of the other officers that -- that,  
3 uh, had gone over to Mary?

4 CP: They all went rushing.

5 DA: Okay. Do you know --

6 CP: They all went rushing.

7 DA: -- their names? You know any of their names by any  
8 chance or --

9 CP: Um, no, I don't.

10 DA: Okay.

11 CP: I don't. Um, I recognized, um, Officer Angelini  
12 because he's Joe's son, and Joe is running for  
13 sheriff.

14 DA: Okay.

15 CP: And, um --

16 DA: He ran over there, too?

17 CP: You know what? I don't know.

18 DA: Okay.

19 CP: Because it was such a swarm of policemen that --  
20 that ran to her -- to her rescue. And the other  
21 thing is one young -- one young very, um, uh -- he --  
22 -- he looked like a runner --

23 DA: Okay.

24 CP: -- and he had shorts on, he went running back to the  
25 building for the, um -- for the, uh, um -- the medic

1 bag. And then he -- he -- as fast as he went and  
2 got it, he was coming back.

3 DA: Okay.

4 CP: And at that point we were being ushered back into  
5 the building place, you know? Uh, and, you know, at  
6 one point it was tough to move, the reality of it  
7 all.

8 DA: Is there anything that I haven't asked you that you  
9 think I should know?

10 CP: I don't think so.

11 DA: Okay.

12 CP: I don't think so. I -- I -- it's -- like I said,  
13 it's just such a -- such a -- a god-awful thing to  
14 happen to Mary, as well as here. 'Cause they're --  
15 they -- these are a bunch of really good people.  
16 Really good, caring individuals. And nobody's  
17 really a smartass like across the bridge.

18 DA: Understand.

19 CP: But you didn't hear me say that.

20 DA: (Unintelligible).

21 CP: And you didn't hear me say that.

22 DA: No worries. I'm gonna go ahead and stop the  
23 recording.

24 CP: Okay.

25 DA: Um, it is now approximately 11:20 p.m.

(CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jak/jak/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF DEBORAH MALINOSKI, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JK = Special Agent Jennifer Kahn [phonetic]

6 DM = Deborah Malinoski

7 JK: It is approximately 9:19 p.m. on August 9th, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer Kahn with the Florida

9 Department of Law Enforcement, is here with Deborah

10 Malinoski. If you could, please state and spell

11 your name for me.

12 DM: Deborah Malinoski, D-E-B-O-R-A-H M-A-L-I-N-O-S-K-I.

13 JK: All right. For the record we are at the Punta Gorda

14 police department. Is it okay if I call you Debra?

15 DM: Uh-huh.

16 JK: Um, can you tell me what brought you to the police

17 department today?

18 DM: Um, they were having a special chamber night for,

19 uh, Citizens' Academy, to teach us or just to show

20 us what it was like in the day of the life of a

21 police officer and, um, just kind of give us stats

22 on where they are as, you know their -- their

23 records go and a tour of the building. And, um,

24 then obviously there was supposed to be a simulation

25 of two people with lasers and two people with

26 firearms, and the -- the firearms people, which I

1           picked one of the cards to be, was, um, kind of  
2           supposed to be a shoot or no shoot situation for a  
3           police officer to show how scary it is --

4   JK:   Uh-huh.

5   DM:   -- and how they have to think in a split second.  
6           So, um, that -- that's what the situation was.

7   JK:   Can you please describe to me what you saw?

8   DM:   I personally did not see anything because I was a  
9           person who was supposed to be out there and they  
10          didn't want my judgement to be affected by the first  
11          person.

12   JK:   So they -- they didn't want to allow you to see the  
13          scenario before you were gonna go through it?

14   DM:   Correct.

15   JK:   Okay.   So where were you at that time then?

16   DM:   I was inside that room that you just took me out of.

17   JK:   Okay.

18   DM:   Conference room, training room, something like that.

19   JK:   Okay.   So, you weren't outdoors at all then?

20   DM:   I was not outdoors at all.

21   JK:   Okay.   Did you hear anything?

22   DM:   I heard the shots fired.   Yes.

23   JK:   Do you know how many shots you heard?

24   DM:   I believe I heard three.

25   JK:   Okay.   Did you hear anything else?

1 DM: No, no. A few seconds after that people came  
2 running in upset, visibly upset, which I personally  
3 at the time thought they were kidding because I was  
4 supposed to go out next. So, I thought they were  
5 just trying to be, you know, funny. Obviously not  
6 very funny, but, um, it just kind of sunk in a few  
7 minutes after that that --

8 JK: Of course.

9 DM: -- she had actually been shot. Well, actually,  
10 nobody thought -- knew that she was shot. Um, at  
11 first people thought she possibly had a heart attack  
12 just from the shock --

13 JK: Uh-huh.

14 DM: -- of being so scared --

15 JK: Uh-huh.

16 DM: -- that maybe, you know, who knows why, um, but then  
17 Chief Lewis came in and informed us that,  
18 unfortunately, it seemed that the shots were real.

19 JK: Did you ever exit that room and go out to the crime  
20 scene in front?

21 DM: I did not. Nope.

22 JK: Okay.

23 DM: They did not let anybody out.

24 JK: Is there anything else that you can think of that's  
25 relevant?

1 DM: Not that's relevant. No. I mean, you know, I  
2 probably was the one person who was inside.

3 JK: You were the only person inside the room then?

4 DM: There was an elderly gentleman that I was just  
5 talking to, but he wasn't part of this thing, so I  
6 don't even know --

7 JK: Okay.

8 DM: -- what his name was. We were just chatting.

9 JK: And, um, about what time did you get to the police  
10 department tonight for the event?

11 DM: I got here at 5:30.

12 JK: Okay.

13 DM: And the first half hour was just like a film of --  
14 of stats and, you know, showing us about calls made  
15 to the police department, how long it takes for them  
16 to get to a call, just showing us how great, you  
17 know, their record is and how good they're doing.

18 JK: Do you know any of the police officers that were  
19 participating in the scenario tonight?

20 DM: Um, well I didn't know -- I know Lee Cole, but I  
21 didn't know, 'cause he was in a mask and everything  
22 --

23 JK: Okay.

24 DM: -- as a perpetrator and obviously I know some of the  
25 other -- I know Chief Lewis --



1 JK: Okay.

2 DM: -- just, you know, from being a business owner in  
3 town I know.

4 JK: Of course.

5 DM: Uh-huh.

6 JK: Okay. In the, um, the training leading up to the --  
7 the scenario did they go over any type of safety  
8 precautions?

9 DM: No.

10 JK: Okay. And just to be clear, there's nothing else  
11 that you can think of?

12 DM: Not that I think could be helpful because, like I  
13 said, I was -- I was inside that room, um, I -- I  
14 don't --

15 JK: Okay.

16 DM: I don't know. You know? I just -- I told her she  
17 could go first.

18 JK: I understand. I'm just trying to be thorough. I  
19 understand.

20 DM: I -- I know.

21 JK: Okay. That will conclude this interview at  
22 approximately 9:24 p.m.

23 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

24 Transcribed by: hmc/hmc/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF DELLA BOOTH, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MO: Special Agent Michael Ortiz

6 DB: Della Booth

7 MO: Good evening. I'm Special Agent Michael Ortiz of  
8 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's  
9 date is August the 9th, 2016. The time is 9:52 p.m.  
10 Be taking a sworn statement from white female Della  
11 Booth. Last name is spelled B, as in boy, O-O-T-H.  
12 Ms. Booth's date of birth is 1/11 of 1960. Uh,  
13 address of 175 Kings Highway, No. 427, in Punta  
14 Gorda, Florida, 33983. Uh, Ms. Booth's telephone  
15 number is 239-699-4493. Today's -- tonight's --  
16 this evening's interview is taking place in the  
17 accreditation manager's office at the Punta Gorda  
18 Police Department, at 1410 Tamiami Trail, in Punta  
19 Gorda, Florida, 33950. Um, this interview is in  
20 reference to a discharge of a weapon this evening.  
21 Uh, Ms. Booth, can you please state your name and  
22 your date of birth?

23 DB: Della Booth. January 11th, 1960.

24 MO: And, Ms. Booth, do you know the meaning of perjury?

25 DB: Yes. I do.

26 MO: In your own words, can you tell me what perjury is?

1 DB: Um perjury is lying under oath.

2 MO: Yes, ma'am. At this time, will you allow me to  
3 swear you in for the purpose of taking a sworn  
4 statement?

5 DB: Yes.

6 MO: Please raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
7 raised. Do you, Della Booth, solemnly swear to tell  
8 the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth  
9 we're about to discuss?

10 DB: Yes.

11 MO: Okay. Great. All right, Ms. Booth, directing your  
12 attention, uh, to this afternoon. You were taking  
13 place -- uh, taking part in a police academy.

14 DB: Yes.

15 MO: Okay. And can you give me a little background on  
16 the police academy, and what it entails? From your  
17 perspective.

18 DB: Well, the police department of Punta Gorda is very  
19 interactive with the community. And so they hold  
20 events like this so the citizens can come and, um,  
21 understand what the police do and how they work and  
22 understand the, um -- what's available to them. The  
23 resources -- you know, what a police car actually  
24 looks like up front, up close, you know. The, um --  
25 the statistics of phone calls and timing and, you

1 know, response times and stuff like that.

2 MO: Okay. And were you part of a group today that  
3 attended the police academy?

4 DB: Yes.

5 MO: Or the police -- Citizens' Police Academy?

6 DB: I was.

7 MO: Okay. And what group was that?

8 DB: Um, the, um, Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce.

9 MO: Okay. And how many people participated in that  
10 today?

11 DB: Um, there's approximately 25 --

12 MO: Okay.

13 DB: -- people.

14 MO: Okay. And was today the first today of the  
15 Citizens' Police Academy, or had you taken other  
16 classes?

17 DB: Um, today is the only day of --

18 MO: Oh, today is the only day.

19 DB: -- the presentation. Yes.

20 MO: Okay. So, it was a one day presentation?

21 DB: Yes.

22 MO: Okay. And were you led to believe -- or, was there  
23 a curriculum or was there a -- a menu of what was  
24 going to take place during the, uh -- the  
25 presentation today?

1 DB: Um, actually, I was late.

2 MO: Okay.

3 DB: Because I arrived after the event started.

4 MO: Okay.

5 DB: Um, because I was detained at a previous  
6 appointment.

7 MO: Okay. And what time did you arrive?

8 DB: Um, it was -- it started at 5:30, and it was  
9 probably 5:45 --

10 MO: Okay.

11 DB: -- approximately.

12 MO: And I didn't get the times before, but it started at  
13 5:30?

14 DB: Yes. It did.

15 MO: And what time was it supposed to last to?

16 DB: Um, I think it was 6:30 or 7. I'm not exactly sure.

17 MO: Okay. And again, was there any type of -- were you  
18 aware of any type of activities that were going to  
19 take place, other than tours?

20 DB: No.

21 MO: Okay. Okay. So, you arrived at 5:45.

22 DB: Uh-huh.

23 MO: Uh, did you arrive by car?

24 DB: Yes.

25 MO: Okay.

1 DB: Yes. I did.

2 MO: You parked your car?

3 DB: Yes.

4 MO: Okay. And how did you enter the building?

5 DB: I --

6 MO: Or how --

7 DB: I came in the front door.

8 MO: Okay.

9 DB: And, um, Gloria let me in --

10 MO: Okay.

11 DB: -- to the back of the building.

12 MO: Okay. And, so you went to the back of the building.

13 And what was -- was anything taking -- taking place

14 at that time?

15 DB: Yes. Um, Chief Lewis was making a presentation. He

16 was going over all of the numbers, um, you know,

17 about -- as response times and calls and such. They

18 were in progress, so I took a seat in the back.

19 MO: Okay. And so there was seating?

20 DB: Yes.

21 MO: Okay. Um, and after Chief Lewis what -- what was --

22 what took place then?

23 DB: Um, then they said that there was going -- we were

24 going to go outside and see the vehicles and the

25 boats and the bicycles and, you know, all of the,

1           you know, vehicles that they use to --

2   MO:   Okay.

3   DB:   -- do their job.

4   MO:   Okay.  So, they had, like, a display of the car and  
5           the boats?

6   DB:   They did.  Yeah.

7   MO:   Okay.  Um, and after you had the tour of the -- the  
8           vehicles and the boat --

9   DB:   Uh-huh.

10  MO:   -- um, what took place then?

11  DB:   Um, then they said that they were going to have a  
12           demonstration, um, that was, um, using participants  
13           that were here, and, um, that they were going to,  
14           um, do -- simulate what a police officer encounters  
15           during, um, a shift.

16  MO:   Okay.  And were you aware of what -- what type of  
17           scenarios were going to take place?

18  DB:   No, I wasn't.  And I thought that probably they  
19           covered that before I arrived.

20  MO:   Okay.

21  DB:   Since I was late.

22  MO:   Okay.  And so, they gave you -- did you know who was  
23           the facilitator who was, um, talking about the  
24           scenario that was going to take place?

25  DB:   Well, Chief Lewis was --

1 MO: Oh, Chief Lewis.

2 DB: -- was explaining how it was going to work, and --  
3 and the, um, two officers that were, um, with -- I'm  
4 sorry, I -- hard to talk about.

5 MO: That's okay.

6 DB: The two officers that were participating were  
7 gearing up and --

8 MO: Okay.

9 DB: -- putting on their protective gear.

10 MO: Okay.

11 DB: And he explained that, um, the participants from our  
12 group would be given a gun loaded with laundry  
13 detergent so that they would know, you know, whether  
14 or not the, um -- they had shot the person that --  
15 and the -- so, the officer that was dressed up put  
16 on protective gear, and he was peeking into the car  
17 windows like he was going to steal the car.

18 MO: Okay.

19 DB: And Mary was supposed to be impersonating the police  
20 officer.

21 MO: Okay. Um, did -- Chief Lewis, did he give the  
22 safety demonstration with the gun? Or did another  
23 officer?

24 DB: No, he did.

25 MO: Okay.



1 DB: He showed her how to hold it.

2 MO: Okay.

3 DB: He showed her to -- when she put the clip in, to  
4 index the gun.

5 MO: Okay.

6 DB: Um, you know, and he explained it twice to her,  
7 actually.

8 MO: Okay. And I see you know about indexing. Do you  
9 have any experience with firearms?

10 DB: I do.

11 MO: Okay. Do you remember what kind of gun she was --  
12 she was handling?

13 DB: Uh, what Chief Lewis said it was a gun just like the  
14 ones that they carry on the force.

15 MO: Okay.

16 DB: So that it's exactly the same touch and feel and  
17 everything as when --

18 MO: Okay.

19 DB: -- they're actually in the field.

20 MO: Okay.

21 DB: Um, he showed us the clip. You could see that the  
22 ends of the bullets were blue. He explained that it  
23 was laundry detergent --

24 MO: Okay.

25 DB: -- that was in there.

1 MO: Okay. So, you watched the scenario unfold. And you  
2 said there was somebody peeping in the car acting  
3 like a burglar. Is that --

4 DB: Right.

5 MO: -- correct?

6 DB: One of the police officers was.

7 MO: Okay. And do you remember who that officer was?

8 DB: No.

9 MO: Name? Okay. Was he wearing a mask or any --

10 DB: Yeah. They put on protective covering.

11 MO: Okay.

12 DB: And the face shield in case, you know --

13 MO: And -- right.

14 DB: Because you've got a civilian who probably doesn't  
15 handle a gun holding a gun. Um, he had on  
16 protective clothing. Then he put on a hoodie.

17 MO: Okay.

18 DB: You know, the simulated burglar.

19 MO: Okay. Did Mary -- was she wearing any protective  
20 gear?

21 DB: I couldn't tell if she was wearing protective gear  
22 or not.

23 MO: Okay. But you knew it was Mary. Right?

24 DB: Yes. I know Mary.

25 MO: Was that because -- was she wearing a helmet? Was

1 she wearing any goggles?

2 DB: No.

3 MO: Nothing like that? Okay.

4 DB: Not that I remember.

5 MO: Could you tell if she was wearing a vest?

6 DB: Not unless it was underneath her shirt.

7 MO: Okay. What color shirt was she wearing? Do you

8 remember?

9 DB: Blue.

10 MO: Blue? Okay. So, the scenario starts to unfold.

11 DB: Uh-huh.

12 MO: Talk -- walk me through what happens next.

13 DB: It -- it -- it was -- it was kind of -- to me, it

14 was awkward, right. Because, um, we were standing

15 here and they were over against the fence.

16 MO: Okay. When you say standing here, how far back were

17 you, roughly?

18 DB: We were standing at the front of the driveway where

19 the curbing ends.

20 MO: Okay.

21 DB: Okay. So, the cars were against -- and I don't know

22 if it's a wall or a fence or -- and we were over

23 here. And, um, so, the burglar simulator was over

24 here. And she entered from my left and started

25 walking over towards him.

1 MO: Okay. So, that was the passenger side of the car?  
2 Towards the --

3 DB: Yes.

4 MO: Okay. All right. Did she issue any commands, or  
5 could you hear?

6 DB: I have a hearing issue. And so, some octaves I  
7 can't hear.

8 MO: Okay.

9 DB: And so, no, I didn't hear her talking to him.

10 MO: Okay.

11 DB: But she may have been.

12 MO: Okay. And what unfolded as she approached? Did she  
13 have her gun out? Did she --

14 DB: Well, the problem was is that I like to document  
15 things. And so I was taking a few photos of the guy  
16 over, you know, dressed up as the hoodie.

17 MO: Oh, so you have -- so, you have pictures?

18 DB: I have pictures.

19 MO: Okay.

20 DB: There was a lot of people taking pictures.

21 MO: Okay.

22 DB: So, you should find a lot.

23 MO: Yeah.

24 DB: And -- and so, I wasn't really looking at Mary --

25 MO: Right.

1 DB: -- coming from -- I knew she was over there.

2 MO: Right.

3 DB: But, I was taking pictures of him.

4 MO: Okay.

5 DB: And then he started backing up, and she went, um --

6 I think she went between the cars in the front.

7 MO: Okay.

8 DB: Between the two cars. And then all of a sudden, she

9 was falling down.

10 MO: Okay.

11 DB: And so I was not sure whether this was staged, and

12 they told her to fall down on the ground. Or, you

13 know -- because you heard the two shots --

14 MO: You heard two shots?

15 DB: -- were -- you heard two shots.

16 MO: Okay. Okay.

17 DB: Because the repercussion --

18 MO: Right.

19 DB: -- on my eardrums was huge. But, you heard -- I

20 heard two shots. She fell down. And I thought it

21 was a prank. I thought it was a sick prank, but I

22 thought it was --

23 MO: Right.

24 DB: -- a prank. Because they were simulating what

25 happens to law officers. But I don't think she ever

1 shot her gun.

2 MO: Okay.

3 DB: But, um -- but, like I said, I was like taking  
4 pictures. Looking, you know, doing -- very  
5 distracted.

6 MO: Okay. How about video? Were you taking any video?

7 DB: I did not video.

8 MO: Okay. We may want to look at your phone, so --

9 DB: That's okay.

10 MO: Um --

11 DB: I haven't looked at them, because I don't -- I don't  
12 want to see them.

13 MO: Okay.

14 DB: I don't know what they look like.

15 MO: Okay. Um, so, you heard two shots. Mary goes down.  
16 Did she go down on her stomach? On her back?

17 DB: She -- she kind -- it was very slow motion. And  
18 that's what made me think it wasn't real.

19 MO: Uh-huh.

20 DB: You know, because most people don't have the  
21 capability of falling on command.

22 MO: Right.

23 DB: And so, she just kind of crumpled.

24 MO: Okay.

25 DB: And it wasn't -- I mean, she dropped the gun, which

1 I thought was really strange. And then she lays  
2 down. And then her head hit the thing, and I was  
3 like -- you know, "If she's doing this she's doing a  
4 really good job of hamming it up."

5 MO: Right.

6 DB: And -- and so I was still thinking it was all fake.

7 MO: Right. Um, what happens after she goes to the  
8 ground?

9 DB: Well, everybody is just standing there watching her.  
10 And then all of a sudden everything just like broke  
11 loose. They're, like, running over there and then  
12 they're turning her over. And, you know, it looked  
13 like you could see there was blood on her shirt.

14 MO: Okay.

15 DB: And I was like, you know --

16 MO: And you're pointing to, like, the left front?

17 DB: She was over there and I was over here. And there  
18 were so many people standing around her --

19 MO: Uh-huh.

20 DB: -- you could just see the color against the blue.

21 MO: Okay.

22 DB: Because it was like a periwinkle blue shirt.

23 MO: Okay.

24 DB: And so, all you saw was -- there was a different  
25 color on her shirt --

1 MO: Okay.

2 DB: -- than what should have been there.

3 MO: Okay. And again, how far back were you, roughly?

4 DB: I can show you exactly where I was standing. But

5 distance-wise, um, I'm -- I -- I couldn't tell you

6 that.

7 MO: Okay. But you had a clear view? It was --

8 DB: I had a clear view until everybody got there --

9 MO: Okay.

10 DB: -- and was running over.

11 MO: Was Mary responsive after she went to the ground?

12 DB: Not that I could see.

13 MO: Okay.

14 DB: Um, because what I thought personally happened is

15 she's older, and when those shots were fired it --

16 you know, it scared me.

17 MO: Right.

18 DB: Because I wasn't sure I thought there was going to

19 be shots --

20 MO: Right.

21 DB: -- right, in my mind. And so, I kind of jumped.

22 And my first thought when she went down -- besides

23 the prank -- was she had a heart attack.

24 MO: Okay.

25 DB: You know, that she wasn't expecting that either.



1           And maybe it was a little too real --

2   MO:   Right.

3   DB:   -- for her.

4   MO:   Right.  After she goes down to the ground, um, did

5           any officers approach her?

6   DB:   Yes.  Everybody ran over there.

7   MO:   Okay.

8   DB:   I mean, there was Chamber people running over there.

9   MO:   Okay.

10  DB:   There -- the officers were running over there.

11  MO:   Okay.

12  DB:   Excuse me.  They were kneeling on the ground.  They

13           turned her over.  They're calling for EMTs.

14           They're, you know --

15  MO:   Okay.

16  DB:   And that's --

17  MO:   Okay.  Um, going back to what -- prior to Mary

18           falling, do you know where those gunshots originally

19           -- originated from?

20  DB:   No.

21  MO:   Do you know who --

22  DB:   No.

23  MO:   Okay.

24  DB:   I -- I wasn't scanning --

25  MO:   Right.

1 DB: -- you know, back and forth. Because the guy that  
2 was supposed to be the perpetrator kept moving --  
3 MO: Right.  
4 DB: -- you know. And so I wasn't -- you know, I wasn't  
5 watching the whole story.  
6 MO: Right. Okay. Uh, did you hear any statements being  
7 made by any of the actors or, uh, the officers  
8 involved?  
9 DB: No. And when we initially came back, I said if she  
10 was really shot why didn't she scream the first -- I  
11 mean, I would have thought --  
12 MO: Uh-huh.  
13 DB: -- if you were shot you would scream.  
14 MO: Uh-huh.  
15 DB: And someone said she did. And I'm like, "Okay, I  
16 can't hear."  
17 MO: Okay.  
18 DB: Maybe she did and I --  
19 MO: Right.  
20 DB: -- missed that part. But Mary was a very quiet  
21 person. I mean, it's not like she was like --  
22 MO: Uh-huh.  
23 DB: -- drama queen, flamboyant. She was very --  
24 MO: Right.  
25 DB: -- calm.

1 MO: Did you come with anybody here today?

2 DB: No.

3 MO: Or did you come by yourself? Okay. Uh, the other  
4 question that I have is at any point were you -- at  
5 what point were you escorted back or were you told  
6 to go back in the building? What happened there?

7 DB: Well, they -- when they went over there, and I guess  
8 they figured out it was real, they kept telling  
9 everybody you need to back up. Go back to the  
10 building. Everybody needs to go back in the  
11 building. Please go inside and sit down.

12 MO: Okay. So, you went back into the classroom?

13 DB: So, everybody came back in the classroom and sat  
14 down.

15 MO: Okay. Okay. That's all the questions I have at  
16 this point.

17 DB: Okay.

18 MO: Can you think of anything that I may not have asked  
19 that you feel that was important?

20 DB: No. It -- I am so sorry that this happened.

21 MO: Yes, ma'am.

22 DB: I don't know -- I don't think it was the officer's  
23 fault.

24 MO: Okay.

25 DB: It -- it -- it could have been any of us up there,

1           instead of Mary.

2   MO:   Okay.  Uh, let's go back.  When Chief Lewis gave the  
3           demonstration with Mary's firearm, how the --

4   DB:   Uh-huh.

5   MO:   -- did they do any type of safety thing about the -  
6           - uh, the officer, the -- the burglar?

7   DB:   Well, they said it had blanks in it.

8   MO:   Did they show it?  That it had blue --

9   DB:   No.

10  MO:   -- no?  Nothing?  Okay.  Okay.  And again, you have  
11           a camera that you took some photographs.

12  DB:   Uh-huh.

13  MO:   And I won't look at that now.  I'll have -- I'll get  
14           with somebody here in just a second.  I'm going to  
15           try to get you out of here --

16  DB:   Okay.

17  MO:   -- as soon as I can.  Um, again, that's all the  
18           questions I have.

19  DB:   Okay.

20  MO:   Uh, is there anything that you want to add, change  
21           or delete from -- uh, anything that you want to add,  
22           change or delete from the statement you just  
23           provided?

24  DB:   No.

25  MO:   Has everything been the truth to the best of your

1 knowledge and belief?

2 DB: Yes.

3 MO: Okay. Well, that will conclude tonight's, uh,  
4 interview. Uh, today's date is the 9th of August,  
5 2016. The time is 10:08 p.m.

6 DB: Okay.

7 MO: Thank you, Ms. Booth.

8 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF DENISE D. HENRY, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DM: Special Agent Dan Mahler

6 DH: Denise D. Henry

7 DM: This is Special Agent Dan Mahler, Florida Department  
8 of Law Enforcement. Today is August 9th, 2016. It  
9 is now approximately 10:15 p.m. Here at the Punta  
10 Gorda Police Department, with -- Denise, state your  
11 full name and date of birth for me, please.

12 DH: Denise Dawn Henry. February 11th, 1960.

13 DM: Okay, great. Thank you. Um, do me a favor. Raise  
14 your right hand for me. Do you swear that  
15 everything we're going to talk about is the truth,  
16 the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

17 DH: I do. I -- I do.

18 DM: Okay. Good.

19 DH: Yes.

20 DM: Um, like I say, go ahead and just start from the  
21 beginning. Uh, the beginning of the evening, the  
22 event that occurred or the event that was going on  
23 here.

24 DH: All right. Well, this was a Chamber event that was  
25 organized. And, um, it was kind of exciting to come  
26 in and just see the interworkings of our police

1 department. Um, you know, I've lived here a long  
2 time. So -- and I really had never been in the  
3 police department. So, um, Chief Lewis and some of  
4 his staff greeted us, and we were in the main room  
5 where we just came from.

6 DM: Okay.

7 DH: And he did, um, a slide presentation, just  
8 overviewing everything about, um, the economics --

9 DM: Right.

10 DH: -- of running a police station. And, you know,  
11 giving us stats about the calls and that sort of  
12 thing. So, from there we broke out into groups and  
13 we went through different areas of the building, you  
14 know. Um, the -- he showed us where -- we didn't go  
15 into the communications, uh, area, because it's  
16 under construction. But, we kind of showed -- he  
17 kind of showed us where, you know, the -- the  
18 interrogation room and, um, where the debriefing --  
19 where the debriefing room is, where officers come in  
20 when they, you know, go over everything before they  
21 go out. And also there was like a little holding  
22 area, in particular the bench with all the handcuffs  
23 on it. And so from there, we all kind of met  
24 outside and they had, um, the marine, uh, boat  
25 there. They had the bicycle police officer there.

1 Um, I think there was a K-9 unit there, but we  
2 didn't -- I don't think we -- we didn't -- I didn't  
3 see the dog. But, um -- and -- and, uh, then they  
4 had a car -- um, a squad car there. And, you know,  
5 they had to turn the lights and sirens on, like we  
6 were kindergartners. And then from there, we --  
7 well, while we were in the main area everybody had  
8 the little passport books. And so, they asked  
9 everybody to -- to open to the back and if you had a  
10 card -- the Chief's card in there, that said, um --  
11 well, one was "Taser" I think, and I -- I forget  
12 what the other one said.

13 DM: Okay.

14 DH: So, you know, I was a little disappointed I didn't  
15 have that. But, so, there was only -- I think there  
16 would -- that would have included four people --

17 DM: Okay.

18 DH: -- of the group. So, then, when we went out we  
19 walked to the back part of the, um, building. And  
20 so, Chief Lewis was talking to us about some stuff,  
21 and the first -- the woman, um, Mary, was getting --  
22 back with another officer, talking about how to use,  
23 you know, the weapon. And it was -- and Chief Lewis  
24 was telling us how it was loaded with these bullets  
25 that have a detergent in them.



1 DM: Right.

2 DH: And they use this for training all the time, and,  
3 you know -- and, so, just kind of going over stuff.  
4 Really kind of -- was a very, kind of, jovial, you  
5 know, situation. And so, then Mary was sworn in as  
6 a police officer and shown -- shown how to manage  
7 the -- the weapon. And so, she went over to the one  
8 side and -- and there was another police officer  
9 that had a hoodie on. So, he was the bad guy. And  
10 there were two police -- police cars there. And so,  
11 he was pretending that he was, you know, not -- but,  
12 ruffling through the -- the cars.

13 DM: Okay.

14 DH: So, Mary had walked up to him -- walked in between  
15 the two cars, and was telling him to stop. And the  
16 police officer went around the car. He -- I  
17 remember him, so -- he had his cell phone in his  
18 hand. Which he was just, I think, mock --  
19 pretending not to be paying attention to her. And  
20 then he threw it up onto the roof of the car. And  
21 when Mary came between the cars and told him to  
22 stop, he drew his weapon and fired, I believe, three  
23 shots. It could have been four. And at which point  
24 Mary doubled over. And initially, we all thought  
25 that this was part of -- you know, that they had

1        schooled her and saying, you know, pretend like you  
2        were shot. But when she fell over and hit her head  
3        and her glasses came off, it -- it -- you know, it  
4        -- then everybody thought that perhaps she had a  
5        heart attack.

6    DM: Uh-huh.

7    DH: So, um, everybody rushed over there. The police  
8        officers rushed over there, you know. Somebody  
9        yelled for the EMS, because their -- their overhead  
10       doors were open, and they came running out. And  
11       then we were all escorted back into the building.

12   DM: Okay. Um, when -- when everybody is rushing over to  
13       her, did -- did you hear anybody say anything, other  
14       than them yelling for EMS? Did you hear any of the  
15       officers say anything?

16   DH: No. It was -- you know, she was kind of swarmed.  
17       And I wasn't one of the ones that ran up there,  
18       because I didn't want to be in that fray. I want  
19       people that are -- know what they're doing to be  
20       there.

21   DM: Okay.

22   DH: So, I did see blood on her sleeve. And initially, I  
23       thought that, you know, the -- the discharge of the  
24       weapon, you know, so shocked her. But when she --  
25       she had grabbed her abdomen and bent over, and then

1 just kind of fell over. And I thought the blood was  
2 maybe from her head. And I just -- I mean, she was  
3 surrounded by police officers and the EMS came  
4 running out. So, I did not feel it was my duty --

5 DM: Yeah.

6 DH: -- to be over their job, and just let the people  
7 that --

8 DM: Okay. Um, the -- did you -- do you think that  
9 anything tonight was more than just, you know, a  
10 tragedy? I mean, was he --

11 DH: I think it was a tragic accident.

12 DM: Okay. You don't think --

13 DH: Yeah.

14 DM: -- there's anything suspicious about this evening,  
15 or any --

16 DH: No.

17 DM: -- malcontent between anybody or anything like that?

18 DH: Oh, absolutely not.

19 DM: Okay.

20 DH: No.

21 DM: Okay.

22 DH: Absolutely not.

23 DM: Um, do you know who the officer was?

24 DH: The officer that --

25 DM: That was involved in the scenario that fired the

1 gun.

2 DH: I don't. Um, I don't know if it was the very tall  
3 officer that had come into the conference room. And  
4 I don't know if his last name was Lee. But I felt  
5 like he was the K-9 guy, for some reason. And I  
6 don't know that to be factual.

7 DM: Okay. That's fine. Um, and then as far as Mary  
8 goes, how do you know Mary?

9 DH: To -- well, tonight was the first night I met her.

10 DM: Okay.

11 DH: I know she's part of the Chamber. And so, I don't  
12 have a long-standing relationship with her.

13 DM: Okay. Are you part of the Chamber as well?

14 DH: I am.

15 DM: Okay. All right. Um, three to four shots. She  
16 grabbed her stomach, fell over. Um, how far -- how  
17 far away do you think between the officer that shot  
18 and Mary? How far do you think they were standing  
19 between each other?

20 DH: Well, he was, um -- the car -- he was at, like, the  
21 back passenger trunk -- you know, the trunk side of  
22 that. And -- and Mary was walking between the cars.  
23 So, he was like -- I think he fired like over across  
24 the trunk. I'm not so -- I'm not sure how close  
25 Mary was to him. So --

1 DM: Well, within --

2 DH: -- the question is --

3 DM: -- a car length of, you'd say?

4 DH: Probably less than a car length.

5 DM: Less -- less than a car length? Okay.

6 DH: Uh-huh.

7 DM: And then how far away were you from the scenario?

8 DH: I was probably, um -- well, I was standing at the

9 curb right there where the -- and so the cars were,

10 I want to say, maybe like 50 feet.

11 DM: Okay.

12 DH: Sixty feet. And it's so funny, because I'm such a

13 nut about videoing stuff. And I had my phone out,

14 and I was going to video it. And then I thought no,

15 just let's watch it. You know. Because sometimes

16 when you're videoing stuff you're not paying

17 attention to what's actually happening.

18 DM: No.

19 DH: You know, because you're so concerned about the

20 video. So --

21 DM: I know. I know the feeling.

22 DH: Huh?

23 DM: I know that feeling.

24 DH: Uh-huh.

25 DM: Um, did you take any pictures throughout the night,

1 or --

2 DH: I have one photograph.

3 DM: And when was that from?

4 DH: That was when they were kind of staging the set-up.

5 I'll show it to you.

6 DM: I would appreciate it.

7 DH: So, I mean, I had -- well, I had taken photographs  
8 just of -- and I asked permission. So, this is when  
9 we started, in the conference room. And he was  
10 talking about the -- you know, the laser guns  
11 versus, um --

12 DM: Radar.

13 DH: -- radar. And he was showing us the -- how you do  
14 density on the, um, film. On your car windows, how  
15 the dark film --

16 DM: Okay.

17 DH: I think that's what he had in his hand. This is  
18 just -- so, this was when we were outside. And the  
19 bicycle police officer was there, and the squad car  
20 and the boat. And this is when we moved over to --  
21 and that was, um, Chief Lewis talking to everybody.  
22 Well, Mary and, um, the other woman -- I think her  
23 name was Deb -- who had the other card --

24 DM: Uh-huh.

25 DH: -- was in the back. So, again, here's -- this is

1 just photographs. So, this is the photograph where  
2 the two cars were.

3 DM: Okay.

4 DH: And is it -- yeah, see, he's in a hoodie. So, he  
5 was around this car. So, when -- he was over here  
6 on this side of the car, and Mary had been walking  
7 in between the cars.

8 DM: Okay. So, he would have shot across the front hood,  
9 you think?

10 DH: Yes. I'm sorry.

11 DM: Okay.

12 DH: Because the car was pulled in -- yes. It would have  
13 been across the front hood of the car. And Mary was  
14 in between the two cars. But, she wasn't a car  
15 length away from him.

16 DM: Okay. Is that all the photos you have?

17 DH: Yeah.

18 DM: Okay. All right.

19 DH: Yeah. Yeah.

20 DM: Well, um, if I give you my email address would you  
21 mind email those to me right now?

22 DH: All of them?

23 DM: Uh, not all of them. Just start with the outer --  
24 the outside activities.

25 DH: Okay.

1 DM: If you don't mind. It's on the bottom there. It's  
2 kind of small. I can tell you, if you want.

3 DH: Nope. I can read it. I'm not that old.

4 DM: I didn't -- didn't say that.

5 DH: Geez. Yeah. Let me just -- let me just do it right  
6 now, so that you have them. Unless you need to go.

7 DM: No, no, no. That's fine. I -- I -- I prefer you do  
8 it now. That's great. It's kind of a long email  
9 address.

10 DH: That's all right. Oh, bless you.

11 DM: Excuse me.

12 DH: What kind of subject would you like there, Daniel?

13 DM: Um, you can just put pics. That's fine.

14 DH: Okay.

15 DM: And please call me Danny.

16 DH: Okay. There you are.

17 DM: Okay. Great.

18 DH: Yeah, those are all the outside -- you should have  
19 five of them.

20 DM: Excuse me.

21 DH: Did you get them?

22 DM: It's searching right now.

23 DH: It sent. Yeah. It sent them.

24 DM: Excuse me. Make sure they're not in my junk folder.  
25 Got it. Denisehenry40.



1 DH: Uh-huh. Did you get five photos?

2 DM: One, two, three, four, five. Yes, I did.

3 DH: Okay.

4 DM: Thank you so much. All right, Denise. Is there  
5 anything else that maybe I haven't asked that you  
6 think I need to know, or --

7 DH: I don't. I don't think there's anything else. It  
8 was -- it was a very interesting event, and it was  
9 just a horrible, tragic accident.

10 DM: I agree. Okay. I'm going to go ahead and end the  
11 recording. It is now approximately 10:25 p.m.

12 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF FRED SEPANIK, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = SA Jennifer O'Connell

6 FS = Fred Sepanik

7 JO: It is approximately 9:28 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell, is present  
9 with Fred Skepanik?

10 FS: No, Sepanik.

11 JO: Sepanik. I apologize.

12 FS: It's all right.

13 JO: Um, if you could, please raise your right hand. Do  
14 you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and  
15 nothing but the truth, so help you God?

16 FS: I do.

17 JO: And if you could, please, um, spell your name for  
18 us.

19 FS: The first one or the second, the last?

20 JO: Your -- your last name.

21 FS: S-E-P --

22 JO: Uh-huh.

23 FS: -- A-N-I-K.

24 JO: Okay. Perfect. So can we just start off with what  
25 brought you to the police department this evening?

26 FS: To watch the, um, whatever you call it -- the

American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.

1 simulation of a, uh, police officer.

2 JO: Okay. Can you tell me what you saw during this  
3 scenario?

4 FS: Well, actually, when I was standing there watching  
5 him with the cell phone -- I think he had it in his  
6 hand and then, um, he -- he had a cell phone and he  
7 was talking to her, saying something. I don't know.  
8 I couldn't really hear him. So then, um, I looked at  
9 her and boom boom. I -- I think it was three --  
10 three bangs I heard and that's when they all -- she  
11 went like this and I -- I kinda jumped when the gun  
12 went off and I was still looking at her and then she  
13 went like this and I thought, "That don't look  
14 right," and then she went down.

15 JO: So when you say "she went like this," you -- you  
16 mean her arms came up? Did she fall over at all or  
17 --

18 FS: No. She went down kinda like -- she -- she went  
19 like this or -- she was, like, in disbelief.

20 JO: Okay.

21 FS: And then she went down like this -- kinda --

22 JO: All right. So in disbelief and then -- just for the  
23 record, in disbelief and then down to the ground.  
24 She --

25 FS: Well, I was in -- just a little bit --

1 JO: Of course.

2 FS: -- kinda startled, but then she -- yeah, she just --  
3 I was looking at her, mainly. She just looked like,  
4 "What happened?"

5 JO: Okay.

6 FS: Or something. It's, like -- yeah.

7 JO: Can you -- can you tell me anything you remember  
8 leading up to the scenario?

9 FS: No. There was just -- I mean, she walked out, you  
10 know, they were -- they -- she walked over. They  
11 stopped and they told her about the gun, I guess,  
12 that she had and then she walk -- they walked over  
13 to the left and they were briefing her on the gun.  
14 I couldn't see or hear it, really. So then she  
15 walked over to the incident, like, um, to stop him  
16 from doing that and that's where he had the cell  
17 phone in his hand saying he wasn't -- I think he was  
18 saying he wasn't doing anything. I don't know what  
19 he was saying.

20 JO: And he -- it -- "he," is that a -- another sibling  
21 or a police officer?

22 FS: No, the one that, uh, she went up to that had -- the  
23 one that she went over to, um, confront.

24 JO: Okay. In the scenario?

25 FS: In the scenario, right. There was only --

1 JO: And --

2 FS: -- her and him.

3 JO: Okay. And -- and can you describe how he was

4 dressed?

5 FS: He had a gray hoodie on.

6 JO: Okay.

7 FS: With a black thing on his face.

8 JO: They were the only two people in the scenario?

9 FS: Uh-huh, that I saw.

10 JO: So she approached him and then what happened next?

11 FS: He kinda said that he -- um, uh, he didn't say. He,

12 um, had like a cell phone in his hand and he was

13 saying something to her, and then I was looking at

14 her, and boom boom, and she went like this, then she

15 went down.

16 JO: Okay.

17 FS: I mean, it was like watching the life come out of

18 her or something. It was horrible. She's just --

19 she looked surprised.

20 JO: Okay.

21 FS: Is she okay?

22 JO: I -- I -- I'm not sure. I've been in these

23 interview rooms for a little while now.

24 FS: I mean --

25 JO: I haven't been -- I haven't been updated. So --

1 FS: I seen blood on her when they were done -- on her --  
2 that's why I know something really happened to her.  
3 After -- when they were laying down, everybody went  
4 up to her --

5 JO: So where did you see blood on her?

6 FS: Right here, I guess. (Unintelligible) --

7 JO: Torso?

8 FS: They tore her clothes up and I could see a little  
9 bit of blood splattered around or something.

10 JO: Okay. And -- and you saw --

11 FS: And this is a --

12 JO: -- a medical response team?

13 FS: A what?

14 JO: Did you see, like, EMS or the fire department?

15 FS: Well, that's what I mean. When they went over  
16 there, somebody tore that off and I was looking at  
17 that part and they were trying to help her and  
18 that's where I -- I really realized it. I thought  
19 she had a heart attack.

20 JO: Okay.

21 FS: That's what I thought took place. I thought the --  
22 the gun noise startled me so bad, I thought it  
23 startled her and she had a heart attack.

24 JO: Uh-huh.

25 FS: 'Cause she just looked in disbelief.

1 JO: Did you know her?

2 FS: No. I didn't know her.

3 JO: Okay. At -- at what point did you return inside the  
4 building?

5 FS: When everybody did.

6 JO: Okay. Did you ever go back out?

7 FS: No -- no.

8 JO: Is there anything else that you can think of?

9 FS: No, just it shouldn't have happened.

10 JO: Okay.

11 FS: It wasn't a bullet in that gun, was there? Was  
12 there a blank going bad or --

13 JO: I don't -- I really don't know. I've just been  
14 doing interviews. I'm sorry.

15 FS: Yeah, I know.

16 JO: I haven't -- I haven't been on the crime scene at  
17 all. So --

18 FS: Wouldn't a blank gun have like a -- a pin in it so  
19 nothing go through it?

20 JO: Um, I'm -- I'm not -- there's -- there's a few  
21 different ways that they manufacture those. So, um,  
22 you know, we're -- obviously, we're trying to get to  
23 the bottom of everything. So I --

24 FS: Uh-huh.

25 JO: -- appreciate you taking the time to speak with us.

1 FS: Oh, no problem.

2 JO: All right. That will conclude this interview at  
3 approximately 9:35 p.m.

4 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

5 Transcribed by: dml/dml/jck



1 (INTERVIEW OF FRED SEPANIK, 2016-0108)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell

6 FS = Fred Sepanik

7 JO: This is Special Agent O'Connell. This is an  
8 additional extended interview, um, with -- can you  
9 please --

10 FS: Fred Sepanik.

11 JO: Okay. He is still under oath. If you could --

12 FS: Are there any security cameras out there?

13 JO: Yes.

14 FS: Oh. Okay. 'Cause I thought -- there was like --  
15 before the incident ever took place, I don't know  
16 why but I kind of like seen two people over by the -  
17 - with something with a canvas on it, like an S.U.V.  
18 or something before the incident took place.

19 JO: And you saw an S.U.V. near where?

20 FS: Well, let me draw a picture of it.

21 JO: Okay.

22 FS: And I'll draw it from -- I'm standing over here.

23 JO: Okay.

24 FS: There's the building. Now, the proportion -- I  
25 don't know if things are right, but let's say there  
26 was a car here and a car here. Inside this building

1           there was, um, an S.U.V. or a -- a vehicle, it's  
2           probably still out there, with canvas on it.

3   JO:   Okay.

4   FS:   I seen two people in this area prior to the  
5           incident.

6   JO:   Did they look like police officers or --

7   FS:   Yes.

8   JO:   Okay.

9   FS:   They were in -- in blues though.

10  JO:   And what about that pops out to you?

11  FS:   Huh?

12  JO:   What about their presence pops out to you?

13  FS:   No, like I'm (unintelligible) just now -- I just now  
14           -- I never even thought of it until just this  
15           minute. Before, you know, when we first were out  
16           there, somebody was over in that area, you know,  
17           prior to the thing, so --

18  JO:   Okay. And it -- and what you have drawn out for me,  
19           is this where the --

20  FS:   In the middle of this building you'll see, uh, a --  
21           something with a canvas on top of it.

22  JO:   Okay.

23  FS:   And they were looking underneath it. They picked it  
24           up. You know, so there was two people in that area  
25           prior to everything.

1 JO: Okay. And --

2 FS: That's all I've really --

3 JO: Where is -- did the scenario happen?

4 FS: Huh?

5 JO: The scenario that you witnessed, where was it in  
6 relation to the canvas?

7 FS: Oh, then after this, when, you know, they --  
8 everything -- when I -- I think it happened right  
9 here between two cars.

10 JO: Okay.

11 FS: You know? She was standing right about there I  
12 guess.

13 JO: Did they go over any type of safety --

14 FS: That -- this -- this was -- nobody was there when  
15 this took place.

16 JO: Okay.

17 FS: I don't think.

18 JO: What time do you --

19 FS: Of course, I didn't look over there either.

20 JO: What time do you think you saw them?

21 FS: The same time, just before.

22 JO: Okay. Just a few minutes before?

23 FS: Uh-huh. When we first came outside we went over --  
24 that's what it was. When -- when, um -- we came out  
25 to look at the police car over here.

1 JO: Over here?

2 FS: No, over here.

3 JO: Okay.

4 FS: Out in the parking lot.

5 JO: Okay.

6 FS: Before that somebody was over there.

7 JO: Okay.

8 FS: So, whenever Tom took everybody over there, we

9 followed him over there, but prior to that, maybe a

10 couple minutes before, uh -- two -- about two

11 minutes before that somebody was over in that area.

12 JO: And when you refer to Tom, is that --

13 FS: Tom is the chief.

14 JO: Okay.

15 FS: He was the one that brought us all over to this area

16 (unintelligible) or brought us back to this area

17 before the incident.

18 JO: Before the scenario happened did they go over any

19 type of, um, safety measures?

20 FS: To the lady, yeah. Back at the -- you know, they

21 explained to her the gun and everything that she

22 would be using --

23 JO: Okay.

24 FS: -- and then -- but they didn't tell her the incident

25 because that was the -- what that was all about I

1 guess.

2 JO: Do you know what they explained to her with -- going  
3 over the -- the safety measures?

4 FS: I wasn't really paying attention.

5 JO: Okay.

6 FS: You know? He was telling -- all's I know is colored  
7 bullets were full of laundry detergent.

8 JO: Okay.

9 FS: So --

10 JO: And did they discuss the -- the bad guy, I use  
11 quotations, the -- in the scenario? Did they go  
12 over anything about his weapons?

13 FS: Well, no, not that I know of. There, like I said, I  
14 wasn't really paying attention to that part of it,  
15 of the -- I think I was just standing like, um  
16 standing there doing --

17 JO: Huh?

18 FS: I might have been closer to her, like -- no, the  
19 only thing that's strange is, you know, somebody was  
20 in that area prior.

21 JO: I understand.

22 FS: That's the only thing that's strange. Other than  
23 that, if it was nothing -- there was a group  
24 somewhere --

25 JO: Uh-huh. How -- how far away were you when you --

1 FS: By the door. The --

2 JO: Okay.

3 FS: But see this building ran -- the door come out the  
4 back over by me.

5 JO: And then -- and you --

6 FS: Well, it would be over this way.

7 JO: And then you watched the scenario?

8 FS: Basically the same --

9 JO: I mean if you --

10 FS: But, yeah, when --

11 JO: If you could estimate what -- you think it's 20 feet  
12 from where you were standing to where the scenario  
13 happened?

14 FS: Oh, 100 feet --

15 JO: Okay.

16 FS: -- 200 feet.

17 JO: Okay.

18 FS: I -- I don't even know.

19 JO: Okay.

20 FS: I'm just saying where the building, the door is --

21 JO: Uh-huh.

22 FS: -- is where I was.

23 JO: You were right outside of that?

24 FS: Under that. Because it was drizzling I was standing  
25 there. But -- so, you know, it probably wasn't

1 nothing that's worth.

2 JO: I -- I

3 FS: -- some -- anything that counts.

4 JO: I'll look into it.

5 FS: Huh?

6 JO: I'll look into it.

7 FS: I'm sure you will. That's why I'm telling you.

8 JO: I appreciate it.

9 FS: I wouldn't tell you if I didn't --

10 JO: Is there anything else you can think of?

11 FS: No.

12 JO: Okay. That'll conclude the second part of this

13 interview at approximately 9:41 p.m.

14 FS: Wish I had told you a little clearer than it's got.

15 JO: I -- that's fine.

16 FS: It's not clear in my head here, so, you know --

17 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: hmc/hmc/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF GARY KNOWLTON, #2016-0108, 8/22/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 GN = Special Agent Gary Negrinelli

6 GK = Gary Knowlton

7 SK = Steve Knowlton

8 BK = Bill Knowlton

9 US = Unidentified Speaker

10 GN: Okay. This is Special Agent Gary Negrinelli,  
11 Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Uh, the  
12 date's August 22nd, 2016. Approximate time is 10:46  
13 a.m. This is an interview in reference to case  
14 number FM01-0027. This is gonna be an interview  
15 with Gary Knowlton. Um, we're currently at his  
16 residence at 1625 Montia Court in Punta Gorda. Uh,  
17 also present for the interview is Special Agent  
18 Supervisor Patrick Crowell and, uh, Mr. Knowlton's  
19 sons, uh, Steve --

20 SK: Steve.

21 GN: -- and Bill.

22 BK: Yes.

23 GN: Okay. Uh, Mr. Knowlton, can you state your name?

24 GK: Gary Knowlton.

25 GN: Okay. And can you spell it for the record?

26 GK: G-A-R-Y, K-N-O-W-L-T-O-N.



1 GN: Okay. And, Mr. Knowlton, can you raise your right  
2 hand for me? Mr. Knowlton, do you swear to tell the  
3 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so  
4 help you God?

5 GK: I do.

6 GN: Okay. Um, Mr. Knowlton, we're gonna talk about, uh,  
7 an incident that occurred at the Punta Gorda Police  
8 Department on August 9th, 2016. Uh, it had to do  
9 with the Citizens Night Out. Um --

10 GK: Yeah.

11 GN: Can you tell me about your involvement with that?

12 GK: Um, my wife is very active in the Chamber and she  
13 wanted to go to, um, this, uh, police department,  
14 uh, presentation on what they do.

15 GN: Uh-huh.

16 GK: And it started out in a conference room, about 35  
17 people.

18 GN: I'm sorry. Had -- had you guys, uh, attended these  
19 before or was this your first one?

20 GK: First one with the police department. Um, Mary, um,  
21 took me with her on two other functions of the, uh -  
22 - uh, Chamber.

23 GN: Okay. So you guys did, um, like, uh, nights out or  
24 events at other agencies or departments?

25 GK: Yeah. They -- they would always have these openings

1 of -- ribbon -- cutting the ribbon, openings for new  
2 businesses and -- for those that just joined and,  
3 uh, she, um -- she was -- what she did was, uh --  
4 Friends of the Library is a group that's really  
5 promoted the library in Punta Gorda.

6 GN: Uh-huh.

7 GK: And Mary went the extra step and joined the, um,  
8 Chamber of Commerce --

9 GN: Uh-huh.

10 GK: -- for, uh -- for the Friends of the Library to get  
11 some exposure on, uh, what they do.

12 GN: Okay.

13 GK: And, uh, so it -- in fact, she brought in a lot of  
14 corporations to, uh, be members of Friends of the  
15 Library --

16 GN: Okay.

17 GK: -- uh, for a small fee, and that -- that -- that  
18 helped the growth of the program.

19 GN: Uh-huh.

20 GK: Um, when we went to the, uh, police demonstration,  
21 the, um, chief, Lewis, um, spoke to the group to  
22 begin with, introducing all of his, uh, people --

23 GN: Uh-huh.

24 GK: -- and what they did. And they handed out all these  
25 little booklets; and, uh, the booklet was for notes.

1 And then what happened was they had a, uh -- two --  
2 two of these booklets were spread out to just  
3 anybody that got them.

4 GN: Uh-huh

5 GK: Well, Mary happened to get one that had, uh,  
6 "firearm" in one of the pages. And so she was told  
7 by, uh, some -- one of the people in the police  
8 department that that was the person that was  
9 supposed to be the victim in this simulation.

10 GN: Oh, okay. So, um, they passed the booklets out to  
11 everyone.

12 GK: Uh-huh.

13 GN: But whoever got the one that said "firearms" on it,  
14 they were gonna be part of the scenario.

15 GK: Yeah.

16 GN: And Mary had one.

17 GK: Yeah.

18 GN: Okay.

19 GK: So then, uh, it started out that everybody was  
20 interested in the simulation and -- and that things  
21 were fine. And then, uh, Mary had some kind of a  
22 pistol that had soap suds in it or something, and so  
23 she was supposed to aim it at the bad guy, who was a  
24 patrolman, uh, who eventually shot her. And so we  
25 were all just kind of thinking, you know, this is

1 kind of an interesting simulation and it'll all be  
2 no big deal.

3 Well, then all of a sudden, uh -- I was maybe  
4 10 feet away from her and I watched this, uh,  
5 patrolman, who was the bad guy, aim right at her and  
6 then shoot. And, uh, so she went down and we  
7 thought that was part of the show, and then the  
8 people there turned her over.

9 US: He shot her in the chest first and then --

10 GK: Yeah.

11 US: -- in the arm.

12 GK: Yeah, shot her right here and then shot her in the  
13 arm. And, uh, so he turned her over and she -- she  
14 looked horrible, you know, blood all over the place  
15 and -- and I thought, oh, my God, you know. And, uh  
16 -- and there was maybe five people that were trying  
17 to save her and they were giving -- pushing her  
18 stomach and stuff like that. And, uh -- and so, uh,  
19 they got the ambulance over there real fast and --  
20 and, uh, put her in there. And I wanted to get on  
21 the ambulance with her and they wouldn't let me and,  
22 uh -- but they said go over to, uh, Bayfront, the  
23 local hospital --

24 GN: Uh-huh.

25 GK: -- and she'll be there. So I went over there and,

1           uh, she wasn't there. And, uh, I didn't know they  
2           were taking her to --

3   GN: The emergency personnel told you to go to Bayfront  
4           or --

5   GK: No; the police.

6   GN: Police? Oh, okay.

7   GK: Yeah.

8   GN: Yeah.

9   GK: Um, so I'm in there and I -- I -- I'm just kind of  
10           hysterical and, uh, the people inside, uh, weren't  
11           much help. They -- I think they thought I was  
12           crazy. And, uh, all I was said was, "I want to find  
13           my wife. I don't know if she's alive or dead." And  
14           -- and they kind of, uh -- it was pretty disgusting.  
15           I, uh --

16   GN: And --

17   GK: They -- they led me into a room.

18   GN: Uh-huh.

19   GK: And this woman was in there taking information. And  
20           I said, "I can't just sit around here waiting for  
21           you to come up with some information. I have to go  
22           find my wife."

23   GN: Uh-huh.

24   GK: And they locked the door. And so I'm in this room  
25           and I said, "You -- you can't hold me here." Uh,

1 and so, um, not too long after, Officer Pribble came  
2 in and, uh, he was a breath of fresh air, very nice.  
3 And, uh, there was a bad storm coming and -- and  
4 they told me where she was going, to Lee County, uh,  
5 Hospital. And so he said, "You know, the -- the  
6 weather's bad. I'll give you a ride down there."

7 So --

8 GN: Okay. He eventually showed up at Bayfront, Officer  
9 Pribble?

10 GK: Yeah.

11 GN: Okay. Or did he bring you over there?

12 GK: No. I drove over by myself.

13 GN: You -- you went by yourself, yeah.

14 GK: Because, uh -- um, I didn't know how else I was  
15 gonna get there. And I just assumed that -- it was  
16 a short distance -- that I could go and -- and be  
17 there with her.

18 GN: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

19 GK: And so he, um, put the sirens on and -- and drove as  
20 fast as he could down to, uh, the hospital. And  
21 then he sat with me for a while. And there was a  
22 real nice social worker named Charlie who was down  
23 there that sat with me for a long time. And Officer  
24 Pribble, um, was -- I don't know what he was doing  
25 because they put me in an area, and I just said,

1 "Can I see Mary?" And -- and, uh, he, um -- well, I  
2 guess I missed the part where they, um, got me  
3 private and told me she was dead, died on the way  
4 down in the ambulance.

5 GN: Uh-huh.

6 GK: And so -- I'll get with it. Um, so then this social  
7 worker, Charlie, he was really nice, too. He tried  
8 to calm me.

9 GN: Uh-huh.

10 GK: And, uh, so I sat around there until 11 or 12:00 at  
11 night and, uh, all of a sudden Officer Pribble  
12 showed up and he says, uh, you know, uh, "I'll give  
13 you a ride back, um --

14 GN: Uh-huh.

15 GK: -- and, uh -- to your car." And, uh, so he, uh --  
16 he gave me a ride back to, um, where my car was at,  
17 Bayfront.

18 GN: Bayfront?

19 GK: And then I went home from there. And, uh, he  
20 followed me the whole way --

21 GN: Uh-huh.

22 GK: -- to make certain I got home okay.

23 GN: And Officer Pribble, he's from Punta Gorda --

24 GK: Yeah.

25 GN: -- Police Department?

1 GK: Yeah.

2 GN: Okay.

3 GK: Yeah. I can't say enough about him. He's such a  
4 nice guy.

5 GN: Uh-huh. Okay.

6 GK: He tried to calm me on the way down. And, uh -- and  
7 then my neighbor who I -- across there, we go to the  
8 same church. I call him my guardian angel. And I  
9 used to run. He'd -- and a bad storm was coming,  
10 he'd pick me up and give me a ride home.

11 GN: Uh-huh.

12 GK: Um, I don't know what else to say about it other  
13 than, uh -- then the -- the guys, I told them, and  
14 they came down right away to be with me.

15 GN: Uh-huh. Uh, if I could just ask you, uh, a few more  
16 questions about, um, during the academy -- during  
17 the Citizens Night Out. Um, you said that was the  
18 first time at the Punta Gorda Police Department for  
19 that, for you and Mary. Correct?

20 GK: Yeah. I don't know about her, but --

21 US: My -- my mom said that she had an association with  
22 the Department.

23 GN: Uh-huh.

24 US: And one of the officers came to the funeral and, uh,  
25 spoke highly of her and -- and, um -- and, um, so



1 she had a relationship with them, but we -- I don't  
2 know the details of it.

3 GN: Right.

4 US: I had talked to my mom that week and, uh -- leading  
5 up to it, um, about the police shootings that had  
6 happened in Dallas and how they got a bad rap, and  
7 she wanted to go there to show her support for the  
8 police.

9 GN: Uh-huh.

10 US: And, uh, she was all excited about it and, uh -- um,  
11 but that was one of the key things that she -- we  
12 had -- we had some break-ins in this neighborhood  
13 and an officer came, really nice guy. The second  
14 officer wasn't so nice at the second break-in. He  
15 was kind of like an investigative type deal. But  
16 the first guy sat for an hour talking to us and --

17 GN: Uh-huh.

18 US: And, uh, she really wanted to show her support.  
19 And, uh, so -- I know the interview's with my dad,  
20 but --

21 GN: No, that's fine. Yeah. So, um, I'm just trying to  
22 find out if -- if you guys or if she had gone there  
23 before for a -- a Citizens Night Out. But as far as  
24 we know, this is probably the -- the first time that  
25 she went there and you went there.

1 GK: My knowledge of it.

2 GN: Right.

3 GK: Because she would say she's going to a Chamber --

4 GN: Uh-huh.

5 GK: -- get-together and --

6 GN: Uh-huh.

7 GK: -- didn't always, uh -- I didn't always jump up and

8 down about it, but --

9 GN: Uh-huh.

10 GK: -- you know, I was happy for her that she enjoyed

11 doing that.

12 GN: Right. Okay. So, um, you both went there. Uh, you

13 said, uh, Chief Lewis did the welcoming?

14 GK: Yes. Uh-huh.

15 GN: And -- and spent some time in -- uh, inside the

16 police department?

17 GK: Not, uh, quite so long, but it, uh, was enough --

18 sufficient for everybody to understand his

19 department.

20 GN: Sure. And then you said they, um -- they handed out

21 a booklet.

22 GK: Uh-huh.

23 GN: You don't -- you don't happen to still have that

24 booklet, do you?

25 GK: No. I, uh, threw --

1 GN: Okay. Was it --

2 GK: Threw it away.

3 GN: Okay. Was it like a thick booklet or just a --

4 GK: No. It was maybe, uh, 10 pages. I think they just

5 wanted --

6 GN: Ten pages?

7 GK: -- people to take notes.

8 GN: Okay. Uh-huh.

9 GK: Two-sided.

10 GN: Okay. And like you said, Mary got the one that --

11 that -- that had the firearms.

12 GK: Yeah.

13 GN: Yeah. And there was -- uh, was any more people that

14 had that besides her?

15 GK: I thought there was one other, but, uh, then they,

16 uh, talked about the other person not being involved

17 in the simulation.

18 GN: Okay. Um, and then when -- when did they go over,

19 uh, like, um, what she was gonna be doing and -- and

20 -- and --

21 GK: Well --

22 GN: -- the gun that she was gonna be using? Were you

23 present during that or --

24 GK: I -- I got bits and pieces of it, but --

25 GN: Uh-huh.

- 1 GK: I was nearby and the, uh -- I forget who, um, told  
2 her what to do.
- 3 GN: Uh-huh.
- 4 GK: But she, uh -- it was kind of like, um, when do you  
5 shoot or you don't shoot.
- 6 GN: Uh-huh.
- 7 GK: And you -- and so, um, I didn't catch the part that  
8 she, uh, was supposed to shoot him or try to shoot  
9 him and what that would bring on.
- 10 GN: Okay. Um, either of you or Mary, um, involved with  
11 firearms before?
- 12 GK: Just as a kid.
- 13 GN: Uh-huh.
- 14 GK: Uh, high school, hunting in Minnesota, pheasants.
- 15 GN: Your -- yourself?
- 16 GK: Yeah.
- 17 GN: Yeah? How about Mary?
- 18 GK: Never.
- 19 US: She probably never held a gun once.
- 20 GN: Never held a gun one time.
- 21 GK: No. And, uh -- and then I tried hunting in, uh --  
22 when we moved to the cities and --
- 23 GN: Uh-huh.
- 24 GK: And then, um, Bill was a real humanitarian and he  
25 wouldn't have any of it, so I quit hunting.

1 GN: Okay. So Mary had no prior firearm experience.

2 GK: No.

3 GN: Okay. Um, did, um -- do you understand, uh, the --  
4 the kind of gun that she was using?

5 GK: No, I don't. Uh-uh.

6 GN: Okay. It's a Simunition gun. Um, basically it's,  
7 uh, a Glock. You've heard of a Glock? That --

8 GK: I've heard of it, yeah.

9 GN: That they've altered to only shoot, uh, nonlethal  
10 rounds. Simunition rounds, FX rounds, different  
11 names for them, but basically they're nonlethal.  
12 Um, it's the same kind of cartridge that -- that  
13 fits into the Glock, but the end is clearly marked,  
14 uh, and it's basically paint. You know, it stings a  
15 little. I've trained with it. Uh --

16 GK: I'm sure.

17 GN: Patrick's trained with it. It stings a little when  
18 it hits you. Um, so that's basically what she had.  
19 And -- and again, she has no -- she -- you said she  
20 has no experience with any type of firearm, though.  
21 Correct?

22 GK: Right.

23 GN: Did you see her get -- getting instructions or  
24 anything like that with it?

25 GK: Uh, it seemed like it 'cause they, uh -- to start

1 with they were coming -- we were all out close to  
2 where it was gonna happen.

3 GN: Uh-huh.

4 GK: And then, um, somebody who was in charge of it -- I  
5 -- I -- I don't -- I didn't sit and stare at it at  
6 that point.

7 GN: Uh-huh.

8 GK: And -- and they were kind of talking to Mary about  
9 this and that.

10 GN: She was kind off, uh, away from the group.

11 GK: Yeah, maybe --

12 GN: Getting instructions.

13 GK: Maybe 15 feet or something like that. And, uh, then  
14 she went by -- just by me and she was next to this  
15 car.

16 GN: Uh-huh.

17 GK: And she was on one side and the crook was on the  
18 other side.

19 GN: Right.

20 GK: Supposedly.

21 GN: Right. So the instructions for, um, the firearm  
22 that she was using wasn't done as a group; just  
23 basically with her.

24 GK: Uh-huh.

25 GN: Okay.

1 GK: It seemed like that.

2 GN: Was there any explanation as to -- the officer that  
3 was playing the bad guy, um, as to what kind of  
4 firearm he was gonna be using?

5 GK: Uh, they may have, but I wasn't listening that good.

6 GN: Okay.

7 GK: I was -- I was kind of watching Mary and watching  
8 what was going on.

9 GN: Okay. Um, did you know the person in that scenario,  
10 the officer in that scenario?

11 GK: No, I don't.

12 GN: Okay.

13 GK: I didn't know --

14 GN: Was he involved at all with, um, the classroom or  
15 anything like that? Or did -- did -- was he, uh --  
16 did he ever introduce himself to the group or was he  
17 ever introduced, that officer that was --

18 GK: Probably. Maybe five or six people were introduced.

19 GN: Okay. Can you say for sure, though, if -- if he was  
20 --

21 GK: No, I can't say for sure.

22 GN: Okay. All right. And so let's -- let's -- let's go  
23 to the actual incident. Um, you said she was  
24 brought out and she was given some last-minute  
25 instruction with the firearm away from the group and

1           then the scenario started. You were with the rest  
2           of the group watching the scenario?

3   GK: Yeah. Yeah.

4   GN: Okay.

5   GK: Well, I was right up front.

6   GN: Uh-huh.

7   GK: And, uh, so then, uh, she -- she came around towards  
8           the right side of the car, and he was on the other  
9           side and he had this mask on.

10  GN: Okay. And I'm sorry, I forgot to ask this. Was  
11           there any -- in that booklet was there anything --  
12           especially with hers, I don't know if you knew or  
13           not -- um, about how the scenario was gonna go or  
14           was it just explained to her orally?

15  GK: Orally.

16  GN: Yeah? Okay. All right. So continue. So she --  
17           she comes up to the car?

18  GK: Yeah. And she's just over there. And, uh, it  
19           seemed like she lifted up her gun.

20  GN: Uh-huh.

21  GK: And all of a sudden shots rang out.

22  GN: Uh-huh. Do you recall how many shots you heard?

23  GK: I know of two.

24  GN: Uh-huh.

25  GK: Um, seemed like more like three. Uh, maybe one was



1 intended to -- to miss her, whatever.

2 GN: So you think you heard three?

3 GK: Right away I saw one go right in there. Uh, I  
4 pretty much had my back to her, but I -- I could  
5 tell that that's the one that really hit her hard,  
6 and then --

7 GN: Uh-huh.

8 GK: -- shot -- shot her in the arm.

9 GN: Okay.

10 GK: And I was told by the hospital that, uh, she, um,  
11 was, um -- the -- the bullet went in here. And then  
12 when they turned her over, I could see a big hole  
13 there and a lot of blood.

14 GN: Uh-huh.

15 GK: And then they said it went over to the heart and  
16 killed her.

17 GN: Okay. No? Okay. Anything else that I might not  
18 have asked?

19 GK: No.

20 GN: Okay. All right. That'll conclude this statement.

21 Approximate time is 11:06 a.m.

22 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

23

24

25 Transcribed by: lam/lam/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF JAMES FENDRICK, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell

6 JF = James Fendrick

7 JO: It is approximately 10:16 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell, with the

9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement, is here with

10 James Fendrick. If you could, please, state and

11 spell your name for the record.

12 JF: Uh, James Fendrick, J-A-M-E-S, F-E-N-D-R-I-C-K.

13 JO: All right. Um, if you could, please, tell me what

14 brings you to the Punta Gorda Police Department this

15 evening?

16 JF: Yeah. Well, we were at the, um, Punta Gorda, um

17 police academy and, uh, we were, um, going outside

18 to watch, uh -- a couple of different things. Uh, go

19 check out the police car, um, a boat, and then to

20 go, um, watch a demonstration of, um, shoot, no

21 shoot. And, um, let's see? Everybody was actually,

22 um, ready for a lot of fun, including, I think the,

23 um -- you know, the officer that had the gun. Looked

24 like he was, you know -- didn't look like he had any

25 kind of motive, just, uh -- other than to

26 participate along. Um -- and then, um, Mary had

1       come, uh, over to meet with the guy, um, in the  
2       scenario. He was looking for, um -- you know, said  
3       he was looking for his dog. And, um -- and then went  
4       around the car, threw his cell phone on top of the  
5       car to kind of distract her that way, and, um -- and  
6       she was not ready for -- to respond in anyway. I'm  
7       just thinking in my mind.

8               And then, um -- um -- uh, then he was behind  
9       the car a little bit to the left of the car and, um  
10      -- you know, when she was kind of, um, not knowing  
11      how to respond, um, he fired three or four shots,  
12      um, which -- um, I'm sure he seemed to -- you know,  
13      we all seemed to be thinking it was blanks. I  
14      remember his face. He looked surprised, you know,  
15      that she was -- I mean it started with her, I  
16      remember, reaching to her, um -- like, part of her  
17      body. I don't know if it was her stomach or what.  
18      And then just starting to slump and then, um, went  
19      to the ground. And then her head went to the ground  
20      kind of triangularly where her -- her torso was  
21      still up. So, um -- you know, not the -- it didn't  
22      go flat, and -- and everybody was kind of stunned  
23      and wondering what was happening.

24             And, um, then she was rolled over and her shirt  
25      pulled back, and I ran up there and, uh, saw

1           bleeding coming out of one of the wounds. I figured  
2           that, you know -- I mean there -- there were more  
3           shots and there was a lot of blood in more than one  
4           place. So, I assume that, you know, all of the shots  
5           probably had hit her, although I did not see how  
6           many more, other than it was my assumption because  
7           of the blood being over and the, uh -- certainly the  
8           one hole. I think I actually saw two holes, but one  
9           had blood coming out of it.

10                 So, I kind of walked back towards the crowd and  
11           put my hand up and said you know, "Stand back." Um,  
12           as I -- 'cause I had gone all of the way up to see  
13           if I could help out. Um, decided that I really  
14           couldn't help out and -- and then just tried to tell  
15           everybody to move back, 'cause it didn't seem, you  
16           know -- it was surreal, but it really looked like  
17           she had been shot. So, um -- and that's what I  
18           recollect -- or remember.

19   JO:   So, if we can go back to -- in this scenario when  
20           the burglar is coming around the back side of the  
21           vehicle.

22   JF:   Uh-huh.

23   JO:   You said you saw, uh -- the burglar put his cell  
24           phone on top of the vehicle?

25   JF:   Yeah. Yeah. He threw it up on top of the vehicle.

1 But before he actually went around to the back. As  
2 he was going around, um, you know -- I mean it  
3 certainly -- I -- I don't know if the move was  
4 intended to distract, you know.

5 JO: Uh-huh.

6 JF: Um, that's what I was assuming, um, so that he would  
7 -- or so she would just know -- not know how to  
8 respond.

9 JO: Did you see the burglar with a weapon?

10 JF: I did see the weapon, um, a couple of times. I mean  
11 I remember it was, uh -- like, silver. Seemed like  
12 it was actually -- it didn't seem shiny --

13 JO: Okay.

14 JF: -- you know, like nickel or something like that. Um,  
15 I mean I was thinking it was a .38, but I don't know  
16 positively. I just -- that's what it kind of looked  
17 like. Um -- and I remember seeing it a couple of  
18 times, you know, once when it was pointed at her  
19 shooting, and then I, um -- I think once when he was  
20 kind of stunned. He appeared stunned about what was  
21 going on, too, you know, and I think I just saw it  
22 around his stomach at that time, you know, just  
23 being held about that height. And -- yeah. That's  
24 what I remember.

25 JO: So, when you saw him shoot, where was he?

1 JF: Um, he was behind the car and over to the left as --  
2 where we were facing, it was my left.

3 JO: And did -- and so, when you saw him shoot, can you  
4 describe his position? What -- like --

5 JF: Well, I mean he was open positioned to -- I thought  
6 to the car, but, again, that's just my recollection,  
7 'cause I'm trying to process it. But -- but it  
8 seemed like he was kind of, um, again, open more  
9 towards us kind of, maybe a little bit towards her.  
10 I remember the -- seeing the gun actually down and  
11 shooting at her, you know. But it kind of got  
12 covered some of the time, you know. I don't know if  
13 it was that hoodie he was wearing or what it was.

14 JO: Uh-huh.

15 JF: I can't process that exactly.

16 JO: Would you say that he -- was he shooting, like, over  
17 the hood?

18 JF: It -- it -- well --

19 JO: Or --

20 JF: -- I -- I mean I --

21 JO: -- okay.

22 JF: -- okay. So, this is what my mind remembers.

23 JO: Of course.

24 JF: Is it -- it didn't seem like the hood. It seemed  
25 like the back end of the car. I -- I don't --

1 JO: Okay.

2 JF: -- yeah. I mean, um -- but, again, I wasn't really  
3 there to remember everything.

4 JO: Of course. Yeah.

5 JF: But that's what I really remember. It seemed like  
6 the tail of the car. It could have been the hood, if  
7 I'm wrong. But -- but it just seemed to me like the  
8 tail of the car, and, yeah, over the top of it. And  
9 -- or else he was -- it was -- where our position,  
10 you know, it -- it was either over or he had to have  
11 been step back far enough to shoot next to it, you  
12 know.

13 JO: Okay. I understand.

14 JF: Um, that's as much as I could really tell.

15 JO: I'm just trying to get --

16 JF: Sure.

17 JO: -- the full picture from you --

18 JF: Yeah.

19 JO: -- so --

20 JF: Yeah. And I'm just -- again, I wasn't there for that  
21 kind of a --

22 JO: Yeah. Of course. Of course. Um --

23 JF: -- but I didn't -- I would say that he -- you know,  
24 the officer looked shocked.

25 JO: Okay.

1 JF: I do recall that. I mean I think that's an important  
2 detail that he didn't look like, "Oh, I got her."  
3 You know?  
4 JO: Of course.  
5 JF: I mean like it was some malice and --  
6 JO: Yeah.  
7 JF: -- like, hidden or anything like that. He looked  
8 very shocked and, like, you know, what's going on?  
9 Just like everybody else. Um, I didn't notice  
10 anybody that seemed to be plotting --  
11 JO: Uh-huh.  
12 JF: -- you know, just because you never know if there's  
13 somebody that was doing -- that actually  
14 intentionally would do this. But -- so -- so, I mean  
15 I thought that was good that I didn't see any intent  
16 or some joy that, hey --  
17 JO: Uh-huh.  
18 JF: -- this has happened, you know. It was shock.  
19 JO: And then Mary, she -- she's -- fell, like, in  
20 multiple --  
21 JF: Yeah. Like, a couple of different phases. The first  
22 time she fell -- well, she didn't really fall per  
23 say, either. She just kind of slumped down. You  
24 know, went down slowly.  
25 JO: -- okay.



1 JF: Um -- and -- yeah. And when she went down it seemed  
2 like maybe her -- her head wasn't hitting right away  
3 and then -- then her head slumped down and then she  
4 kind of rolled down.

5 JO: Okay.

6 JF: Yeah. That's as much as I remember that piece.

7 JO: Did you hear her say anything?

8 JF: Nah. Uh, no.

9 JO: Okay.

10 JF: I mean I was, uh -- I used to be a helicopter  
11 mechanic. My ears are --

12 JO: Gotcha. And you said that the police and EMS  
13 responded very quickly?

14 JF: Yeah. Oh, yeah. It was, uh -- it was very quick. Um,  
15 the -- I mean we all rushed over, like I said. I  
16 would've done something if I could, you know. But I  
17 realized this was beyond my skill.

18 JO: Uh-huh.

19 JF: You know, as far as, like, CPR or something like  
20 that --

21 JO: Yeah.

22 JF: -- when I saw the blood coming out of her. Um -- and  
23 -- and, yeah, so, like I say, I just -- I was one of  
24 the closest there. So, I just moved back --

25 JO: Uh-huh.

1 JF: -- and I put my hands to everybody and said, "Just,  
2 you know, move back."

3 JO: You said you observed at least one, but possibly two  
4 gunshots?

5 JF: Oh. No. I mean -- I mean I remember three, possibly  
6 four gunshots as far as -- oh. But what did I see?

7 JO: Yes.

8 JF: Yeah. It -- it seems to me that I saw, you know --  
9 maybe that was three, you know --

10 JO: Okay.

11 JF: -- boom, boom, boom. And then the gun kind of  
12 disappeared and then I saw it when it was all done,  
13 you know, where he's just kind of -- it was just,  
14 uh, there, you know, like -- like, I say, I think he  
15 was in shock at -- I -- I mean I don't think it --  
16 he instantly understood what was happening either.  
17 He's just kind of wondering.

18 JO: Trying to process?

19 JF: Yeah.

20 JO: When you saw Mary, you said you observed at least  
21 one gunshot?

22 JF: Oh. Oh, yeah. She was on her back at that time. Her  
23 shirt was back. Um, she had blood, like, mid -- you  
24 know, mid-body.

25 JO: Okay.

1 JF: There was a bunch of blood. I wouldn't say pool. But  
2 just, like, all over. It was thicker than, um, just  
3 -- it wasn't as thick as a pool, but it wasn't just,  
4 like, a shirt that wiped across, you know.

5 JO: Okay.

6 JF: So, I figured there's probably more holes than what  
7 I see, but I only saw one of them pumping a little  
8 bit --

9 JO: Okay.

10 JF -- of blood.

11 JO: And then after EMS arrived is that when you all were  
12 escorted back to the classroom?

13 JF: No. Well, I was heading back before EMS really  
14 arrived. There were some people from the fire  
15 station, I believe. That's who I thought was coming  
16 first.

17 JO: Okay.

18 JF: I mean maybe they are the EMS people from there, but  
19 they --

20 JO: Uh-huh.

21 JF: -- but they didn't -- they just came out of the  
22 building.

23 JO: Okay.

24 JF: Um, one guy -- I mean I can describe what the guy  
25 looked like. And that -- that's not important. But

1 I'm just saying that --

2 JO: Uh-huh.

3 JF: -- I do recall that very well, just that they came  
4 out and --

5 JO: Okay.

6 JF: -- like I say, it -- I mean I've had a lot training  
7 and stuff. I just really knew that there's people  
8 here --

9 JO: Yeah.

10 JF: -- that are gonna --

11 JO: Of course.

12 JF: -- do a lot better than me.

13 JO: After you went to the classroom, did you come back  
14 out for anything?

15 JF: No. Uh-uh. No.

16 JO: Did you record any of this on your phone?

17 JF: Uh-uh. No.

18 JO: Do you know anyone that did?

19 JF: Uh-uh.

20 JO: Okay.

21 JF: No, I don't -- I think every -- I mean not that it -  
22 - it didn't happen, but, I think, most people were  
23 just totally there to enjoy each other's company and  
24 --

25 JO: Of course.

1 JF: -- the event. Well, I mean versus the -- not as much  
2 as the novelty. Just more the relationships.

3 JO: Uh-huh. Did you know Mary personally?

4 JF: I knew her, yeah. Um, very nice lady. Yeah.

5 JO: Okay.

6 JF: I -- I hadn't seen personally for about six months.

7 JO: Okay.

8 JF: But, yeah. She's a really super, sweet lady.

9 JO: Did you know the police officer involved in the  
10 scenario?

11 JF: No. I didn't know him. Uh-uh.

12 JO: Okay.

13 JF: No.

14 JO: Is there anything else you can think of that I  
15 haven't asked you?

16 JF: Nope. You're gonna hear probably a lot of that same  
17 story, so --

18 JO: All right. That will conclude this interview at  
19 approximately 10:27 p.m.

20 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

21

22

23

24

25 Transcribed by: erz/erz/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF JAMES GAMBLIN, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 AD = Special Agent Alberto Diaz

6 JG = James Gamblin

7 AD: Today's date is August 9th, 2016. The time now is  
8 approximately 10:55 p.m. Myself, Alberto Diaz,  
9 Special Agent with Florida Department of Law  
10 Enforcement. I'm at the Punta Gorda Police  
11 Department, located at 1410 Tamiami Trail in Punta  
12 Gorda. I'm inside the shift commander's office.  
13 With me is Mr. James Bradford Gamblin.

14 Uh, Mr. Gamblin, if you can please state your  
15 date of birth for me, sir.

16 JG: October 27th, 1942.

17 AD: Thank you, sir. And for the purposes of this  
18 interview I have to swear you in. And just before  
19 we do --

20 JG: Fine.

21 AD: -- in your own words, do you know what perjury is?

22 JG: I do.

23 AD: What is that, sir?

24 JG: It's lying under oath.

25 AD: Correct. Okay. And if you could please, um, raise  
26 your right hand, sir. Do you swear or affirm that

1 the statement you're about to give will be the  
2 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

3 JG: I do.

4 AD: Okay. Thank you, sir. Uh, if you could just please  
5 tell me about what occurred tonight.

6 JG: I had -- they had asked us, meaning the group that  
7 was here tonight with the Chamber, to walk over  
8 from, uh, the demonstrations of a police cruiser and  
9 the boat. Uh, and so I actually had been talking  
10 with John -- I forgot his last name, but -- who runs  
11 the boat in the marine patrol for Punta Gorda.

12 AD: Okay.

13 JG: And I was walking over, chatting with him, and said,  
14 "I remember you doing this same scenario, uh, in the  
15 past." And he said, "Yes, but I got so tied up with  
16 this tonight I wasn't able to." And I told him, I  
17 said, "Well, I was kind of thinking about  
18 volunteering," and -- but obviously they'd already  
19 picks -- picked someone.

20 So I came over and I actually hung around kind  
21 of towards the back of the group that was watching  
22 the scenario, and what I did see was this woman --  
23 and I didn't see her face -- walking over towards  
24 the front of the vehicle where this other fairly  
25 tall gentleman with a -- a mask on had been

1           lingering around the tail of it. And obviously he  
2           was the robber and her task was to get him under  
3           control or arrest -- or whatever. I don't know the  
4           scenario, what was really done.

5                   And, uh, so I was still standing back there,  
6           and she came around the front, said something to  
7           him. I did not hear it. Uh, front of the car -- I  
8           did not hear what she said. I did not hear what he  
9           said. And he then went behind the car and came back  
10          out, shooting a gun. And, uh, there were four shots  
11          as near as I can tell, one bang and then bang, bang,  
12          bang. And near as I can tell -- it bothered me at  
13          the time because -- and then I -- it bothered me  
14          because they were too loud. The shots seemed to me  
15          to be too loud for blanks, but I didn't think that  
16          at the time. But I -- I was startled myself because  
17          the shots were so loud. Uh, thinking back I would  
18          say they were .38 or higher caliber, just because  
19          I've been around guns all my life.

20   AD: Okay.

21   JG: And, uh, then somebody said, "She's down." And then  
22          somebody else up in front of me said, "She's --  
23          she's down." I never heard she'd been hit or  
24          anything like that; that, "She's down." And then,  
25          uh, several people I saw rushing over there. I



1 can't tell you who it was, but it was police and --  
2 from the area, obviously, here. And, uh, then they  
3 started yelling for medics and EMS.

4 And I started going in that direction myself  
5 and was about to start running to get the, uh,  
6 medics and I noticed that they had a unit in the  
7 garage. And so, uh -- but by that time, why there  
8 was a police officer from Punta Gorda in a full --  
9 full run. He'd outrun me in a heartbeat. And he,  
10 uh, went and roused them out. They were a little  
11 confused in that they didn't understand what was  
12 going on and -- but then they got the picture real  
13 quick.

14 So in less than a minute, uh, probably a minute  
15 one or -- one of them was headed towards the scene.  
16 And, um, shortly thereafter I saw that they were  
17 grabbing equipment off of the fire engine, so it was  
18 some of our Fire, EMS. And, uh, then I saw  
19 personnel coming from -- or I'm not sure I saw  
20 personnel coming from the County unit.

21 Then we were all ushered inside, into the room  
22 where we were. And, uh, I heard the ambulance siren  
23 briefly and I figured they were taking it around  
24 back. And then about five minutes later I heard,  
25 another siren leaving. That's all I know. That's

1 all I know personally. My guess is, yeah, they were  
2 probably accurate after a number of years on, uh --  
3 uh, EMS department.

4 AD: Uh, did you see anything with this -- I mean with  
5 this woman -- um, after -- after I guess the -- the  
6 four rounds, what -- what happened after that with  
7 her?

8 JG: Not really, other than -- well, when she --  
9 somebody's said, "She's down," but I didn't see her  
10 go down.

11 AD: Okay.

12 JG: Um, but I looked over -- then the crowd parted  
13 enough that I could look over and then see that  
14 somebody was on the ground. Pardon me. But I  
15 couldn't see anything else.

16 AD: Okay. And at -- yeah, did you see her at all -- at  
17 all any time after that?

18 JG: No.

19 AD: Okay. And then, um, someone went to go get help?

20 JG: Yes.

21 AD: And then -- okay.

22 JG: They just ran from the scene to the -- the, uh --  
23 what, 200 feet to the -- and yelling while they were  
24 going, "We need help; we need help."

25 AD: Okay. And then, um, anything else? Anything --

1 anything else -- throughout that time when help  
2 came, did you hear anything else being said --

3 JG: No.

4 AD: -- from anybody or anything?

5 JG: No.

6 AD: Okay.

7 JG: At first I thought the gun reports had been so loud.  
8 When I heard she was down, uh, I thought, oh, God --  
9 I know she was an older woman -- uh, she's had a  
10 heart attack. Scared her -- it scared me. I mean,  
11 it made -- startled me. Scared me, no. Startled me  
12 that, uh, I was worried that she was having a heart  
13 attack. That was my first thought. Really no  
14 thought that they could have been gunshots.

15 AD: Okay.

16 JG: Then after we came in the room a little later we  
17 heard it was gunshots; she was shot. That's all I  
18 heard.

19 AD: And who did you -- what -- who did you hear that  
20 from?

21 JG: I have no idea at this point. It just sort of like  
22 --

23 AD: Just overhearing?

24 JG: Yeah, every --

25 AD: I mean, did you hear that from -- from hearing it

1 from -- uh, what, did you hear it from the people  
2 that were in the group or did you hear it from a  
3 police officer?

4 JG: I actually heard it, uh -- it was like someone in  
5 the group heard it and passed the word. That's all  
6 I know.

7 AD: Is there -- okay.

8 JG: Yeah.

9 AD: Is there anything else that I haven't asked you or  
10 that was not covered that you can think of in  
11 reference to this incident?

12 JG: Uh-uh. No. Except it's damn tragic.

13 AD: Well --

14 JG: And of course my thought is, how the hell could this  
15 have happened?

16 AD: What -- what time -- what time did this all happen  
17 or start?

18 JG: Uh, a little before -- I can't answer that. I think  
19 -- let's see. Maybe I can, too. Yes. Um, 6:40 is  
20 when this occurred approximately. Uh, 6:54 Tom came  
21 in -- oh, I know what it was. Uh, I had asked one  
22 of the officers to -- because nobody knew what was  
23 happening. I asked one of the officers, I said, "We  
24 need more -- somebody needs to come and talk to us."  
25 'Cause you got 30 people in there getting more and

1 more upset. They needed somebody to come and talk  
2 to us. And shortly thereafter, at 6:54 --

3 AD: Was this outside? Outside?

4 JG: Inside.

5 AD: Oh, inside.

6 JG: We're in the room now.

7 AD: Oh, okay. You were brought inside? Were you  
8 brought --

9 JG: Yeah. We were all told to go into the room.

10 AD: Oh, okay. Okay. Okay.

11 JG: Somebody held the door open for us. I don't know  
12 who.

13 AD: Okay. No, no, no. I'm talking -- okay. I'm -- I'm  
14 --

15 JG: We -- we --

16 AD: I'm talking about outside, what -- outside, what you  
17 heard, saw. Um --

18 JG: Oh, that's -- I've told you everything I saw and  
19 heard. Once in the room, Tom came in at 6:54 and  
20 told us that, uh, the person had been shot.

21 AD: Okay. All right. Uh, did you know the -- the  
22 woman? Did you know her?

23 JG: No. I -- I've seen her, but it wasn't like -- if  
24 I've said anything it was like hello, goodbye or  
25 something like that, acknowledge her here.

1 AD: Okay. About how old do you think she was?

2 JG: My recollection is that she's in her -- was over 70.

3 AD: Okay. All right. And --

4 JG: And my thought about that was, oh, my God, if she's  
5 shot and she's over 70, she's in a heap of trouble.

6 AD: Okay. Uh, do you remember -- do you remember what  
7 she was wearing?

8 JG: Some sort of a light -- I seem to recall some sort  
9 of light print dress of some kind.

10 AD: Okay. All right. Is there anything else that you  
11 can think of that --

12 JG: No.

13 AD: -- I didn't cover or ask?

14 JG: No.

15 AD: Okay. All right, Mr. Gamblin. Thank you.

16 JG: You did good.

17 AD: All right.

18 JG: Thank you.

19 AD: The time -- end of interview now. It is  
20 approximately 10 -- is, uh, 11 -- correction, 11:05  
21 p.m.

22 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

23 Transcribed by: lam/lam/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF JENNIFER EVANS, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT = Special Agent Christopher Teasum [phonetic]

6 JE = Jennifer Evans

7 CT: My name is Christopher Teasum. I'm a special agent  
8 with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.  
9 Today's date is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The time is  
10 currently 9:37 p.m. This is in reference to an  
11 incident, which occurred at the Punta Gorda Police  
12 Department. The address is 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta  
13 Gorda, Florida, 33950. I will be taking a sworn  
14 taped statement from Jennifer Evans, E-V-A-N-S. Date  
15 of birth, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1964. Currently residing at  
16 26485 Rampart Boulevard, unit E24, Punta Gorda,  
17 Florida, 33983. Okay. Is it okay if I call you  
18 Jennifer?

19 JE: Yes.

20 CT: Oh, okay. Okay. Jennifer, before we begin this, uh,  
21 do you know what perjury is?

22 JE: Yes.

23 CT: And, in your own words, can you tell me what that  
24 is?

25 JE: Lying under oath.

26 CT: Correct. Perjury can be done on a couple of ways.

1           Number one, you could tell an outright lie under  
2           oath. Number two would be leaving out all or part of  
3           information to mislead an investigation. Okay?

4    JE:    Uh-huh.

5    CT:    And I have to tell you, just as -- just like I do  
6           everyone else, that in the state of Florida perjury  
7           is a misdemeanor. Okay?

8    JE:    Okay.

9    CT:    Um, before we begin, I just need to swear you in  
10           under oath. Okay? So, if you raise your right hand.  
11           Do you swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole  
12           truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

13   JE:    I do.

14   CT:    Okay. All right. Um, good so far? Any questions?

15   JE:    Uh-uh. I'm good.

16   CT:    Okay. Okay. Obviously, we're here because of the  
17           incident, which occurred here at the Punta Gorda  
18           Police Department tonight. Um, so, if you wouldn't  
19           mind, I'd like you to just start, uh, from the  
20           beginning to the end of what happened. And when I  
21           say, "beginning", basically when you got here.

22   JE:    Uh-huh.

23   CT:    Uh, just be as detailed as possible. Okay? Um, treat  
24           me as if I don't know what's going on, because I  
25           really don't. Okay?



1 JE: Okay. Um, I work for the Chamber. Um, I keep the --  
2 have the latest of who is supposed to be here at the  
3 agenda -- or the, uh, attendee list of who's  
4 supposed to be here. So, when I got here before the  
5 rest of the chamber office members, I went ahead and  
6 started taking role as to who was here. Um, we were  
7 out in the lobby, just kind of chit-chatting, you  
8 know, as we were gathering who all was here. And  
9 then when, um, some of the other people come in,  
10 then we were led back in to the room -- the  
11 conference room, I guess, is what you'd call it,  
12 conference room, where we had the program.

13 Um, they did, uh -- um, overview of, you know,  
14 the police department. Uh, talked about, you know,  
15 the different aspects, stats of the police  
16 department. And then we broke up into different  
17 groups, took tours of the department. And then we  
18 went outside, looked at the car, the boat, the  
19 bicycle, and, I think, a truck. And then there were,  
20 um, talking about -- well, they had told us earlier  
21 about the, um -- going through the scenario, and  
22 then they would show us how the Taser worked and  
23 that kind of stuff.

24 So, when we got through looking at the -- uh,  
25 the car, the bicycle, boat, truck, whatever, um, we

1           went over to the parking lot to get ready to go  
2           through the scenario. And, um, the officer told us,  
3           basically, what was gonna happen. And then, um, Mary  
4           came out. Um -- and they did a little skit of  
5           swearing her in, um -- and then when they, um --  
6           whoever officer -- whoever, um, was part of the  
7           skit, come up, um -- Mary went over and she -- she  
8           was the police person, and just asked him what he  
9           was doing, and he -- you know, the skit went on. And  
10          he asked, uh, "Why -- why are you" -- I don't  
11          remember what he said. I couldn't -- I was kind of  
12          in the back. So, I really, honestly, wasn't paying  
13          attention.

14   CT:   Okay.

15   JE:   Um -- um -- and then, um, I heard -- I think I heard  
16          Mary say something about why she was there or  
17          something like that. I don't really know. And, um,  
18          then I heard gunshots and -- I mean they had told us  
19          there would be blanks in -- I come from a family  
20          that hunts.

21   CT:   Okay.

22   JE:   So -- and I did think, "Well, that's awful loud."  
23          But I just had never heard blanks before. So, I just  
24          didn't think anything about it. Um, I did see Mary  
25          go down. But I thought she went down because she was

1           scared. You know, I just saw her go down like she  
2           was doing part of the skit, ducking behind the car,  
3           because --

4   CT:   Okay.

5   JE:   -- she's being shot at, is all I -- and then I  
6           really didn't realize anything was wrong until the  
7           other officers ran over there, and then we were  
8           escorted back inside.

9   CT:   Okay.

10  JE:   So --

11  CT:   Okay. So, now, I'm gonna kind of go back and just  
12           try to fill in some gaps for me. Okay? I appreciate  
13           it. So, you got here early, um, just sort of  
14           checking the attendee list. About how many people  
15           from the chamber was -- were here?

16  JE:   When I got here?

17  CT:   Well, total? Just -- well, total for the event that  
18           was supposed to be here?

19  JE:   We had 39 that was supposed to be here, but we had,  
20           I think, five that did not show up.

21  CT:   Okay.

22  JE:   Yeah.

23  CT:   All right. Okay. So, after everyone got here you  
24           said the different officers started showing things  
25           inside here, explaining things?

1 JE: Um, when we all got here and got in the conference  
2 room --

3 CT: Right.

4 JE: -- and I don't know who's who in the police  
5 department --

6 CT: Okay.

7 JE: -- 'cause I'm new here. So --

8 CT: That's fine.

9 JE: -- um, the gentleman got up and did a slide  
10 presentation and went over the stats and --

11 CT: Okay.

12 JE: -- and some things that they talked about, um -- uh,  
13 the Code Red, um, the different things that's --

14 CT: Okay.

15 JE: -- offered in the community, you know.

16 CT: Right.

17 JE: Um, about how to get the alerts and stuff like that.

18 CT: Okay.

19 JE: Um -- and then after we went over that, then we  
20 broke up into groups and they --

21 CT: Oh. Okay.

22 JE: -- showed us the interrogation room, which I think  
23 this is the one I was in. Um --

24 CT: How many groups, do you remember?

25 JE: -- three groups.

1 CT: Three groups? Okay. So, they showed interrogation --  
2 what -- what else did they show in the groups?

3 JE: Um, where the policemen come in -- of the morning --  
4 where they, um, check in, I guess, is what you call  
5 it. Uh, the records room.

6 CT: Okay.

7 JE: And I think that was all.

8 CT: Okay. And then everyone went outside?

9 JE: Then we kind of congregated in the conference room  
10 for a little bit longer.

11 CT: Okay.

12 JE: And then we all started walking out. They had us --

13 CT: All right.

14 JE: -- all go outside to look at the, uh, vehicles.

15 CT: Okay. Now, after you guys looked at the boat and  
16 stuff like that, then everyone -- am I correct in  
17 saying everyone went over to the scenario together?

18 JE: I think everyone was there.

19 CT: Okay.

20 JE: But, you know, the group that was outside, we just  
21 slowly meandered over there.

22 CT: Okay. So, the scenario involving the officer and  
23 Mary, um, that was in the rear of the building,  
24 correct? 'Cause I haven't even been out there yet.

25 JE: Yes.

1 CT: Okay.

2 JE: Back here.

3 CT: All right. And it was on blacktop? It was on --

4 JE: Yes.

5 CT: -- okay. About how far did they make everyone stay

6 away to watch it? I mean were you guys all on

7 blacktop, also, watching it, or were you -- where

8 did they have you?

9 JE: Um -- okay. So, there's a parking, uh -- some kind

10 of garage.

11 CT: Okay.

12 JE: The blacktop, where the incident -- the skit took

13 place --

14 CT: Okay.

15 JR: -- there's a stretch of place, and then as you --

16 the driveway starts back to the building.

17 CT: Okay.

18 JE: That's where we were --

19 CT: Okay.

20 JE: -- right there at the beginning of the driveway.

21 CT: Okay. Did you have clear view of the skit or the

22 incident?

23 JE: Like I said, I didn't because I wasn't paying

24 attention and I wasn't really --

25 CT: Okay. I understand. Okay. But as -- as best you

1           remember -- so, from the beginning of the, uh,  
2           scenario -- so, what kind of car did they use for  
3           the scenario? Was it --  
4    JE:    Some kind of white car.  
5    CT:    -- okay.  
6    JE:    It had tinted windows.  
7    CT:    Okay. Was it a police car, like, with marking on it,  
8           or no?  
9    JE:    No.  
10   CT:    No? Okay.  
11   JE:    No markings.  
12   CT:    Okay. So, they had the officer and Mary --  
13   JE:    The person -- the officer who was playing the bad --  
14   CT:    Who was playing the --  
15   JE:    -- the bad --  
16   CT:    -- bad guy?  
17   JE:    -- guy. Yeah.  
18   CT:    Right. Right.  
19   JE:    Yeah. Yeah.  
20   CT:    It's kind of confusing the way I said it.  
21   JE:    Yes. Yes.  
22   CT:    So, the -- I want to make sure I correct myself. So,  
23           the officer playing the bad guy and Mary --  
24   JE:    Uh-huh.  
25   CT:    -- were involved in the scenario?

1 JE: Yes.

2 CT: Were there any other officers role-playing that  
3 scenario?

4 JE: Not that I noticed.

5 CT: Okay. Not that you noticed? Were there any other  
6 members of the chamber playing in that scenario?

7 JE: No.

8 CT: Okay. So, as far as you know it was the officer  
9 playing the bad guy and Mary?

10 JE: Uh-huh.

11 CT: Okay. Okay. So, once the -- and they were playing  
12 that around a vehicle?

13 JE: Yes.

14 CT: Okay. So, where were they positioned in relation to  
15 each other around the vehicle?

16 JE: Um, he was on the passenger side at the beginning.  
17 She walked up from the back.

18 CT: Okay.

19 JE: And then as he -- you know, the little skit started  
20 paying out, when he's like, "What are you coming up  
21 here talking to me for?" You know, that kind of  
22 thing.

23 CT: Right.

24 JE: And that's where I really kind of tuned out.

25 CT: Okay.



1 JE: And then, um, when she was on the passenger side, um  
2 -- and then he was kind of over on the left-hand  
3 side in front --

4 CT: Okay.

5 JE: -- and that's when I remember hearing the shots  
6 thinking, "That's loud for a blank."

7 CT: Right.

8 JE: And just glanced, and I saw her go down. And I  
9 thought, "Oh, cool, she's being in character." You  
10 know, I didn't realize she had --

11 CT: Right.

12 JE: -- been hurt.

13 CT: I understand.

14 JE: So --

15 CT: So, say we have the vehicle. Am I correct in saying  
16 that as far as you remember, when it happened, they  
17 were basically on opposite sides of the front of the  
18 vehicle?

19 JE: She was middle-ways.

20 CT: Middle-ways on the --

21 JE: He was at the front --

22 CT: -- she was --

23 JE: -- passenger side.

24 CT: -- middle-ways passenger, and --

25 JE: He was front --

1 CT: -- he was front --

2 JE: -- driver.

3 CT: -- driver? Okay. And, so, it looked as if they --

4 they were -- did they point their guns at each

5 other, or how --

6 JE: I didn't --

7 CT: -- did that work?

8 JE: -- even look.

9 CT: You didn't see it?

10 JE: Yeah.

11 CT: Okay. So, you, basically, just heard it?

12 JE: Yeah.

13 CT: Okay. So, you heard it. And then you looked up and

14 you were like, "Whoa"?

15 JE: Yeah. And Mary was going down and I was thinking --

16 CT: Okay.

17 JE: -- "Oh, look. She's in character. She's hiding

18 behind the car."

19 CT: Right.

20 JE: You know?

21 CT: So, you didn't actually see them fire --

22 JE: No.

23 CT: -- at each other?

24 JE: No.

25 CT: Or whatever happened?

1 JE: No.

2 CT: Okay. You were -- you were, like, chit-chatting?

3 JE: Yeah.

4 CT: Okay. No. That's fine. Hey, it is what it is. Okay.

5 So, then Mary went down. And, um, you said the

6 police tended to her?

7 JE: Yes.

8 CT: Okay. And after that what happened?

9 JE: Um --

10 CT: What did they do with all you guys?

11 JE: -- um, they brought us back in --

12 CT: Okay.

13 JE: -- to the conference room.

14 CT: Okay.

15 JE: Yes.

16 CT: All right. So, as far as what was said, though,

17 during the incident -- I mean what do you recall,

18 again, just during the scenario?

19 JE: Um, he -- the bad guy -- the police playing the bad

20 guy --

21 CT: Right.

22 JE: -- might have said something to the effect of, um,

23 "What do you -- what do you asking me about? What do

24 you want?" Or something like that.

25 CT: Okay.

1 JE: And, um, Mary said something about, "I'm just  
2 checking on things." And I -- I may not even  
3 remember correctly.

4 CT: Okay.

5 JE: And I do think I remember him saying something  
6 about, "Well, why -- why do you have your gun out?"  
7 Or something like that.

8 CT: Okay.

9 JE: And then I -- like I said, I just kind of --

10 CT: Okay. No. That's fine.

11 JE: -- turned and started talking to somebody.

12 CT: Okay.

13 JE: Sorry.

14 CT: No. Don't be sorry. You're very helpful. Okay. Um,  
15 just make sure I'm not forgetting anything here. You  
16 got here approximately at what time?

17 JE: I got here about 10 -- let's see? It started at  
18 5:30. About 20 after.

19 CT: Twenty after --

20 JE: 'Cause I was about --

21 CT: -- 5?

22 JE: -- yes.

23 CT: Okay.

24 JE: I was about 20 minutes early.

25 CT: Okay.

1 JE: Or -- or 10 minutes early. Sorry.

2 CT: Okay. And approximately what time would you say that  
3 the incident happened? And if you don't remember,  
4 approximately is fine.

5 JE: We left the conference room about 6 maybe. Maybe.

6 CT: Okay.

7 JE: And, then, however long we mingled out here --

8 CT: Okay.

9 JE: -- looking at the stuff and --

10 CT: Okay. So, would it be safe to say, like, between 6  
11 and 6:30?

12 JE: -- I -- yeah. I guess.

13 CT: Maybe? Okay.

14 JE: We kind of stood over there a little while, so, you  
15 know.

16 CT: Okay.

17 JE: Probably closer to 6:30.

18 CT: Okay. All right. Is there anything else you can  
19 think of that may help us?

20 JE: No.

21 CT: Okay.

22 JE: Sorry it happened.

23 CT: No. Don't be sorry. Listen, you are very helpful. I  
24 -- I appreciate it. So, um -- well, if you have  
25 nothing else, then I'm going to end the interview on

1 the same day, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 9:49 p.m.

2 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribe by: erz/erz/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF JOHN PRYOR, #2016-0108, 8/9/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell

6 JP = John Pryor

7 JO: It is approximately 11:23 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell with the

9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement is here with

10 John Pryor. If you could, please state and spell

11 your name for the record.

12 JP: Uh, John Pryor, J-O-H-N; Pryor, P-R-Y-O-R.

13 JO: Um, so if we could -- oh, and, um, please raise your

14 right hand. Do you solemnly swear to tell the whole

15 truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

16 JP: I do.

17 JO: All right. Can we start with what brought you to

18 the Punta Gorda Police Department tonight?

19 JP: Uh, I am a new member of the Punta Gorda Chamber of

20 Commerce and, um, even though the Chief has had --

21 uh, breakfast or coffee with the Chief in the

22 morning, I work, so I'm unable to attend those type

23 of activities. And since this was a nighttime, uh,

24 after dinner-type of activity, I decided I'd like to

25 go. This is the first time I've attended a Chamber

26 of Commerce event, and I've been a member for a year

1 -- because I work.

2 JO: Uh-huh.

3 JP: I just don't have time. So tonight was the first.

4 And I wanted to meet the Chief, and I wanted to see

5 the Police Department. And, uh, because they --

6 they seem to do a good job in comparison to where I

7 come from in New Jersey.

8 JO: Uh-huh.

9 JP: And, um, I was very impressed with what I saw today,

10 uh, up until a certain point. But other than that -

11 -

12 JO: Can you describe for me, um, the events leading up

13 to the incident.

14 JP: Um, they, um, had us in a room and they, uh, went

15 through the statistics as far as, um -- uh, their

16 call ratios, or times, uh, the percentage of types

17 of crimes that we have in the community. Uh, they

18 introduced us to most of the staff, uh, the upper

19 echelon of the staff.

20 Um, explained to us what they were going to do

21 with us this evening as far as, uh, taking us into

22 different departments to show us, uh, different, um,

23 offices that they have in -- inside the department.

24 And they had mentioned that they were going to take

25 us outside to show us the vehicles, whether that be



1 the boat or the patrol cars and the bicycles. And  
2 that, um, later on they were going to, um, allow  
3 certain individuals who had a card in the back of  
4 this blue thing, uh, to either fire a Taser or to go  
5 through a -- a simulated, uh, robbery incident, I  
6 guess is the right term you want to use. And, um --  
7 and I guess that's what led up to the incident for  
8 this evening.

9 Is there something specific that you're looking  
10 for?

11 JO: No. Um, so just describe to me what you observed.

12 JP: Um, I should -- I guess I should say for the record,  
13 I am an NRA, uh, Range Safety Officer.

14 JO: Okay.

15 JP: So, uh -- and I've also been trained by Massad  
16 Ayooob, a world famous, uh, firearms instructor. Um,  
17 so, um, I was going to volunteer to take this  
18 woman's place because she sat next to me. And she  
19 received the card, and I figured this would be  
20 perfect opportunity for me to use my training. Um,  
21 but I didn't, um -- for a lot of reasons. I've  
22 tried to keep an -- uh, my anonymity as much as  
23 possible. And so I sat back. And when I saw this  
24 woman, uh, being picked for this demonstration, I  
25 thought, um, there's probably better candidates for

1 it. But she did have the card, so she was  
2 (unintelligible).

3 Um, the, uh, Chief went through a lot of detail  
4 explaining that, um, the firearm that she would be  
5 using would be a simulated firearm. That it would  
6 be the, um -- round was -- contained some powder and  
7 primer, but it would also have a detergent, uh --  
8 um, projectile and that, um, the, uh, participant  
9 would be asked to act as a police officer. And, um,  
10 the, uh, criminal and/or the attacker was a, uh -- I  
11 believe 'cause I saw him earlier in the evening --  
12 was a patrolman, uh, with the Punta Gorda Police  
13 Department.

14 He was dressed, um, with a, uh, black hoodie  
15 with a, um, protective mask like they use in  
16 paintball. And, uh, I've done simulated firearm  
17 training with, um -- um, Airsoft, so I've seen that  
18 done before. And, um, he went through and explained  
19 to the woman what she needed to do. He also, uh,  
20 did explain to her the proper use of, uh, handling a  
21 firearm as far as not keeping her finger on the  
22 trigger and keeping it on the frame until she's  
23 ready to fire, which is something I teach everybody  
24 myself.

25 And, um, then they brought her off to the side

1 while the patrolman was fooling around, uh, near one  
2 of the patrol cars in the back. And so the  
3 instructor moved towards the suspected assailant  
4 and, um, when she came around the side of the car,  
5 he made some comments -- which was hard for me to  
6 hear because I was sitting in -- standing in the  
7 back. It was something to the effect like, "What  
8 are you bothering me?" or "What are you doing?" or  
9 "Do you know what you're doing?" Or something -- it  
10 -- it -- in a threatening tone, but sort of like  
11 what a criminal would do if you were in that type of  
12 scenario.

13 And, um, I -- at that point, I don't remember  
14 whether she picked up the simulated pistol to aim it  
15 towards him or whether she still had it in her hand,  
16 but at that point, he drew from his belt -- from,  
17 uh, I guess the term we use is "Mexican." He drew  
18 from the center of his belt without a holster, and  
19 then he fired.

20 And I wasn't sure if it was three to four  
21 shots. Um, and then I saw her, uh, faint. I don't  
22 want to say "faint" meaning fall to the ground, but  
23 she feigned. And then, um, she did go to the  
24 ground, and that's when she hit her head on the  
25 concrete, I knew it wasn't fake. I wasn't sure

1           whether they took her aside earlier and said, you  
2           know, "Make believe that, you know, you got hurt."

3           But when I saw her head hit the ground, I knew  
4           at that point something had gone wrong. Um, I  
5           wasn't really sure whether she accidentally shot  
6           herself with the simulated round and that's why she  
7           had blood. And, um, it wasn't until later on when  
8           the Chief came in and said that, uh, he thought  
9           maybe that they weren't blanks that were used in the  
10          simulation. And I don't know how true that would be  
11          but I -- I still don't know what exactly happened.  
12          But that's what I saw.

13          And then we rush her into the main room inside,  
14          and that's pretty much where I've been. Haven't  
15          discussed this with anybody else, but you, the  
16          entire evening, except to tell others that I did --  
17          uh, I was contemplating taking her place. Um, had I  
18          taken her place, I would have insisted on seeing the  
19          revolver that the, uh -- the potential  
20          (unintelligible). But I would have made 100 percent  
21          sure that that firearm was not loaded. But that's  
22          me, and that's not the average individual. Um, and  
23          that's pretty much it.

24   JO: So let's go back to in the scenario, um, where the  
25          participant and the burglar are near the cars.

1 JP: Uh-huh.

2 JO: You saw the burglar draw the handgun from his  
3 waistband?

4 JP: He -- he was from -- he was behind the car.

5 JO: Okay.

6 JP: So it was hard to really see what he was doing. But  
7 I saw this type of a motion where it was coming out  
8 like this. Now whether he had it side holstered  
9 here or he had it in the belly --

10 JO: Okay.

11 JP: -- it was somewhere in that area where he came up.  
12 He pulled up his shirt and then he pulled out the  
13 firearm. Um, and I did not see, uh, flashes from  
14 the gun. I didn't see, um, him actually pulling the  
15 trigger because from where I was standing, um, I  
16 really couldn't see through the vehicle. Um, but I  
17 heard the shots, and I saw her go down.

18 JO: Could you see the direction in which the gun was  
19 pointed?

20 JP: I believe towards, uh, the assailant -- uh, the  
21 person that was, um, shot.

22 JO: Okay. Could you tell if it was -- if it -- did it  
23 look like a straight shot or was it, like, pointed  
24 down or --

25 JP: I had thought that he had aimed closer to the ground

1 --

2 JO: Okay.

3 JP: -- than actually, um, pointing directly at her. Um,  
4 but again, my point -- my field of view was  
5 slightly, um, obscured by the motor -- the vehicle  
6 he was standing behind.

7 JO: Okay. What made you believe that he was pointing  
8 more towards the ground?

9 JP: Just because of what I could see of the firearm.

10 JO: Okay.

11 JP: Or at least his arm and his direction. It looked  
12 like he was down closer to the ground. Um, but  
13 again, I didn't have that clear of a view to say he  
14 aimed directly at her or -- or -- or he was aiming  
15 in a different place and it ricocheted, or it went  
16 off the ground. I really couldn't see. I just saw  
17 -- from what I could see is he -- he -- if I can  
18 stand up and demonstrate.

19 JO: Yeah. Of course.

20 JP: Okay. And, uh, it is basically, he was standing  
21 behind the motor vehicle. This was the motor  
22 vehicle. She was over here. Um, he pulled up his  
23 shirt, drew, and all I saw was, like, in this  
24 direction. Now, is she a small person? I never met  
25 her before in my life, so it -- my vision of her was

1           probably she was about 5,8 to 5,10 maybe. And, um,  
2           if he was aiming in that direction, I -- I didn't  
3           think he would do anything probably more than hit  
4           the lower abdomen or maybe the lower legs.

5                     But that was just kind of the way I saw it with  
6           the vehicle being obstructed in my view. So I -- I  
7           did kind of see bits and pieces because, again, the  
8           vehicle was in the way. But I -- I don't think he  
9           did -- he did -- he definitely didn't do, you know,  
10          a direct shot to the chest.

11   JO:   Okay.

12   JP:   He didn't do a head shot, like, when he was aiming  
13          at her. He was aiming low.

14   JO:   Okay.

15   JP:   And whether he hit her directly or whether, um,  
16          there was a ricochet, it went off the vehicle, I --  
17          that I don't know. I didn't see that. And I was  
18          asked to go back in the building, so I didn't go up  
19          and --

20   JO:   Okay.

21   JP:   -- you know, try to, uh, investigate it any further.

22   JO:   When you saw her fall, did -- uh, can you describe  
23          the response from law enforcement and --

24   JP:   Yeah. Um -- uh, I think we all had the same,  
25          everyone, had the same initial reaction, that it was

1           either staged or, um -- or she was just afraid of,  
2           you know -- I mean, you have to understand -- oh, I  
3           guess you do understand. Very few people are around  
4           firearms. So especially without hearing protection,  
5           I wasn't really sure whether she was reacting to the  
6           firearms --

7    JO: Uh-huh.

8    JP: -- and she was trying to duck down and get away from  
9           it. Because she didn't really hold the weapon the  
10          way I would teach my wife or my niece or nephew.

11   JO: Uh-huh.

12   JP: She was holding it without her finger on the --  
13          well, not on the trigger, but she was holding it in  
14          her hand, and I do think she was slightly terrified  
15          of it or she was afraid of it as most novices would  
16          be.

17                 Um, but, um, she was standing there. And  
18          again, I'll stand up 'cause it's easier that way --  
19          and I really shouldn't have done this interview till  
20          tomorrow. But anyway, she, um, was standing there  
21          and she had the gun in her hand, and she did one of  
22          these motions, like this.

23   JO: So she was starting to crouch and hold her abdomen?

24   JP: Yeah. She was coming down like this. And then she  
25          went down, and she hit the ground, went something



1           like this. And then it's when her head hit the  
2           ground, and her whole body went down, was when I  
3           realized that something wasn't right. That  
4           something --

5   JO: Okay.

6   JP: -- 'cause if you were staging it, you wouldn't allow  
7           your head to hit the ground.

8   JO: Yeah.

9   JP: You would have -- you would have donned some  
10          protection or something like that.

11   JO: Did you see what the response from --

12   JP: Oh, yeah. It was immediate.

13   JO: -- law enforcement? Okay.

14   JP: It was immediate. Um, the -- uh, all the officers  
15          ran simultaneously. I mean, it was without a flash.  
16          Once her head hit the ground, everyone realized it  
17          wasn't blanks, or maybe it was. I don't know. Um,  
18          blanks can hurt people. Um --

19   JO: Did you see the reaction of the burglar?

20   JP: Yeah. He did -- uh, he did, I mentioned, go towards  
21          her. Whether he was the first one to touch her or  
22          not, I don't remember.

23   JO: When the shots went off, did you see how he reacted?

24   JP: No. I was watching her.

25   JO: Okay. And so law enforcement -- multiple parties --

1 JP: Oh, yeah. Converged, yes. Immediately.

2 JO: Okay.

3 JP: And immediately called for, uh, EMS, I guess, is the  
4 term you use here in Florida.

5 JO: Uh-huh.

6 JP: Um, and, uh, they were running very frantically to  
7 try to get to her, and screaming and yelling and  
8 calling for the EMS people, which happened to be in  
9 the same building. Um, I know she's passed away. I  
10 -- I didn't know that until a few minutes ago. So I  
11 had thought maybe they had gotten to her in time.  
12 But they did, the -- the EMS people were running and  
13 did do everything they could to try to get her, um,  
14 I guess, uh, "stabilized" is the term we'd probably  
15 want to use.

16 JO: Did you see any type of medical response there by  
17 either the police officers or the EMS?

18 JP: Um --

19 JO: Did they do CPR or --

20 JP: Oh, yeah. They were doing CPR.

21 JO: Okay. And --

22 JP: And, uh, they did put -- like, they were trying to  
23 stop the bleeding with something. I don't know if  
24 it was, you know -- I carry QuickClot in my -- my  
25 carry -- range bag or -- or in my first aid kits. I

1 don't know if that's what they applied to her. I  
2 don't know if they applied some sort of massive, um,  
3 gauze or something. But they did apply something to  
4 her abdomen area. Um --

5 JO: Do you think that was the police or the EMS?

6 JP: I thought I saw a police officer giving her, um --  
7 uh, heart -- uh --

8 JO: Compressions?

9 JP: Compressions. Yeah.

10 JO: Okay.

11 JP: I guess heart resuscitation. Um, yeah, I was pretty  
12 certain it was a police officer. It was hard to  
13 tell. I mean, the EMS people were wearing blue --

14 JO: Yeah.

15 JP: -- you know, uh, so -- but I -- I do believe it was  
16 one of the senior officers was trying to give her --  
17 resuscitate her. And, um, that's when the EMS  
18 people came running out. I didn't see her put in an  
19 ambulance. I did see --

20 JO: Okay.

21 JP: -- um, the, um, gurney -- is that the right term?

22 JO: Uh-huh.

23 JP: The -- the thing they put her -- I did see that. I  
24 did not see her get picked up and put in it, and I  
25 did not see that go into the ambulance. I was

1           ushered into the building.

2   JO:   Okay.  After you were escorted back into the  
3           building, did you go back out to the crime scene for  
4           any reason?

5   JP:   No.

6   JO:   Did --

7   JP:   Not that I was told to.

8   JO:   Did you take any pictures tonight?

9   JP:   No.

10  JO:   No videos?

11  JP:   No.

12  JO:   Okay.  And you didn't know the participant?

13  JP:   No.

14  JO:   Did you know any of the police officers on scene?

15  JP:   No.  I met the Chief for the first time tonight.

16  JO:   Okay.

17  JP:   And, um, I've only had one interaction with the  
18           Punta Gorda Police.  That was a car accident that my  
19           wife and I were involved in.  Somebody drove into  
20           the back of us.  And he -- that particular  
21           patrolman, um, who I only spoke to briefly at that  
22           point in time, he was not here tonight.  So I --

23  JO:   Okay.

24  JP:   -- everybody here, with the exception of one person  
25           in this whole group is somebody I knew previous to

1 my -- my being here tonight.

2 JO: Okay. Is there anything that you can think of that  
3 I haven't asked you?

4 JP: Go ahead. That's easier. Go ahead. And -- and  
5 I'll explain myself 'cause I made a comment before.  
6 I -- I have been trained not to discuss shooting  
7 events until 24 hours after the shooting event.

8 JO: Uh-huh.

9 JP: And now I -- I am doing that. And I almost resisted  
10 doing this, but I felt that, um -- why not? I mean,  
11 I wasn't involved in the shooting.

12 JO: Uh-huh.

13 JP: If I was involved in the shooting, I would have  
14 immediately, uh -- uh, I would immediately have  
15 requested a 24-hour break with my attorney before I  
16 would have spoken, but I was not involved.

17 JO: Of course, we, um --

18 JP: You do the same thing in your own profession.

19 JO: Yes.

20 JP: You -- you do the same.

21 JO: We handle the interviews differently for witnesses  
22 versus, um, participants in these type of  
23 situations.

24 JP: That's why I decided to talk. I -- I -- I had been  
25 contemplating for the last couple of hours whether I

1 would talk or wait till tomorrow.

2 JO: Uh-huh.

3 JP: But, um, seeing that, I guess, everybody else had  
4 talked, and you -- you -- after 32 people or 30-  
5 something people, you probably have a pretty good  
6 idea of what happened. So --

7 JO: Can you describe the burglar's firearm?

8 JP: I probably -- I thought it was a revolver.

9 JO: Okay.

10 JP: Um, I almost want to say chrome plated. Um, but,  
11 yeah. I think that's what it was.

12 JO: Okay.

13 JP: You know, anything else I can think of is, um -- uh,  
14 again, if it was me, I would have checked to make  
15 sure that the rounds were -- that the firearm that  
16 the burglar was using did have blanks in it. And  
17 even so, I would have made sure I stood far enough  
18 away 'cause I do know blanks can hurt people.

19 Um, in retrospect, I just think it's a -- it's  
20 a misfortunate episode. People do get hurt. This  
21 happens two or three times a year with law  
22 enforcement in the United States. I know that for a  
23 fact. I watch the videos all the time. Um, so this  
24 is a -- a mistake. It, um -- I feel bad for the  
25 patrolman. I -- I think that -- I don't know the

1           circumstances between who loaded the firearm and --  
2           and -- and who handed it to him and whether he  
3           should have had a supervisor check that before he  
4           went through the -- the act. And so I don't know  
5           those things.

6   JO: Uh-huh.

7   JP: His career's probably over, one way or the other  
8           'cause now the person's dead. Um, probably doesn't  
9           do well -- bid [sic] well for the Chief either,  
10          which I think he's done a fantastic job. Uh, that's  
11          all I can really think of. I mean, if there's  
12          something else you want to ask, just feel free. I  
13          mean, pick my brain because, again, I feel I  
14          probably should have waited 24 hours till I had more  
15          time. But I handled it much better than I thought I  
16          would. And, um, some of those people in there were  
17          -- were pretty upset. They were pretty, um,  
18          distraught.

19   JO: Uh-huh.

20   JP: And I just tried to keep my composure. Go ahead.

21   JO: Um, just trying to --

22   JP: I'm -- I'm far more trained than most of those  
23          people in that room. So, I mean, I'm the guy you  
24          want to pick the brain of.

25                 I saw the projectile he put in that Glock. It

1 was -- it was definitely not a standard projectile.

2 It, you know --

3 JO: Uh-huh.

4 JP: -- I've never fired one of those with the -- the  
5 (unintelligible) in -- in some (unintelligible) the  
6 projectile, but I saw it. I mean, that's what he  
7 put in that Glock.

8 JO: You said you didn't see the flash, uh, from the  
9 revolver?

10 JP: No, I didn't.

11 JO: Did you see casings?

12 JP: No, I did not.

13 JO: Okay.

14 JP: I wouldn't see casings in a revolver anyway, but  
15 that's beside the point.

16 JO: Oh. Uh-huh. I'm just trying to --

17 JP: That's okay. I want you to pick my brain because,  
18 uh, like I said, I'm -- I'm trained to be an  
19 observant person, and I think I was pretty  
20 observant. I may have missed something, and that's  
21 normal. Everybody's story is gonna be different.  
22 You're welcome to call me tomorrow, too. I mean --

23 JO: Can you estimate the distance between the burglar  
24 and the person?

25 JP: Yeah. Um, maybe from that wall to this door, hair



1 shorter, hair longer. I don't know what the  
2 distance is.

3 JO: This wall?

4 JP: Yeah. From that wall to the door. Maybe a hair  
5 longer.

6 JO: That's what, um --

7 JP: I'll pace it for you if you want.

8 JO: Uh, my guess is --

9 JP: Take two seconds.

10 JO: -- 12 feet. (Unintelligible).

11 JP: And I wear size 12, so -- two, three, four, five,  
12 six, seven, eight, nine, 10, 11 -- yeah, 12. That's  
13 a pretty good guess. Okay?

14 JO: Okay.

15 JP: 12 feet, maybe 14. Somewhere in that range.

16 JO: Okay. Um, I think that -- I think we've covered  
17 everything.

18 JP: Okay.

19 JO: All right. That will conclude this interview at  
20 approximately 11:43 p.m.

21 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

22

23

24

25 Transcribed by: cjb/alw

1 (INTERVIEW OF JOHN WRIGHT, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 AD = Alberto Diaz

6 JW = John Wright

7 AD: Today's date is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The time now is  
8 approximately 11:45 p.m. Me, Alberto Diaz with the  
9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement, uh, Special  
10 Agent. I'm inside the Shift Commander's office at  
11 the Punta Gorda Police Department located at 1410  
12 Tamiami Trail in, uh, Punta Gorda. I am with Mr.  
13 John Wright. Uh, Mr. Wright, if you could please  
14 state your date of birth, sir.

15 JW: 8/17/61.

16 AD: Okay. Uh, and for the purposes of this interview, I  
17 have to swear you in, but beforehand --

18 JW: Yes, sir.

19 AD: -- do you know what perjury is?

20 JW: Absolutely.

21 AD: What is that in your own words, sir?

22 JW: Do not lie.

23 AD: Okay. Correct. It is lying under oath.

24 JW: Uh-huh.

25 AD: So, um, if you could please raise your right hand.

26 Do you swear and affirm that that the statement

1           you're about to give will be the truth, the whole  
2           truth, uh, and nothing but the truth?

3   JW:   I do.

4   AD:   Okay.  If you could just please tell me about what  
5           occurred tonight --

6   JW:   Okay.

7   AD:   -- from, uh, beginning to end.

8   JW:   This was -- tonight's event was a -- a Citizen's  
9           Police Academy.  The -- um, the police department  
10          here in Punta Gorda had invited the members of the  
11          Punta Gorda Chamber to -- to attend.  We had 50  
12          people.  I am the president of the organization.

13  AD:   Okay.

14  JW:   We had 50 people, which was the maximum number  
15          allowed to attend the event, um, and I have three  
16          other staff members here.  I took over as I was the  
17          last of the four to arrive at the very end to -- to  
18          bring in the stragglers and when I entered the room  
19          -- um, and I believe now there was maybe 39, 40  
20          attendees.  Some didn't show up because the  
21          inclement weather tonight.

22  AD:   Okay.

23  JW:   Um, at that point, Chief Lewis was explaining that -  
24          - the -- we all had a Punta Gorda Police Department  
25          book in front of us and inside there were a couple

1 of cards, one said taser and another couple said --  
2 I -- shoot and -- shoot and something. I don't  
3 know. I -- I didn't catch the end of it, but I -- I  
4 looked over and -- and only one -- one hand out of  
5 two went up. He explained that there were two with  
6 this, um, shoot word in it and only one hand went  
7 up, which I know was Deb Malinoski [phonetic] and  
8 there was some empty seats. There were 10 empty  
9 seats.

10

11 So Mary Knowlton, who was unfortunately the person  
12 that was involved in this incident, uh, reached  
13 behind her and reached the book and got the -- the  
14 other book with the other thing in it. Having  
15 concluded the tour -- Mary was in my group of about  
16 eight people that went round the tour of the  
17 department.

18

19 Um, we had visited the vehicles outside and she was,  
20 along with Deb Malinoski, was taken inside by the --  
21 two police officers to tell them what the scenario  
22 that was gonna take place was, um, and the rest of  
23 us waited outside, um, until the whole thing came  
24 and I -- uh, Chief Lewis was -- was there telling us  
25 what -- what we were to expect and this was an

1 exercise that had happened many, many -- uh, they've  
2 done many times before in training and in other  
3 Citizen's Academies and that it would be a -- a  
4 lifelike, um, reenactment of what a police officer  
5 deals with when they simply go up to somebody that  
6 was -- looked as if they were thieving from a  
7 vehicle.

8  
9 Mary came out first of the two ladies that were  
10 selected, um, and I believe it was with Jeff Woodard  
11 [phonetic] that they were talk -- she was -- he was  
12 briefing her on -- on what the scenario was.

13 AD: Okay.

14 JW: She was left-handed so she was having some issue in  
15 where to -- well, how to hold the -- the -- the  
16 weapon that she had been given.

17 AD: Okay.

18 JW: Um, but they went through all of that. We were told  
19 that the weapons were filled with blanks that had  
20 some sort of washing detergent inside them.

21 AD: Okay.

22 JW: And that this was going to be lifelike, but it  
23 wasn't, obviously, gonna be real, um, and as Mary  
24 stepped forward as the scene started, she was  
25 literally right next to me. I was at the end of the

1 -- the whole viewing crew. Um, I just looked at her  
2 and she looked back at me nervously and I just said  
3 to her, "Give him hell," and the next thing I know,  
4 she went over to the car.

5  
6 She addressed the officer that was playing the  
7 assailant and said, "What are you doing?" and -- and  
8 the next thing -- she raised her gun at him, he  
9 jumped to the other side of the vehicle and the next  
10 thing I heard was three, maybe four, very loud shots  
11 and he took off.

12 AD: What did you see him do when you heard those shots?

13 JW: I really wasn't paying much attention to him. He  
14 kinda went out of my vision --

15 AD: Okay.

16 JW: -- because I was looking straight at her --

17 AD: Okay.

18 JW: -- then there were two parked vehicles and she was  
19 in between the two of them.

20 AD: Okay.

21 JW: I -- I immediately looked at Tom Lewis -- Chief  
22 Lewis -- because I didn't think the look on her face  
23 was real. I -- I -- I didn't think this was a  
24 scenario anymore. I thought something had happened  
25 at that point. I thought that the -- the loudness

1 of the explosion of the gun had maybe triggered some  
2 sort of heart condition in her because the way she -  
3 - she kinda turned away from the assailant and  
4 looked away from me, um, because she had been  
5 looking straight into my direction -- that when she  
6 turned away and then she slumped forward and landed  
7 on her face and I knew then something was wrong.

8  
9 I rushed over, but at that point, the paramedics and  
10 the other officer had realized something was wrong  
11 as well and by the time I got there, she was lying  
12 on her back and clearly, profusely bleeding from the  
13 right side of her chest.

14 AD: Who was -- who was there when you -- when you -- uh,  
15 you approached her? (Unintelligible) --

16 JW: Honestly, I couldn't tell you which officers it  
17 were. There was a bunch of officers and there was a  
18 lot of screaming for -- "Get paramedics. Get 911.  
19 This is not a -- a game," and when I looked back,  
20 um, Gloria Sepanek was the first to tell the group,  
21 "Please go inside," you know, "This is -- just go  
22 inside while we fix all of this," and I think even  
23 at that point, the majority of people felt this was  
24 an exercise. This was an exercise in how would the  
25 crowd react as opposed to how -- what had actually

1           happened, um, and that was really everything that I  
2           saw.

3

4           I kinda lingered to see if there was anything I  
5           could do to help with the communication to the  
6           group. By the time I saw her lying there, it was  
7           apparent -- I mean, there was the fire trucks and  
8           the ambulance -- the stretcher was being rushed out  
9           from the -- from the fire department.

10

11          I just didn't wanna get in the way so I stood at the  
12          back door and, um, followed Gloria's instruction  
13          just to tell everybody to stay calm, sit in the  
14          room, and we'll wait to see what happened and --  
15          and, um, within a couple of minutes, Chief Lewis  
16          came in, looked at me in the face and he said, "I  
17          need to address the audience," and that's when he  
18          told us that -- that there had been this incident  
19          and he -- I think I remember him saying that it  
20          looks like there was live ammunition.

21   AD: He said that to you?

22   JW: He said that --

23   AD: Okay.

24   JW: -- to the group. Live ammunition or something along  
25          those lines. Um --



1 AD: All right. The -- the officer that was in the role  
2 playing, do you know who that officer was? Do you  
3 know his name?

4 JW: Coel.

5 AD: Coel?

6 JW: Yeah.

7 AD: Do you know -- is that his first or last name?

8 JW: That was his second name. This is Officer Coel and  
9 that's all I know him as is that --

10 AD: (Unintelligible) you know as Officer Coel?

11 JW: Yeah.

12 AD: Okay. All right. Um, when she did that and I mean,  
13 you know, uh, was kinda turned around and you knew  
14 something wrong and fell, what did you see other  
15 people do or did you -- do you know what other  
16 people were doing at that moment?

17 JW: Honestly, I couldn't tell you where -- I thought --  
18 I mean, this is -- now it's getting blurry, but, um,  
19 I thought the person that was playing the would be  
20 assailant --

21 AD: Yeah.

22 JW: -- I thought he dropped the gun and came back to  
23 assist, but I couldn't swear to that.

24 AD: Okay.

25 JW: There was just so many people around at that time.

1 I don't know, by that point, who they were and a lot  
2 of people that I don't know -- I mean, I know  
3 everybody in the police department pretty much.

4 AD: Uh-huh.

5 JW: Um, Captain Lewis was -- was on the island, um,  
6 maybe about 20 feet away, looking at what was  
7 happening, so was Gloria, and most of the other  
8 officers that I knew were standing in that circle  
9 and I'm not sure which one of them ran up at that  
10 point. I couldn't tell you.

11 AD: Okay.

12 JW: I really couldn't tell you.

13 AD: Okay.

14 JW: But I did -- 'cause he was wearing, like, a hooded -  
15 - gray, hooded sweater thing --

16 AD: Okay.

17 JW: And I vaguely remember looking over and seeing  
18 somebody wearing that, but there were two people  
19 playing that role, because there was this second  
20 person supposed to come out --

21 AD: Okay.

22 JW: -- and do something -- do another role play similar,  
23 but I don't know which one was which. I couldn't,  
24 at that point, tell you whether it was Coel or not.

25 AD: Okay. Um, did Mary say anything --

1 JW: Nothing.

2 AD: -- during that when that happened -- when, um --

3 JW: No.

4 AD: -- she, uh, turned around and fell down? Did she

5 say anything at all?

6 JW: I -- no.

7 AD: Okay. Um, did you hear -- did you hear, um, anyone

8 else say anything? Did Officer Coel say anything

9 during the --

10 JW: No.

11 AD: Okay.

12 JW: I didn't hear -- after that, after I -- I stepped

13 back to get out of the way, still kind of believing

14 that this was really a dream or somebody was -- you

15 know, the -- this was part of the role playing --

16 AD: Uh-huh.

17 JW: -- it didn't become reality until Captain Lewis came

18 in and -- and said that there was -- he believed

19 that it was live ammunition involved.

20 AD: And you said that he believed --

21 JW: Yeah.

22 AD: Okay. All right. Um --

23 JW: I had seen a significant amount of blood. So I

24 figured that if one of those detergent bullets had

25 hit her, it wouldn't have done that much damage.

1 AD: Where did you see the blood?

2 JW: Underneath the right breast.

3 AD: Okay.

4 JW: It was right under -- right in there.

5 AD: Okay.

6 JW: But I -- uh, I -- I couldn't tell you whether there

7 was three -- I thought there was three, maybe four,

8 shots, but it was so friggin' loud, it was -- it --

9 I couldn't tell you.

10 AD: (Unintelligible) were the three -- were the three or

11 the four shots -- they were loud, all of them?

12 JW: Yeah.

13 AD: Okay.

14 JW: And it was just straight one after the other.

15 AD: Okay. Do you know -- did you -- um, uh, did -- did

16 -- does Mary had -- did she have family here or --

17 at this event?

18 JW: Husband.

19 AD: Her husband?

20 JW: Husband.

21 AD: What's it -- what -- what's, um, her husband's name

22 or --

23 JW: That I do not know. I've barely -- know him.

24 AD: Okay.

25 JW: I know him by sight.

- 1 AD: Okay.
- 2 JW: Um, she would attend -- she's a -- she was -- um,  
3 was a -- a major person within the Punta Gorda  
4 library system.
- 5 AD: Okay.
- 6 JW: So when she attended --
- 7 AD: She was -- Mary was?
- 8 JW: Yeah.
- 9 AD: Okay.
- 10 JW: So when she attended our events at the Chamber, she  
11 was normally with other cohorts from the library.
- 12 AD: Okay.
- 13 JW: She -- I saw her actually this morning. Um, she  
14 walks -- her and her husband walk every morning past  
15 my office so she tapped on the window and so --
- 16 AD: Okay.
- 17 JW: -- I already knew him by sight. I didn't know him  
18 really by name.
- 19 AD: Okay. Um --
- 20 JW: And I -- I remember I was calling for him when she  
21 went down. Um, I don't know where he was, but I  
22 know at one point looking over when she was being  
23 transported away, he was -- he was there. I saw him  
24 in his -- in his shirt --
- 25 AD: Okay.

1 JW: -- talking to some officer and I -- again, I think  
2 they said they're transporting her to the hospital  
3 and he left immediately to go to the local hospital  
4 here. He didn't realize that she was being  
5 transported to Fort Myers.

6 AD: Okay. All right. Oh, he didn't realize -- okay.  
7 All right. Um, um, anything else that you saw after  
8 that -- after that she fell?

9 JW: No.

10 AD: All right.

11 JW: No, wait -- no. We've just been -- she twisted --  
12 she -- she -- she was looking straight at the  
13 assailant when it happened, she turned away, and she  
14 just had this look in her face as she slumped down  
15 and went down on her right face --

16 AD: Okay.

17 JW: -- the right -- uh, right side of her face.

18 AD: Is it -- is there anything that I didn't ask you  
19 that you can think of that's in relation to this  
20 event or anything that I did not cover or ask you?

21 JW: No.

22 AD: Okay. All right.

23 JW: The only help that -- I've already spoken to  
24 Reverend Glosner [phonetic], but we have a Chamber  
25 meeting tomorrow morning at 7:00 which we have not

1           been able to cancel --

2   AD:   Okay.

3   JW:   -- um, and a lot of her friends and associates will  
4           be there and I don't know about the media coverage  
5           or -- they don't even know -- at -- at the moment, I  
6           don't even think they're aware that it was a Chamber  
7           hosted event.

8   AD:   All right.

9   JW:   So I'm not sure what we're gonna do tomorrow, but we  
10           may need some help.

11   AD:   All right. Well, this concludes the interview. Um,  
12           thank you, Mr. Wright. The time is --

13   JW:   Thank you.

14   AD:   -- now approximately 11:57 p.m.

15                               (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

16

17

18

19

20

21

22   Transcribed by:   dml/dml/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF KAREN LYONS, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT: Special Agent Christopher Tiso

6 KL: Karen Lyons

7 CT: My name is Christopher Tiso, Special Agent with the  
8 Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's date  
9 is August 9th, 2016. The time is currently 9:21  
10 p.m. This is in reference to an incident which  
11 occurred at the Punta Gorda Police Department, 1410  
12 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. I'll be  
13 taking a sworn taped statement from Karen Lyons, L-  
14 Y-O-N-S. Date of birth May 24th, 1944. Residing at  
15 311 Gill Street, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. Okay.  
16 Okay, Karen -- is it okay if I call you Karen?

17 KL: Yes.

18 CT: Okay.

19 KL: Of course.

20 CT: All right. Before we begin, I have to ask you if  
21 you are aware what perjury is.

22 KL: Of course.

23 CT: Okay. In your own words, what would you --

24 KL: It's lying.

25 CT: Lying. Correct. Okay.

26 KL: Under oath.



1 CT: Yes, that's good. It's lying under oath, and it can  
2 be done one of two ways. Okay. Um, either telling  
3 an outright lie or leaving out all or part of  
4 information to mislead an investigation.

5 KL: Yeah. Yes.

6 CT: Okay. And I just have to let you know, just like I  
7 have -- will everybody, that in the state of Florida  
8 perjury is a misdemeanor. Okay.

9 KL: Uh-huh.

10 CT: Um, being that I'm a law enforcement officer, um,  
11 I'm empowered to swear you in under oath.

12 KL: Uh-huh.

13 CT: Okay. So, if you'd raise your right hand. Do you  
14 swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth  
15 and nothing but the truth?

16 KL: It's under God.

17 CT: Say --

18 KL: Yes.

19 CT: Okay. Okay.

20 KL: I do.

21 CT: Okay. You do. All right. Okay. Like I said, um,  
22 we are here to talk about what occurred tonight --

23 KL: Uh-huh.

24 CT: -- this evening, at the Punta Gorda --

25 KL: Exactly.

1 CT: -- Police Department. Okay. So, basically, um, in  
2 the beginning I'm just going to ask you to kind of  
3 narrate a story, so to speak, from the beginning.  
4 You know, when you got here. And this -- you know,  
5 if you don't know the exact times, just approximate  
6 is fine. When you got here. Um, why you were here.  
7 Just basically talk to me as if I know nothing.  
8 Because really, I don't. Okay. So, if you can do  
9 that that would be great.

10 KL: Okay. Well, I was really early. It was supposed to  
11 start at 5:30. I got here at 5:00, you know. And -  
12 - and this is the -- um, the Punta Gorda Chamber  
13 police night, and we were all to go through like,  
14 um, a citizens training.

15 CT: Okay.

16 KL: Okay. And, um -- um, Captain Lewis -- uh, or Chief  
17 Lewis, took us through the different things. You  
18 know, this is where this is and this is what we do  
19 and this is what a -- um, a radar -- it was a laser,  
20 thing is now, uh, for, um, speed. You know, how  
21 much better it is than the cone --

22 CT: Right.

23 KL: -- radar, and all that sort of stuff. And it was  
24 just through steps -- every step throughout, you  
25 know, the, uh -- um, police department. And then

1           they were going to do a -- a, um, shoot or not  
2           shoot.

3   CT:   Okay.

4   KL:   Okay.  And, um -- um, we were -- there were  
5           volunteers.  Okay.  Um -- oh, and -- and, um -- and  
6           then he was talking about the, uh, the bullets are  
7           -- are like paint things, you know.  Okay.  When she  
8           would -- when she would shoot the policeman that was  
9           playing the bad guy.

10  CT:   Okay.

11  KL:   Okay.  So, she was left-handed.  That was one  
12           problem, you know.  And -- and the, uh, false Glock  
13           or whatever it -- you know, I guess it's a false  
14           Glock.  But anyway, it didn't have bullets in it.  
15           It had these paint things in it.  Um, it was it  
16           really worked for a right-handed person.  But,  
17           anyway, she had it in her left hand.  And this young  
18           man -- this young policeman, he, uh, was all in  
19           stuff, in case he got the paint on him.  Um, he was,  
20           um -- she was running -- supposed to be running him  
21           away from the car that he was casing.  See, there I  
22           am with the NCIS stuff.  Okay.

23  CT:   Got you.  Okay.

24  KL:   And so, um, he was like -- I think, now -- I was in  
25           -- pretty much up front.  But, I think he was like

1 at the back of the car and she was at the side. And  
2 she had the gun out, and he had his gun out. And,  
3 um -- oh, bam, you know. And she grabbed herself.  
4 And, um, she went down on her knees and then she  
5 went facedown, you know. And then everybody was  
6 running, you know --

7 CT: Right.

8 KL: -- to see what happened, you know. And of course,  
9 they said for all of us to come inside, you know.  
10 And we've been here for four hours.

11 CT: Okay. I got you. So -- so, basically, I'm going to  
12 kind of go back and just recap things. And if I --  
13 if I say something that's incorrect, or doesn't make  
14 sense, just tell me, okay.

15 KL: Okay.

16 CT: I don't -- I don't want to put words in your mouth.  
17 So, you got here about 5:00.

18 KL: Uh-huh.

19 CT: And, supposed to start 5:30.

20 KL: Uh-huh.

21 CT: Around there. Um, now, you're saying Chief Lewis --  
22 he was taking everyone in the --

23 KL: And -- and a couple other officers.

24 CT: Okay.

25 KL: You know --

1 CT: So, several --

2 KL: -- it wasn't just him. There were -- there were --

3 there were 39 of us, I think, or something like

4 that.

5 CT: Oh, okay.

6 KL: Thirty. So, like, ten people would go do this.

7 We're all doing the same thing --

8 CT: Okay.

9 KL: -- but we were following --

10 CT: Okay.

11 KL: -- each other. Until we got outside.

12 CT: Okay.

13 KL: And then it was -- everybody was --

14 CT: All right. So, it started inside here.

15 KL: Yes.

16 CT: Okay. So, there were different groups going with

17 different officers seeing things? Okay. And you

18 said inside they were showing you, like, the radars

19 and lasers and stuff like that. And eventually you

20 made it outside.

21 KL: Uh-huh.

22 CT: Okay. Now, I haven't even been out there. So, it's

23 in the -- where you guys were was in the rear of the

24 building here?

25 KL: Yes. Yes.

1 CT: Okay. Did they have some sort of, um, like  
2 scenarios set up? You -- you were saying, like,  
3 cars and stuff for the scenario? Or how did that  
4 work?

5 KL: Yeah. They had cars. Well, there were police cars.  
6 A lot of police cars were out there.

7 CT: Okay.

8 KL: Of course, you know. And, of course, they had the  
9 boat -- the marine --

10 CT: Okay.

11 KL: -- the head of marine gave a little talk, and we  
12 were all listening to that. And then there was a  
13 police car that they were showing, about this siren  
14 and the different noises it makes and why it does  
15 that, you know, and all this sort of stuff.

16 CT: Okay.

17 KL: And then we went over to do this scenario.

18 CT: Okay. And now --

19 KL: Okay. And they were going to do one with -- with,  
20 uh -- um, about the gun, and then another one was  
21 supposed to be with the Taser.

22 CT: Okay. So, they --

23 KL: Okay.

24 CT: -- started with the --

25 KL: So -- and the whole thing of that was would you or

1           wouldn't you.

2   CT:  I understand.  Okay.

3   KL:  Okay.

4   CT:  Okay.

5   KL:  As a police officer.  You were -- you were --

6   CT:  Right.

7   KL:  -- the volunteer was being a -- a police officer.

8   CT:  Okay.

9   KL:  Okay.

10  CT:  I got you.

11  KL:  So --

12  CT:  All right.  So, when the -- you got -- when you guys

13       got to that part of the -- the gun part, the -- that

14       was in the rear of the building.

15  KL:  Uh-huh.

16  CT:  And, I mean, what I'm saying is did they have like

17       -- like something set up to -- to simulate what was

18       going on?  I mean, I know you're saying they were --

19       you said they were around the vehicle it was

20       happening.

21  KL:  Uh-huh.

22  CT:  So, did they have, like, a police car set up that

23       they were using for the scenario for the --

24  KL:  Yeah.  I guess it was -- yeah, it was -- it had to

25       be police cars.

1 CT: Right.

2 KL: That's the only thing that was back there. Yeah.

3 CT: Okay. So, everybody -- how far do you think  
4 everyone was from what was actually going on?

5 KL: Oh, I'm so bad about that.

6 CT: Like, say, where you are in this room. I mean, was  
7 it farther from, like --

8 KL: Oh --

9 CT: -- this wall to the door?

10 KL: Far -- much.

11 CT: Much further? Okay.

12 KL: Um, I suppose 20, 25 feet.

13 CT: Okay.

14 KL: I'm really bad at --

15 CT: Okay.

16 KL: -- judging --

17 CT: No, I understand. So, everyone was there except the  
18 officer that was playing the -- the good guy.

19 KL: Yeah, he was behind the police car.

20 CT: Okay. He was in the rear.

21 KL: As -- and then that was supposed to be not a police  
22 car. It was supposed to be just a car that he was  
23 casing.

24 CT: A regular car.

25 KL: Yeah.



1 CT: Okay. So, he was behind that. And then --

2 KL: And she was on the side.

3 CT: And what was her name? I'm --

4 KL: Mary.

5 CT: Mary. Okay. So, Mary was playing the --

6 KL: Police --

7 CT: -- the bad --

8 KL: No, no --

9 CT: The -- the police officer.

10 KL: Police officer.

11 CT: Yeah. Okay. Yeah, I'm sorry. Okay. So, Mary --

12 and Mary's last name?

13 KL: Huh. She's --

14 CT: That's -- that's fine.

15 KL: -- she used to work at the library.

16 CT: Okay. She works at the library. Okay.

17 KL: Yeah, head of the library thing or something.

18 CT: Now, what were you saying -- you were saying that,

19 you know, it was a -- the fake lock, with the --

20 the, you were saying, like the paintball bullets or

21 whatever.

22 KL: Yeah.

23 CT: Um, and you were talking about left-handed, some,

24 like it was --

25 KL: Oh, uh, here's the thing. When -- when Captain --

1 or, Chief Lewis was showing her about the gun, okay,  
2 he was showing her that, uh, here's this safety, I  
3 guess. I don't know.

4 CT: Okay.

5 KL: The thing on the side. Do not put your -- this on  
6 the trigger.

7 CT: Okay.

8 KL: Okay. Uh, until you think you're ready to shoot.

9 CT: Okay.

10 KL: Okay. And, um, but the -- so, then, she had to  
11 switch it over here.

12 CT: Oh, okay.

13 KL: And that's -- but, it wasn't her that --

14 CT: Right. It was the wrong hand, is what you're  
15 saying, for her?

16 KL: It -- for her. Yeah.

17 CT: Okay. All right. I got you.

18 KL: Okay.

19 CT: So, she was a lefty --

20 KL: But I don't think that was what --

21 CT: -- you think?

22 KL: -- the problem was.

23 CT: Okay. Okay. All right. So, you get to that point  
24 and you were saying that -- so, she's behind the  
25 vehicle.

1 KL: No.

2 CT: He's behind the vehicle, and she was --

3 KL: Next to it.

4 CT: -- next to the vehicle.

5 KL: To sort of like the left front fender.

6 CT: Left front fender. Okay.

7 KL: And they were facing each other.

8 CT: And they were facing each other. Okay. And from

9 that point just take me through it one more time.

10 From that point right there.

11 KL: I couldn't hear if -- what she -- she's a soft-

12 spoken woman anyway, okay.

13 CT: Right. Okay.

14 KL: Uh, I couldn't hear what she was saying. But, uh,

15 she had her gun up and he had his gun up, and we

16 heard pow, pow.

17 CT: Uh-huh.

18 KL: And she was like stunned, and then she went down --

19 CT: She went down. Okay.

20 KL: -- on her knees. And then she grabbed like this, or

21 sort of -- I mean, because her back was basically to

22 us.

23 CT: Okay.

24 KL: Okay. And then facedown.

25 CT: All right. Did you --

1 KL: And everybody panicked.

2 CT: Oh, I can imagine. You had a clear view of what  
3 happened, though?

4 KL: That's all -- yes.

5 CT: Okay.

6 KL: And that was in front of me.

7 CT: Okay.

8 KL: I mean, so I -- you know. And I feel very sorry for  
9 that young policeman.

10 CT: Oh, I totally understand.

11 KL: You know, because --

12 CT: You know, it's --

13 KL: -- it was -- everybody was shocked. I mean, every  
14 -- they were running -- police were running there  
15 and they ran --

16 CT: Right.

17 KL: -- emergency people came and ran -- they ran and got  
18 them, you know, from the firehouse --

19 CT: Right.

20 KL: -- next door. And then they told us all please to  
21 go inside.

22 CT: Okay. All right. So, you have the clear view. You  
23 said they were relatively close around the vehicle.  
24 They both had their guns out, you said. And --

25 KL: Because it was a demo, you know.

1 CT: Right. A demo.

2 KL: Yeah. Yeah.

3 CT: Right. And then you just -- you just heard the bang

4 -- the boom, boom basically?

5 KL: Yeah.

6 CT: Okay.

7 KL: And that's --

8 CT: And that's --

9 KL: -- it.

10 CT: -- really it. And then she went to the -- her

11 knees.

12 KL: Uh-huh.

13 CT: And fell down, and -- okay. You didn't hear

14 anything they were saying, though? Were you able to

15 hear anything?

16 KL: No. I --

17 CT: No?

18 KL: -- and I'm sure it was just police stuff.

19 CT: Right. Right.

20 KL: If -- if they were talking.

21 CT: Right. Okay.

22 KL: I don't even know.

23 CT: Okay.

24 KL: Okay.

25 CT: Okay.

1 KL: Because this -- I'm trying to do measurement in my  
2 head. A good 20, 25, 30 feet away.

3 CT: Okay.

4 KL: Most of us were.

5 CT: Okay.

6 KL: If you would go out there, you would see the  
7 distance from where the parkway area -- I mean, the  
8 planting -- you know, trees.

9 CT: Right.

10 KL: To the back of the parking lot.

11 CT: Okay.

12 KL: You know.

13 CT: So, they were on concrete doing it. And were -- you  
14 guys, were you on concrete also?

15 KL: Yes. But we were way back up here where the grass  
16 is.

17 CT: Okay.

18 KL: But we were on the concrete and some were standing  
19 on the grass, so we could see.

20 CT: Okay.

21 KL: Over the tall guys.

22 CT: I understand. Okay. I understand. Okay. Um --

23 KL: And that's a big thing. And I understand why they  
24 were doing that, because people are so quick to  
25 judge, you know.

1 CT: Right.

2 KL: Why did he shoot.

3 CT: Right. I got you.

4 KL: Well, if somebody is pointing at you, wouldn't you

5 shoot?

6 CT: I understand. I understand.

7 KL: So --

8 CT: Okay.

9 KL: So, you don't know, you know.

10 CT: So --

11 KL: Anyway --

12 CT: -- so, this all started about 5:30. When would you

13 estimate that actual -- the incident occurred?

14 KL: Oh, my. 6:30 or so.

15 CT: Okay. So, that was after you -- everyone was done

16 from inside, obviously, and went outside.

17 KL: Yes.

18 CT: Okay.

19 KL: And then we were all going to come down after that

20 demo -- those two demos, which they never got to the

21 -- the Taser -- and, of course, Debbie -- the one

22 that's waiting on the medicine, that he's talking

23 to, she was not even out there. She was in here.

24 CT: Okay.

25 KL: Because she was going to do the Taser one.

1 CT: I got you. I understand.

2 KL: Okay.

3 CT: Was there anyone else around that -- that scenario  
4 that was going on besides -- besides Mary and the  
5 officer? Was there anyone else involved in that, or  
6 every -- was everyone else just watching?

7 KL: Every -- as far as I know, yes.

8 CT: Okay. Was -- did you see any other officers playing  
9 in that scenario? As far as you remember.

10 KL: No. Not as far as I -- I mean, but I can't say --

11 CT: Okay.

12 KL: Not that I remember.

13 CT: Okay.

14 KL: Because we were all intent on, you know, the -- the  
15 -- the demo --

16 CT: Right.

17 KL: -- you know. So --

18 CT: I understand. Okay. All right.

19 KL: I don't think so. But --

20 CT: Okay. Anything else you can think of that may help  
21 us?

22 KL: No. I firmly believe it was an accident.

23 CT: Okay.

24 KL: You know, and --

25 CT: No, I understand. Just --



1 KL: -- and I hope that she's all right. Uh, we're all  
2 in shock, you know.

3 CT: Totally understandable. Okay. Well --

4 KL: So --

5 CT: -- okay, Ms. Lyons. Well, I appreciate your time.

6 So, at this time, um, if you don't have anything

7 else I'm going to end the interview at --

8 KL: Okay.

9 CT: -- 9:33 p.m. Same day, August 9th, 2016.

10 KL: Yes.

11 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF KENNETH ANDREWS, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Jennifer O'Connell

6 KA = Kenneth Andrews

7 JO: It is approximately 9:57 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell with the

9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement is here with

10 Kenneth Andrews. If you could, please state and

11 spell your name for the record.

12 KA: Ken Andrews, K-E-N-N-E-T-H, A-N-D-R-E-W-S.

13 JO: And if you would, please raise your right hand. Do

14 you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and

15 nothing but the truth, so help you God?

16 KA: I do.

17 JO: So Mr. Andrews, can you, um, tell you what brings

18 you to the Punta Gorda Police Department this

19 evening?

20 KA: Um, my wife works with the Chamber of Commerce and

21 now she signed us up to take this class tonight, uh,

22 I guess interested in seeing how the department

23 works and so forth.

24 JO: And so you were here for the Citizen's Academy. Is

25 that correct?

26 KA: Yes. Exactly.

1 JO: Can you, um, describe to me what you observed this  
2 evening?

3 KA: Uh, well, we had some classroom time that, uh, kinda  
4 went through the workings of the department and  
5 budget and -- and organizational chart and stuff and  
6 then we did a tour of the building. Uh, we came  
7 back in and, uh, got together back -- back in the  
8 classroom again.

9  
10 Then we went outside and looked at the cruisers and  
11 the, uh, boat and the -- the, uh, mobile equipment  
12 and stuff, talked to some officers there and then  
13 they were setting up a shoot, no shoot demonstration  
14 and they took two ladies out of the class and took  
15 them off to get them quote "training" and, uh, took  
16 us over to where the incident was gonna take place,  
17 uh, and that was as far as we got. The -- the  
18 incident happened during that --

19 JO: Did --

20 KA: -- that demonstration.

21 JO: Prior to going outside, did they go over any type of  
22 safety precautions?

23 KA: Uh, I don't believe so.

24 JO: Okay. So when --

25 KA: Not specifically.

1 JO: When you went outside, what -- describe to me what  
2 you observed.

3 KA: Uh, well, when I first went outside, we were looking  
4 at the police cruisers and they were explaining some  
5 of the equipment there and, uh, I kinda drifted over  
6 to the marine display and they -- they had their  
7 boat there and I was talking to one of the officers  
8 who works on the marine boat and we spent a few  
9 minutes there just kinda -- I noticed several pieces  
10 of equipment -- cruiser and a -- a -- a crime lab  
11 truck, I guess it was or something, but, uh, we  
12 spent some time there and then they gathered us over  
13 in one place to observe this and the shoot, no shoot  
14 incident was gonna take place. Uh, you wanna go  
15 through that incident?

16 JO: Yes.

17 KA: Uh, what I saw -- and you're probably hearing 30  
18 different stories of this tonight, but, uh, uh, they  
19 brought the first lady out and she was talking to an  
20 officer and he gave her a gun and explained the --  
21 the safety features that had, uh, bullets in it that  
22 were used for this kind of demonstration, that they  
23 hurt when they hit, but, uh, they -- they weren't  
24 lethal and, uh, the incident was going to be that,  
25 uh, uh, they got a call that a suspicious person was

1 looking inside of cars and she was to approach that  
2 person and, uh, we, as observers, uh, were gonna --  
3 were told to -- led to believe that she was gonna be  
4 a -- be put in this situation where she had to  
5 decide whether to shoot or not shoot. Uh, she would  
6 make that decision and then afterwards we were gonna  
7 come inside to the classroom and discuss it.

8  
9 Uh, the suspicious character, uh, was wondering  
10 around a car parked in the lot looking in the  
11 windows and stuff and, uh, she'd get some more  
12 coaching from an officer and she had the gun in her  
13 hand and she went over and started talking to him  
14 and, uh, he was kinda walking around back and forth  
15 and pacing, talking on his cell phone.

16  
17 Uh, we were too far away to really hear the  
18 conversation, but it appeared that he was giving her  
19 -- giving her kind of a hard time and she was trying  
20 to talk him down and then he kinda skipped around to  
21 the back side of the car and she was walk --  
22 watching him and still talking to him and then he  
23 pulled out a gun and fired three shots and she kinda  
24 turned and then went down to the ground and I  
25 thought she was either play acting, which I didn't

1 really understand why she was doing that, but I  
2 figured we'd find out or that the shots had scared  
3 her and she had a heart attack because she just went  
4 down and she was only on the ground for a matter of  
5 seconds and two officers went right over to her and,  
6 uh, I think everybody was just totally amazed at --  
7 at what had happened and, uh, somebody yelled for  
8 the EMTs and then somebody took off running for the  
9 fire department and - well, then, I don't know if --  
10 I can't keep track of time, but very quickly, uh,  
11 two M -- EMTs were running out and they started  
12 giving her CPR and that's when they took all of us  
13 that were in the class and said, "Let's go back into  
14 the classroom. Let's get inside." Uh, a while  
15 later, uh, the Chief came in and said this was not  
16 an exercise, something terrible had happened and he  
17 mentioned live rounds and that's really all I know.  
18 I mean, it's -- since then, we've been sitting and  
19 waiting.

20 JO: Okay.

21 KA: And my first concern, is that lady okay?

22 JO: I -- I've been doing interviews this whole time.

23 KA: Okay.

24 JO: So I haven't received any updates. I'm sorry.

25 KA: (Unintelligible) [XX 00:05:34] I -- I feel so

1           horrible for her and also the officer that if -- if  
2           there was a shooting, I feel so badly for him  
3           because there's no way he coulda known that gun was  
4           loaded. It just -- it's horrible.

5   JO: So if we can go back to the beginning of the  
6           scenario --

7   KA: Uh-huh.

8   JO: -- you observed both, um, the female and the  
9           burglar?

10  KA: Yes.

11  JO: Around the cars?

12  KA: Yes.

13  JO: Can you describe what -- how the burglar was  
14           dressed?

15  KA: We talk -- my wife and I talk about this 'cause we  
16           watch cop shows and I can never describe the bad  
17           guy. I mean, I just -- you know --

18  JO: Yeah.

19  KA: -- a scene happens and I'll turn to my wife or  
20           she'll turn to me afterwards and say, "What'd he  
21           look like?" and I have no idea.

22  JO: Okay.

23  KA: Uh, he was wearing -- there were -- there were two  
24           of them walking around earlier. One of them had on  
25           a gray sweatshirt with a hoodie --

1 JO: Okay.

2 KA: -- and I -- one, if not both, of them were wearing  
3 masks.

4 JO: Okay.

5 KA: Uh, again, I was face protection in case -- because  
6 I was -- if -- if she had shot with that -- that,  
7 uh, gun, even in this demonstration --

8 JO: You mean (unintelligible)? Yeah.

9 KA: (Unintelligible).

10 JO: Okay.

11 KA: It'd be a painful one -- uh, could do some damage.  
12 So, uh, one of them had a -- at least one of them  
13 had a mask on --

14 JO: Is --

15 KA: -- with a full face shield.

16 JO: Is there more than one burglar in this scenario?

17 KA: Uh, there were -- there were gonna be two scenarios.

18 JO: Okay.

19 KA: And -- so there are two guys out there, but there's  
20 only one involved in the -- in the --

21 JO: In -- in this one.

22 KA: -- first one.

23 JO: Okay.

24 KA: And I think he was dressed all in dark.

25 JO: Okay.



1 KA: But I'm not sure. I mean, I've -- I'm -- I'm  
2 terrible at that.

3 JO: No -- no -- no -- no. I -- um, I -- I appreciate  
4 everything that you're -- you're recollecting quite  
5 a lot.

6 KA: And -- and when we got inside, my first thought was,  
7 I have no idea what the gun looked like. Yeah, I  
8 remember that.

9 JO: So as they're having their conversation back and  
10 forth, what -- whatever type of verbal altercation's  
11 happening at the cars?

12 KA: Well, we could really -- we were quite a ways back -  
13 -

14 JO: Okay.

15 KA: -- out of the way. So we -- I couldn't really hear  
16 anything that was being said. You know, I just --  
17 it looked like they were conversing --

18 JO: Yeah.

19 KA: -- because --

20 JO: Okay.

21 KA: -- she was -- she was trying to calm him down and he  
22 was pacing and -- and going back and forth and I  
23 think he had a cell phone up to his ear and, you  
24 know, just -- just his body language, it was like he  
25 was giving her a hard time.

1 JO: Did you --

2 KA: And he was moving around. Then he went around to  
3 the back of the car.

4 JO: Did you see him with a -- a weapon in his hand?

5 KA: No. That was funny because -- I was watching  
6 because, you know, theoretically, he's gonna pull a  
7 gun on her. So I was watching his hands and he had  
8 a cell phone in one hand and when he - when they  
9 went around the car, I didn't see a gun in his hand  
10 and then he came up with it. I mean, it was just --  
11 it was over the top of the car and bam, bam, bam.

12 JO: You saw the burglar fire over the vehicle?

13 KA: Uh, he was on the -- it was either -- probably over  
14 the hood. I'm not sure.

15 JO: Over the hood?

16 KA: But it was across there. He was on the other side  
17 of the car. Yes. I think, and I know my memory can  
18 play tricks on me.

19 JO: So when -- when you saw him fire over the hood, then  
20 you saw a weapon in his hand?

21 KA: I think so.

22 JO: Can you describe it at all?

23 KA: I would say it was -- uh, it was a revolver.

24 JO: Okay.

25 KA: A short barrel, I think, but I didn't get a good

1 look at it.

2 JO: Okay.

3 KA: I've got a --

4 JO: Do you remember what color?

5 KA: Probably black or dark.

6 JO: Okay.

7 KA: Uh, I have a Smith and -- Smith & Wesson .38 short

8 barrel --

9 JO: Uh-huh.

10 KA: -- and it, you know, was about that size. It -- the

11 -- there was --

12 JO: Okay.

13 KA: -- that was what struck me. I don't know. I

14 wouldn't swear to that.

15 JO: Okay.

16 KA: I just -- that was the impression that I had.

17 JO: So when -- when you saw the burglar fire, how did,

18 uh, Mary react?

19 KA: I was watching him and then I looked and it was like

20 she turned towards us and my first thought was she

21 didn't expect those shots. It was loud. She didn't

22 expect those and it really surprised her.

23 JO: Uh-huh.

24 KA: And then it was like she turned towards us and then

25 she was -- went down to her knees and then she was -

1           - went down and put her head down and I thought --  
2           my first thought was she's play acting and they told  
3           her to do that for some reason and I -- really  
4           doesn't make sense why they would do that and then  
5           when she didn't get right back up -- uh, I mean, I  
6           started getting concerned and maybe she -- maybe the  
7           shots scared her to the point she had a heart attack  
8           and I did not see any flame from the gun. It didn't  
9           --

10   JO:   Okay.

11   KA:   And I didn't -- I didn't see the gun fire, as far as  
12           a flash or anything.

13   JO:   So would you say that you only saw the presence of a  
14           gun and you heard shots?

15   KA:   I don't know. Uh, I mean, it -- it was fast.

16   JO:   So you --

17   KA:   It was fast.

18   JO:   -- you definitely heard shots?

19   KA:   Yes.

20   JO:   And --

21   KA:   And I think there were three shots.

22   JO:   Okay. And -- hold on, sir. Sorry about that. So -  
23           - so you heard three shots, correct?

24   KA:   I'm pretty sure there were three shots.

25   JO:   And then you saw the weapon?

1 KA: It -- it -- it all happened so fast. It was, like,  
2 when his hand came up, it looked like he had a gun  
3 in his hand.

4 JO: Okay.

5 KA: And I don't know, I may have -- I may have looked  
6 away and looked at her as he was shooting. I don't  
7 know.

8 JO: Okay.

9 KA: Because I -- I -- the way the scenario was supposed  
10 to play out, I figured if he was bringing up a gun,  
11 she should have been too, at that point.

12 JO: Okay.

13 KA: And so I may have looked at her because I didn't --  
14 I don't remember actually seeing him shoot.

15 JO: Okay.

16 KA: But it was -- like I said, it was fast. It was a  
17 blur.

18 JO: Of course. You -- so you heard the three shots, she  
19 fell --

20 KA: Yes.

21 JO: -- and then what happened?

22 KA: Well, its' like -- uh, it's like she went to her  
23 knees and then leaned over and, like I said, my  
24 first thought was she was play acting.

25 JO: Uh-huh.

1 KA: And then there were two officers that got there in a  
2 hurry --

3 JO: Uh-huh.

4 KA: -- were right next door and they went down and  
5 either she fell over or they turned her over on her  
6 back and they yelled for -- for medics -- for EMTs.

7 JO: Okay. And --

8 KA: And --

9 JO: -- then did you observe EMS arrive?

10 KA: Uh, yeah. They -- somebody -- the -- one of them --  
11 one -- one of the guys there and there were --  
12 several officers were just all over the place, and  
13 one of them started giving her CPR and, uh, uh, one  
14 of them got up and just ran for the fire department  
15 and, uh, couple minutes later a -- again, I'm no  
16 judge of time --

17 JO: Uh-huh.

18 KA: -- but seem apparently quickly.

19 JO: Yes.

20 KA: Uh, two ETs -- EMTs came running out with their --  
21 with their bags and, uh, we weren't there very long  
22 and they decided let's get these people into the  
23 classroom and -- and they herded us back in and as  
24 we were coming in, they were headed out with the  
25 stretcher.

- 1 JO: And when they escorted you back into the classroom,  
2 did you go -- ever go back out?
- 3 KA: No.
- 4 JO: Okay.
- 5 KA: No.
- 6 JO: Did you know --
- 7 KA: And -- and they, fairly quickly, asked us not to  
8 discuss what had happened.
- 9 JO: Okay. And have you?
- 10 KA: No.
- 11 JO: Did you --
- 12 KA: Not until now.
- 13 JO: Did you know the participant in the --
- 14 KA: No. I did not.
- 15 JO: Okay. Did you know the police officer dressed as  
16 the burglar?
- 17 KA: No.
- 18 JO: Okay.
- 19 KA: I have no idea who he was and I think probably,  
20 fortunately, his face was covered and nobody there  
21 knew who it was and I imagine he's having a pretty  
22 tough time tonight.
- 23 JO: Did they go over any type of safety precautions?
- 24 KA: Not really --
- 25 JO: (Unintelligible) --

1 KA: -- but -- but we were so far back away from that. I  
2 mean, they kept us back away.

3 JO: Yeah.

4 KA: It wasn't like we were right there watching. I  
5 mean, we were watching, but we were back a good  
6 distance away and they made sure we stayed back. In  
7 fact, before it started, they backed us up a couple  
8 of times and said --

9 JO: Yeah. Okay.

10 KA: So they were very precautious about that.

11 JO: Did you record any of this on your phone?

12 KA: I did not.

13 JO: Do you know of anyone that did?

14 KA: I didn't notice anybody doing that. No.

15 JO: Okay. Is there anything else you can think of that  
16 I haven't asked you?

17 KA: I don't think so.

18 JO: Okay. That'll conclude this interview at  
19 approximately 10:12 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

20 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: dml/dml/ms



1 (INTERVIEW OF LOGAN G. DAVIS, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT: Special Agent Christopher Tiso

6 LD: Logan G. Davis

7 CT: My name is Christopher Tiso, with the Florida  
8 Department of Law Enforcement, special agent out of  
9 Fort Myers. This is in reference to an incident  
10 which occurred at the Punta Gorda Police Department,  
11 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda, Florida. I'll be  
12 taking a sworn taped statement from Logan Gregory  
13 Davis, D-A-V-I-S. Date of birth July 5th, 1946.  
14 Living at 3640 Bal Harbor Boulevard, Unit 213, Punta  
15 Gorda, Florida. Okay, Mr. Davis. Before we begin,  
16 do you know what perjury is?

17 LD: Yes, sir.

18 CT: In your own words, can you explain it, please?

19 LD: If you don't tell the truth in front of someone like  
20 you, or the judge or whatever it would be. Then  
21 you're subjected to some kind of penalty --

22 CT: Correct.

23 LD: -- by the law.

24 CT: Correct. Perjury -- it's basically lying under  
25 oath, okay?

26 LD: Uh-huh.

1 CT: And it would be -- it could be committed in a couple  
2 of ways. Number one would be telling an outright  
3 lie.

4 LD: Okay.

5 CT: Uh, number two would be leaving out all or part of  
6 information in order to mislead an investigation.  
7 Okay. And we tell everybody, not just you, that in  
8 the state of Florida if you are found to have  
9 perjured yourself it's a misdemeanor. Okay. So,  
10 basically tell the truth. Um, do you understand?

11 LD: Yes, sir.

12 CT: Okay. Um, being a law enforcement officer, I'm  
13 empowered to swear you in under oath.

14 LD: Okay.

15 CT: Okay. So, can you raise your right hand? Do you  
16 swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth  
17 and nothing but the truth?

18 LD: Yes, sir.

19 CT: All right. Okay, Mr. Davis. Um, as I said, this is  
20 in reference to the incident that occurred tonight  
21 at the Punta Gorda Police Department. Um, if you  
22 would, just start by telling me, uh, from the  
23 beginning when you got here -- approximately what  
24 time -- and take me through the entire thing.

25 LD: Okay. We got here -- I came with Susan Hunter, who  
American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.

1 I live with. Um, and we got here a little early --  
2 about 5:15. Came in, selected our seats. Got some  
3 water, and then Tom -- Chief Tom Lewis came in and  
4 he told us what was going to occur, that we'd have  
5 his presentation, we'd see equipment, we'd get a  
6 tour. We were kind of excited about it. And -- and  
7 -- because we do a lot with the police and with the  
8 magazine. And that then we would have a laser  
9 demonstration and we would have a role-play -- I  
10 don't know what the words were. I don't remember.  
11 But --

12 CT: Okay.

13 LD: -- it would be an incident like what the police have  
14 to face upon a suspect, and there would be firearms.

15 CT: Okay.

16 LD: And so, he explained that the weapon that would be  
17 given to the people would have detergent in it. And  
18 the -- and that was it. That was -- there was  
19 nothing else said, except that they would be out  
20 there and we would see it and we'd be able to go  
21 through it. And he then had us open up our little  
22 books. And I was taking notes, because his  
23 presentation was great, on what they're doing. But,  
24 I was taking notes. And they said if you have a  
25 card in there -- in the back of your book -- you are

1           one of the people that can do this -- volunteer for  
2           one of these -- either laser or this role-play.

3   CT:   Okay.

4   LD:   Didn't have it.  Neither did Susan.  And two or  
5           three people said, "I got it.  I got it."  So,  
6           everything was set.  We were in the -- I think the  
7           second or third group that went out.  We took the  
8           tour.  We went to all the departments.  The thing I  
9           remember is the recordkeeping department and the  
10          communication department, because it was all torn  
11          up.  You could see them putting the wires under the  
12          floor and everything.

13   CT:   Okay.

14   LD:   It was kind of interesting.  And then we went out --  
15          we came back and we regrouped.  And then we went  
16          outside, and we had a chance to be with the patrol  
17          car and they put the sirens on and everything.  And  
18          then we spent some time talking, because we're  
19          boaters, what I forgot -- unfortunately, I don't  
20          remember the guy's name --

21   CT:   Okay.

22   LD:   -- the officer's name, but with the big inflatable  
23          -- I think it's Nautica, okay.

24   CT:   Okay.

25   LD:   And we had fun there.  Then we went and talked to

1 the bike guys. I'm a biker, so we talked to the  
2 guys riding the bikes and he told us what they went  
3 through. We were kind of amazed what they put the  
4 bikes through --

5 CT: Right.

6 LD: -- what they go through. And then it was time -- I  
7 guess, we wandered from there over to the parking  
8 lot. They said, "Okay. Now, we're going to show  
9 you an example of what officers have to go through  
10 with a suspect." Okay. So, I moved up to the  
11 front. Because I was -- I would not want to be in  
12 that position, because in my mind you have a second.

13 CT: Right.

14 LD: And whatever you're going to do is not going to be  
15 good, you know. The way things are. So, I wanted  
16 to see, trying to put myself in that position, how  
17 would I react. You know, so --

18 CT: Okay.

19 LD: -- I got pretty close. And I know Mary from the  
20 library. I was just with her last week. And Mary  
21 had the -- they -- well, they showed us -- I'm  
22 trying to remember what happened. They showed us  
23 the finger on -- she had to put the finger on the  
24 side of the gun. Went through all this, and showed  
25 her, and loaded it and all that. Don't put your

1 hand on the trigger. We're all kind of around her.

2 CT: Okay.

3 LD: So, then she went out. So, okay, we go. And  
4 another, I guess, officer with a mask on and a  
5 sweatshirt with a hood --

6 CT: Okay.

7 LD: -- I don't know if he had padding or anything, and I  
8 think Chief Lewis or somebody explained, "Listen, if  
9 you get hit by that detergent bullet it can hurt  
10 you."

11 CT: Right.

12 LD: "You know, you can get a mark from it." Kind of  
13 made me -- somebody talked about paintball, you  
14 know.

15 CT: Right.

16 LD: And so that's what it kind of reminded me of. So, I  
17 said, "Okay." So, the police car was facing out.  
18 We were all, like, by the end of their first parking  
19 lot. So, I -- I don't know, maybe it's 30 feet, I  
20 don't know, between us and the place.

21 CT: Okay.

22 LD: Well, Mary kind of walked towards the suspect who  
23 was by the edge of the car. And I -- what I can  
24 remember, she kind of tried to walk menacingly, in  
25 Mary's way, a little bit. I'm watching. And the

1 reported suspect, whatever, went around the back of  
2 the car. And all the sudden, three or four shots  
3 went off. And it really scared me, because in all  
4 the conversations -- and I guess this was the plan  
5 -- no one had ever mentioned that this suspect would  
6 be shooting back. I guess -- because it kind of  
7 startled me, because I wasn't --

8 CT: Okay.

9 LD: -- expecting it. And he fired real fast, and it was  
10 very loud. And, you know, to me it sounded really  
11 very official and I -- wow. And I said -- and I --  
12 my -- my clear -- I said, "This is what happens.  
13 The officer never did anything and they got shot  
14 at."

15 CT: Right.

16 LD: You know.

17 CT: Okay.

18 LD: And then I looked, and I -- I can only demonstrate  
19 it. Mary turned. In other words, he was there.  
20 She was here. Mary turned like this, and all the  
21 sudden she did this. Like from the impact.

22 CT: Okay.

23 LD: So, I said, "Oh, boy. You know, it probably knocked  
24 the wind out of her or something."

25 CT: Right.

1 LD: I thought it was another paint gun.

2 CT: Okay.

3 LD: So, then she fell to her knees and fell face first  
4 right into the ground.

5 CT: Okay.

6 LD: And I -- I started running towards her. I was right  
7 in the front. And I was running towards her, other  
8 officers were running and I was -- probably got 5, 6  
9 feet away. And Tom Lewis is there, and I don't  
10 remember the other officer. Because now my mind was  
11 spinning. I thought, honestly, she had a heart  
12 attack.

13 CT: Okay.

14 LD: Because it scared the hell out of me.

15 CT: Right.

16 LD: And so I figured everything was going to be all  
17 right. But then as I got closer I heard, I think,  
18 Chief Lewis say, [REDACTED] I was  
19 saying, "Whoa." So, I went to get closer and --  
20 because I had worked for Dave on medical a couple of  
21 years ago. I --

22 CT: Okay.

23 LD: -- think in my stupid mind I'm going to do  
24 something, right.

25 CT: Right.



1 LD: But I'm trying. And so, he -- him or some of the  
2 other officers said, "You got to get back. Go get  
3 ER. Call 911." So, I ran towards the fire  
4 department and somebody had beat me there, and two  
5 guys were coming out with the boxes. So, I grabbed  
6 them and said, "Down here." And they ran past me,  
7 and then we were pushed out of the way.

8 CT: Okay.

9 LD: And that's basically what I saw happen. Then we  
10 went back inside, and we were told we had to stay.

11 CT: Okay.

12 LD: And that's where I've been since whenever that  
13 happened.

14 CT: Okay.

15 LD: Like I said, it was around 6:30. I don't know.  
16 Because we -- it started at 5:30, 6. Probably  
17 around 6:30, but I'm guessing. I got to be honest  
18 with you.

19 CT: Okay. Did you happen to have a camera and record it  
20 at all, or anything?

21 LD: I have a cell phone --

22 CT: Okay.

23 LD: -- but it was in its case.

24 CT: Okay. I got you.

25 LD: There was a lady -- because I know them all -- from

1 the Charlotte Sun, I think, that was the  
2 photographer.

3 CT: Okay.

4 LD: Now, whether she took any pictures or not I have no  
5 idea.

6 CT: Okay.

7 LD: Because it got real crazy after that happened.

8 CT: Right. Oh, I can imagine. So, after everyone went  
9 outside and everyone was looking at the boat --

10 LD: Yeah.

11 CT: -- and the cars and all that stuff.

12 LD: The bikes, and everything.

13 CT: Right. So, then, am I correct in saying as a group  
14 made their way to the scenario?

15 LD: Yes.

16 CT: To the gun scenario?

17 LD: That is correct.

18 CT: Okay. So, now, like I said, I haven't been in the  
19 back. And you did a good job of explaining it. So,  
20 the scenario took place on, um, blacktop in the  
21 back.

22 LD: Correct.

23 CT: And you said you were approximately 30 feet or so  
24 from --

25 LD: About.

1 CT: -- okay, about -- okay.

2 LD: From where this was occurring.

3 CT: Okay. So, now, how -- to your recollection, besides  
4 Mary were there any other civilians taking part in  
5 this scenario? Any other members of the Chamber or  
6 anything like that?

7 LD: Oh, no.

8 CT: No?

9 LD: There were no other participants. I don't know -- I  
10 was so focused on the two of them, I don't know if  
11 there were other officers or anything. I don't  
12 know.

13 CT: Okay.

14 LD: But there was no one --

15 CT: Okay.

16 LD: -- else but just the one person from the Chamber.

17 CT: Okay. So, her -- so, Mary. And then the one  
18 officer that you said was wearing --

19 LD: Oh --

20 CT: -- a mask and sweatshirt, or --

21 LD: And a hooded sweatshirt --

22 CT: -- something like that?

23 LD: -- with a mask.

24 CT: Okay.

25 LD: Like a hockey mask.

1 CT: And he played the bad guy?

2 LD: He was playing the bad guy.

3 CT: Okay. So, now, how many cars were in this scenario?

4 Do you recall? I mean --

5 LD: I only remember the one police car.

6 CT: Okay.

7 LD: There could have been others, because it's like over

8 by a -- some kind of -- so, but it's hazy to me.

9 Because I just watched them.

10 CT: Okay. So, now, what -- what exactly did they do

11 about the -- so, Mary -- you said she was walking

12 up. Correct?

13 LD: Well, it's kind of strange because I started out and

14 I couldn't figure out what was going on. I guess he

15 was like, I guess, looking into the car or

16 something. I don't know.

17 CT: Okay.

18 LD: You know, trying to do something suspicious. And

19 she walked up. But, I couldn't hear them.

20 CT: Okay.

21 LD: So, something was said. And I heard him saying,

22 "No, no" or something, and he started retreating.

23 CT: Okay.

24 LD: Kind of like. Because they're on the side, he kind

25 of retreated around the back.

1 CT: So, he retreated around the back of the car.

2 LD: Of the car. And I believe he was on the other side  
3 of the trunk or near the end of the trunk when he  
4 let -- those shots rang out.

5 CT: Okay.

6 LD: And I -- like everybody else, we figured that was  
7 the scenario.

8 CT: Right.

9 LD: You know. And --

10 CT: Where was -- do you remember where Mary was in the  
11 relationship? He retreated around the back. Where  
12 was Mary?

13 LD: She was probably about -- now, see, I can't remember  
14 if the car had two or four door. I think it had  
15 four doors. By the back of the second door on the  
16 driver's side.

17 CT: Okay.

18 LD: The car was facing out.

19 CT: Okay.

20 LD: Okay. Towards the building here. So, it would be  
21 facing this way.

22 CT: Okay. Okay. So, the back of the --

23 LD: Car would be far away.

24 CT: Okay.

25 LD: Now, that's what I remember. I hope I'm right.

1 CT: Okay. No, that's fine. Okay. And, um, now, when  
2 Mary -- when she originally walked up, do you know  
3 -- did she have that gun in her hand? Was it in a  
4 holster?

5 LD: She had -- I think she had a -- I -- from what I  
6 could see, she never had a holster.

7 CT: Okay. They didn't give her one.

8 LD: Um, because I remember the comment, "Do you have a  
9 holster?" "No." So, she had the thing on her side.

10 CT: Okay.

11 LD: With her finger on the side. I remember that, when  
12 she went over it.

13 CT: Okay. Okay.

14 LD: Yeah -- no.

15 CT: And you said you couldn't hear the conversations  
16 they were --

17 LD: I couldn't hear. I know he said, "No" or something.  
18 I can't -- I could only, you know, make --

19 CT: Okay.

20 LD: -- a guess that she said, "What are you doing" or  
21 something.

22 CT: Right.

23 LD: And he said, "Nothing." And she said, "Yes, you  
24 are." And he said, "No" or something. But I  
25 couldn't hear it.

1 CT: And am I correct in saying that you did have a clear  
2 view of the -- the actual shooting when it happened?

3 LD: Oh, yeah.

4 CT: So, you said he spun around the back and he fired  
5 three or four shots.

6 LD: To me, it was three or four shots.

7 CT: Okay. And once they struck Mary, she spun around  
8 and went to her knees?

9 LD: Well, yeah. It was -- it was kind of weird. It --  
10 first, the shots were fired.

11 CT: Right.

12 LD: And, you know, I think everybody realized what was  
13 playing out was that the cop had been shot at.

14 CT: Right.

15 LD: With not doing anything. And she kind of turned and  
16 then it was like if -- if you could imagine me  
17 coming up and hitting somebody in the stomach, and  
18 you take a reaction that way.

19 CT: Okay.

20 LD: Her arms went out. And I thought it knocked the  
21 wind out of her, you know.

22 CT: Did she turn towards, like, the spectators?

23 LD: Back towards us.

24 CT: Oh, she turned towards you?

25 LD: Yeah.

1 CT: But -- and then she went down like that. Like --

2 LD: She went back like this.

3 CT: Okay.

4 LD: And then she fell right to her knees --

5 CT: Okay.

6 LD: -- and went right down face first into the -- and I

7 -- I basically thought she died.

8 CT: Right.

9 LD: Okay. Because, you know, when somebody just --

10 CT: Right.

11 LD: -- or she had a heart attack.

12 CT: Okay.

13 LD: I would have never known she was shot unless I

14 didn't -- hadn't run up there and heard that.

15 CT: Do you know the officer's name who was playing the

16 bad guy? No? How about, um, did they tell you

17 anything about -- they told you about the gun Mary

18 was going to use, with the detergent and all that.

19 Did they tell you anything about the officer's gun,

20 what was going to --

21 LD: The thing that was so strange is that was never

22 mentioned.

23 CT: No?

24 LD: The only thing I could figure is that part of the

25 scenario, you wouldn't know if somebody had a gun or



1 not.

2 CT: Okay.

3 LD: You know what I'm saying. That's what -- that's  
4 what I assumed.

5 CT: Okay. So, they didn't say, like, "The officer's gun  
6 is going to have blanks" or "He's going to have  
7 detergent." Nothing like that?

8 LD: No.

9 CT: Okay.

10 LD: I just assumed it was the same kind of thing.

11 CT: Okay.

12 LD: You know. And that what caused her to react like  
13 that initially was that she got hit, maybe, not  
14 doing her -- surprised her, scared her.

15 CT: I understand.

16 LD: It's just -- it surprised all of us, because we  
17 didn't think that was going to happen, you know.

18 CT: Right. No, I can imagine. Okay. And then after  
19 that all happened then they escorted everyone in the  
20 building.

21 LD: Well, we all got pushed back --

22 CT: Uh-huh.

23 LD: -- correctly. And then they asked us all to go back  
24 inside. And they were gathering up the things, and  
25 they said, "You can't -- you have to stay now,

1           because, you know, we have -- you have to be" --  
2           they didn't say anything besides you have to stay.

3   CT:   Okay.

4   LD:   And then, like I hadn't eaten lunch or -- can we get  
5           any food --

6   CT:   Right.

7   LD:   -- and Phil, that owns a restaurant here, he was  
8           nice enough to call out or something.  They brought  
9           food for us.

10  CT:   Okay.

11  LD:   So, we ate the food.  And then they said, "You got  
12           to stay because we're bringing what" --

13  CT:   FDLE.

14  LD:   Yeah.

15  CT:   Okay.

16  LD:   I didn't know you guys, the --

17  CT:   Right.

18  LD:   Bring in the -- these people in, because they have  
19           to do it.  So, I'm sitting there thinking -- and I  
20           don't know, because I don't know procedures --

21  CT:   Right.

22  LD:   -- but I guess you can't investigate yourself.

23           That's what I'm assuming.

24  CT:   Right.

25  LD:   So, and then we waited since --

1 CT: A long time.

2 LD: -- probably 6:30.

3 CT: Right. So, just one last question, just to clarify.

4 When that all -- the scenario was occurring, you had

5 Mary, the officer playing the bad guy. And you said

6 that you're not a hundred percent if there were

7 other officers around or --

8 LD: They weren't involved in the role-play.

9 CT: Right. But were -- do you remember seeing other

10 officers in the general area?

11 LD: I think they were. I would say there was us, and

12 then maybe some officers. I mean, they weren't

13 asking us -- we didn't move. So, they weren't

14 saying stay back. But I don't really know, because

15 I couldn't really look around.

16 CT: Right.

17 LD: I wanted to see what was going to happen.

18 CT: You wanted to see what was happening with the scene,

19 yeah.

20 LD: I really focused on it.

21 CT: Okay.

22 LD: So, I know they were there because they got there

23 quicker than I did and I broke through --

24 CT: Right.

25 LD: -- I went to her as fast as I could run.

1 CT: Okay.

2 LD: To run to her.

3 CT: Okay.

4 LD: And they beat me. So, they had to be closer.

5 CT: Right. All right, Mr. Davis. Well, if you don't  
6 have anything else, um, I don't. Is there anything  
7 else --

8 LD: Sorry I don't have more, but that's all I saw.

9 CT: No, you -- you were very helpful. I appreciate it.  
10 So, then, I'm going to conclude this interview this  
11 day, August 9th, 2016, at 10:45 p.m.

12 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF MARJORIE BENSON, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DM: Special Agent Dan Mahler

6 MB: Marjorie Benson

7 DM: Special Agent Dan Mahler, Florida Department of Law  
8 Enforcement. Today is August 9th, 2016. It is  
9 approximately 9:45 p.m. Here at the Punta Gorda  
10 Police Department with -- Marjorie, state your full  
11 name and date of birth for me.

12 MB: Marjorie Benson. February 25th, 1958.

13 DM: Okay. Thank you. Um, Marjorie, we're here to talk  
14 to you about an incident that occurred this evening.  
15 Um, what I'd like you to do is just give me from  
16 beginning to end -- tell me, you know, what happened  
17 tonight. What was going on, around the  
18 circumstances of why you guys were here and whatnot.  
19 Okay.

20 MB: Um, we were here for, um, it -- uh, the city of  
21 Punta Gorda Police Department's -- like a citizens'  
22 -- it wasn't the actual academy, but it was a, you  
23 know, get to know your police department. And, um,  
24 I've always wanted to do it. And so I -- I RSVPed  
25 to come, and, um, was very fortunate that Chief  
26 Lewis was, um, taking us through and -- and we got

1 to see all the different areas and what goes on,  
2 and, you know, look at some of the equipment and, um  
3 -- you know, I was sitting there when he was talking  
4 about the wonderful statistics and how, uh -- I  
5 mean, just -- it's -- it's an exemplary police  
6 department. And, um, just was so impressed with the  
7 fact of how, uh, quickly the responses are from the  
8 time someone calls for an emergency. I think that's  
9 very impressive.

10 And I just -- I really love this police  
11 department, and I'm -- I'm just so sad. I just am  
12 -- I don't even know what to say. I can't -- I  
13 feel so much for, um, the officer that actually did  
14 the shooting, and for Chief Lewis. And just I'm --  
15 I'm really upset about all the press that's going to  
16 happen. And I just love, uh, these guys and what  
17 they have done for our community. And I just hate  
18 to see this happen. So, of course -- and I'm, of  
19 course, so sad about Mary. And I'm just praying  
20 that she makes it. But the -- we don't know  
21 anything. But, I just -- it's all surreal, except  
22 that it's real.

23 DM: Okay. Before you continue, do me a favor. Raise  
24 your right hand for me. And will you swear that  
25 everything you're going to tell me is the truth, the

1 whole truth, nothing but the truth?

2 MB: Yes. Absolutely.

3 DM: Okay. Thank you. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

4 MB: Anyway, um, so, then I -- we went outside to look at  
5 the, um, equipment -- the police car and the -- the  
6 boat. And, um -- and then it was time to go to the  
7 shoot, don't shoot segment.

8 DM: Uh-huh.

9 MB: And, um, two people were -- you know, randomly had  
10 the -- the -- something in their -- in their --  
11 whatever this little thing is. A notebook. And,  
12 um, Mary had one and Deb Malinowski had another.  
13 So, they were, like, the ones that were the  
14 volunteers to be -- play the part of the police  
15 officer --

16 DM: Uh-huh.

17 MB: -- to see whether they would shoot or not shoot.  
18 And then it was explained that they were given a gun  
19 loaded with -- had a little bit of gunpowder so it  
20 would shoot, but it had colored, um, soap --  
21 something like that --

22 DM: Okay.

23 MB: -- in it, to -- to shoot. And so, you know, you --  
24 they were going to go through a scenario to see, you  
25 know, how they would react in a certain situation.

1 And I don't really remember hearing anything about  
2 there going to be -- that the -- the supposed  
3 criminal, you know, or suspected criminal who was --  
4 an officer, um, was playing the part. And I -- I  
5 didn't know that he was going to be carrying a gun.  
6 I -- I don't remember being told that. Um, but, of  
7 course, everybody assumed when they saw him draw the  
8 gun that there were blanks in it.

9           Anyway, so, the scenario played out and -- and  
10 Mary went around the car. This guy was like looking  
11 in the cars, and so she was being the officer to  
12 check out what was going on. And he, I guess, gave  
13 her some flack or something and -- and was walking  
14 away from her around the car. And as he got to the  
15 other side of the car -- it was a good scenario,  
16 because she didn't draw her gun. But, when he went  
17 around the other side of the car that's when he got  
18 his gun out. And then came around and what -- he  
19 shot her. And I -- I thought I -- I thought it was  
20 blanks. And, um, I -- I believe I heard four -- it  
21 was either three or four. It was one shot, and then  
22 the others were quickly afterwards. It was boom,  
23 boom, boom, boom. Or -- or maybe just two  
24 afterwards. I can't remember clearly.

25           But I just remember how shocked I was that



1           there was a shooting noise, because I was not  
2           expecting that. Other than from what I thought  
3           might sound like a paintball gun -- you know, her  
4           end. I didn't know he had a gun. And, of course,  
5           we all thought they were blanks. And then I saw her  
6           go down on the ground, and I -- I'm like, "What?"  
7           And I then I go, "Oh, this has to be part of the  
8           scenario."

9   DM: Uh-huh.

10  MB: And -- and then I saw the officer run to her, you  
11       know. And said, "Stay with me" or something like  
12       that. And I thought, "Oh, dear God, did he really  
13       shoot her?" And -- and then I said, "Was -- was  
14       this part of -- is this part of the joke? Is this a  
15       joke?" And -- and then I heard another officer go  
16       by. I think he was talking in a -- I don't know,  
17       but I heard him say, "Live bullet and not a -- not a  
18       blank." And that's when I started shaking. And  
19       nobody else heard it. So, I said, "Did -- did you  
20       hear what he said?" And nobody else heard it. But,  
21       that's when I thought she was really shot to begin  
22       with, for real. And then we were -- you know,  
23       that's when we were all heading inside, and -- so, I  
24       just saw her on the ground.

25               And, oh, also, before I heard that police

1 officer say that I heard Lieutenant Coel -- I think  
2 that's his name -- yell for paramedics. And that's  
3 when I knew. I'm like, "What?" And then I heard  
4 the other thing. And then we went inside, and we've  
5 been in here since.

6 DM: Is --

7 MB: And that --

8 DM: -- is Coel the officer that -- that was playing the  
9 role?

10 MB: I think so, yes.

11 DM: Okay.

12 MB: And I just -- I can't imagine -- it's just such a  
13 horrible tragic --

14 DM: Yeah.

15 MB: -- thing. Like, how -- how -- there's got to be so  
16 many steps to make sure that they're blanks, I would  
17 think. Right? I mean, how could it happen? I --

18 DM: I know, that's --

19 MB: -- I know -- I'm sorry.

20 DM: -- that's why we're here --

21 MB: I'm not here to ask you questions.

22 DM: -- to try to find that out.

23 MB: Forgive me.

24 DM: No. It's okay.

25 MB: Anyway, that's all. I don't really know anything

1 more than anybody else in the room. Um, just  
2 praying that she lives. But, it was pretty close  
3 range and he was aiming right at her. I --

4 DM: How -- how close do you think they were to each  
5 other?

6 MB: Not much more than you and me.

7 DM: Okay. That's going to be 4 to 5 feet away?

8 MB: Maybe 6, 7. I -- I can't -- you know, I wasn't that  
9 close. But it was -- it -- it -- it was pretty --

10 DM: Okay.

11 MB: -- pretty close. I can't even imagine what he's  
12 going through right now.

13 DM: Now, you said that -- earlier, um, that two people  
14 got something in a pamphlet or in a notebook.

15 MB: Yeah.

16 DM: That -- so, what was that? Was it like a --

17 MB: These were -- these were handed out to everybody  
18 there.

19 DM: Okay. Is it all right --

20 MB: And it's just a notebook.

21 DM: -- if I take a look at this?

22 MB: Oh, yeah.

23 DM: Okay.

24 MB: It's just a notebook. They were in every seat that  
25 was available, so that we could take notes if we

1 wanted to.

2 DM: Oh, okay.

3 MB: I didn't take notes. And everybody was looking to  
4 see if they were lucky one to get picked. And there  
5 was a -- I don't know what they put in it. Maybe --  
6 I don't remember. But there was something in it,  
7 and it was -- it said, uh, "Fire" or something. And  
8 then -- and then the -- there were two people that  
9 had that in it, that were -- that they were the --  
10 the ones that could go and -- and play the -- the  
11 game -- the --

12 DM: The demonstration?

13 MB: -- shoot -- yeah, the shoot, don't shoot. Not game,  
14 but you know what I mean.

15 DM: Right.

16 MB: Be -- be -- be in it.

17 DM: Did the -- the second -- the -- the second person,  
18 who did you say that was? You said -- you said Mary  
19 was the first -- or, Mary got on.

20 MB: Oh, um --

21 DM: Who was the second person?

22 MB: Deb Malinowski.

23 DM: Deb Malinowski?

24 MB: M-A-L-I-N-O-W-S-K-I, I believe. She's already been  
25 interviewed. Actually, she was pretty destroyed,

1           because when they were both in there getting  
2           instructions she -- I just went over to her when she  
3           was crying. I'm like, you know, trying to comfort  
4           her. And she said, "I told her to go first. It  
5           could have been me. It should have been me." So,  
6           now she's dealing with that.

7   DM: Right. Is there anything else that you can think  
8           of, or that maybe I haven't asked you, that you  
9           think is important that I should know? Do you think  
10          this is anything other than just a tragedy that  
11          occurred here tonight? Was --

12  MB: Oh, God, no. No.

13  DM: Okay. Nothing suspicious, like how -- that you  
14          picked up on or that you thought was suspicious?

15  MB: Not at all.

16  DM: Okay.

17  MB: I -- I saw that officer just -- I mean, I couldn't  
18          see the look on his face because he had the thing  
19          on, in case she shot him in the face --

20  DM: Yeah.

21  MB: -- with the paintball thing. But I -- he  
22          immediately -- he said, "Stay with me" or something  
23          like that. And immediately started working, and  
24          screamed for the paramedic. I mean, he was  
25          obviously upset and I -- I -- I don't -- I -- you

1 know, but the shooting was so fast. I don't think  
2 he had time to realize it was a real bullet between  
3 the first shot and the others. I -- I -- I -- I  
4 mean, if I was a betting woman I would bet my life  
5 on the fact that the man is probably destroyed over  
6 this. I -- I can't even imagine. Oh, dear God,  
7 what Chief Lewis is going to have to deal with on  
8 them.

9 DM: Do you know if there was supposed to be another  
10 officer, as far as for the other scenario? Or do  
11 you know if it would have been Coel the entire time,  
12 or --

13 MB: I -- I really don't know that. Deb --

14 DM: Okay.

15 MB: -- might know. But, um, I really don't know.

16 DM: Okay. All right.

17 MB: And Deb wasn't outside when this all happened,  
18 because -- obviously, maybe they didn't want her to  
19 see what the scenario was or whatever. I don't  
20 know. But she wasn't there. So, I don't know if it  
21 was supposed to be the same officer or not.

22 DM: Okay. How far do you think you were from the  
23 scenario?

24 MB: Um, I'm not a good judger of feet.

25 DM: Well, car lengths or --

1 MB: From here --

2 DM: -- a couple cars away?

3 MB: Um, one, two, three -- maybe -- maybe three or four  
4 car lengths.

5 DM: Okay.

6 MB: We were all kind of in one area, and I was kind of  
7 to the -- you know, I wasn't like right in the  
8 front. But I was like -- here was people, and then  
9 I was right here. And, you know, I had a clear view  
10 of everything that was going on.

11 DM: Okay.

12 MB: I wasn't in the way back. I wanted to experience  
13 this. So --

14 DM: Right. All right. Um, if you don't have any  
15 questions for me I'm going to go ahead and end the  
16 interview.

17 MB: That's fine.

18 DM: Okay.

19 MB: Thank you.

20 DM: You're very welcome. Uh, it is now 9:55 p.m.

21 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

22

23

24

25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF MICHELE OLSEN, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MF = Mike Freeze [phonetic]

6 MO = Michele Olsen

7 MF: Good evening. I'm Special Mike -- Special Agent  
8 Mike Freeze of the, uh, Florida Department of Law  
9 Enforcement. Today's date is August the 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.  
10 The time is 10:45 p.m.; be taking a sworn statement  
11 from white female, Michele Rose -- Rose Olsen; last  
12 name is spelled O-L-S-E-N. Miss Olsen's date of  
13 birth is 8/13/54. Her address is 3514 Paul Place.  
14 It's in Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. A contact  
15 phone number is 941-456-9447.

16

17 This evening's interview is taking place at the  
18 Punta Gorda Police Department at 1410 Tamiami Trail  
19 in Punta Gorda, Florida. Specifically, we're in the  
20 office of the Accreditation Manager. Miss Olsen --  
21 Mrs. Olsen, can you please state your name and your  
22 date of birth?

23 MO: Michele Rose Olsen, uh, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 1954.

24 MF: And Mrs. Olsen, do you know the meaning perjury?

25 MO: Lying, yes -- lying under oath.

26 MF: Yes, ma'am. At this time, will you allow me to

American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.



1 swear you in for the purpose of taking a sworn  
2 statement?

3 MO: Yes.

4 MF: Please raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
5 raised. Do you, Michele Rose Olsen, solemnly swear  
6 to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but  
7 the truth, in the matter we're about to discuss?

8 MO: Yes.

9 MF: All right. Directing your attention, uh, here at  
10 the Punta Gorda Police Department, um, you -- you  
11 arrived here earlier today, correct?

12 MO: Yes.

13 MF: About what time?

14 MO: About 5:25.

15 MF: 5:25? And what was the purpose of your visit this  
16 evening?

17 MO: Um, the police academy -- Citizen's Police Academy.

18 MF: Okay. And -- and the introduction -- the reason why  
19 we're here, there was a discharge of an officer's  
20 firearm this evening. So that's why we're here. So  
21 you arrived here at 5:25.

22 MO: Yes.

23 MF: And what was the purpose of your visit?

24 MO: The Citizen's Academy.

25 MF: Okay. And basic --

1 MO: Through the Chamber.

2 MF: Okay. And basically, what is the police academy  
3 entail? What did -- what was your expectation?

4 MO: Oh, I had been through it before --

5 MF: Okay.

6 MO: -- a couple years ago when we -- they just show us  
7 how everything works. They show us the police  
8 department and --

9 MF: Okay.

10 MO: -- you know, what tasers do. Last time, they were  
11 showing us the dogs. You know, this time they were  
12 just showing us all their equipment and giving us a  
13 run-down.

14 MF: Okay. So you arrive at 5:25 and did you come --  
15 come inside the building?

16 MO: Yes.

17 MF: Okay. And where did you -- and your part of a  
18 group, correct?

19 MO: Uh, Punta Gorda Chamber.

20 MF: Okay. And about how many people were here?

21 MO: Oh, gosh. I don't --

22 MF: Roughly.

23 MO: 30, maybe.

24 MF: 30?

25 MO: I don't --

1 MF: Okay. So when you came in, where were you directed  
2 to go?

3 MO: To the -- um, the classroom back here.

4 MF: Okay. And when you got to the classroom, what took  
5 place?

6 MO: Uh, we all took seats. Uh, Chief got up and gave us  
7 a half hour briefing of what we were gonna do and  
8 what the city police department is doing and how  
9 they're ranking and --

10 MF: Uh-huh.

11 MO: -- just giving us an overview of all the volunteers  
12 and all the programs that they have.

13 MF: Okay.

14 MO: And --

15 MF: Okay. And was this a -- a, uh, series of classes or  
16 was this, uh, a one-time event?

17 MO: It was just a one-time event.

18 MF: Okay. And what -- um, what time period was this  
19 gonna run to from --

20 MO: 8:00.

21 MF: So --

22 MO: 5:30 to 8.

23 MF: 5:30 to 8?

24 MO: Yeah.

25 MF: And did you receive any type of menu or a hand out

1 and what type of activities were gonna take place  
2 tonight?

3 MO: No. I didn't.

4 MF: Okay.

5 MO: No.

6 MF: So you get there and Chief Lewis gives you an  
7 overview of the police department --

8 MO: Uh-huh.

9 MF: -- what -- what happens then?

10 MO: Uh, we divide into three different groups and, um,  
11 the -- each group goes to a different area to -- to  
12 see, you know, Chief, uh, and he showed us the  
13 interrogation rooms and the -- just taking us  
14 around.

15 MF: Okay.

16 MO: He took us outside.

17 MF: Were you in Chief Lewis' group?

18 MO: Yes.

19 MF: Okay. And went -- what happened when you went  
20 outside?

21 MO: We went out there and we were looking at the  
22 bicycles and the -- and the cars -- you know, got to  
23 turn the sirens on and the boat and --

24 MF: Okay.

25 MO: -- and, um, getting ready to see the demonstration

1 with the firearm.

2 MF: Okay. And what -- okay, and what type of  
3 demonstration was gonna take place?

4 MO: Um, I believe that what was gonna happen was there  
5 was -- one of the ladies had -- had a card, so she  
6 was gonna have the -- the mock gun --

7 MF: Okay.

8 MO: -- Glock, I think he said it was.

9 MF: Okay.

10 MO: And, uh, they were -- the purpose was to be able to  
11 tell if -- not to overreact to a certain -- you  
12 know, to try to decide whether you're -- you should  
13 shoot or not shoot.

14 MF: Okay. And when you said the lady got the card, what  
15 type of card was it?

16 MO: I didn't see it.

17 MF: Okay.

18 MO: He -- there was --

19 MF: Okay.

20 MO: -- there was -- there -- one lady got that and one  
21 lady got a card for doing the, um, taser.

22 MF: Taser? Okay.

23 MO: We never got that far.

24 MF: Okay. Did anybody get any other cards?

25 MO: No.

1 MF: So it was just two people got cards?  
2 MO: Uh-huh.  
3 MF: Okay.  
4 MO: They were in the little brochures --  
5 MF: Okay -- okay.  
6 MO: -- everybody got  
7 MF: And the person we're talking about, do you know her  
8 name?  
9 MO: Um, Mary, uh --  
10 MF: Mary? That's fine.  
11 MO: Yeah. I can't remember her last name.  
12 MF: Okay. So Mary gets a card and she's -- she gets  
13 assigned the firearm?  
14 MO: Yes.  
15 MF: Okay. So before this -- where are you at at this  
16 point where -- let's -- let's do this. You're --  
17 you're outside. Um, is it still light out?  
18 MO: Yes.  
19 MF: Um, do you have a timeframe -- about what time it  
20 was?  
21 MO: Uh, gosh. No.  
22 MF: It was light out?  
23 MO: Yeah. It was light.  
24 MF: So it was after 5:30?  
25 MO: Yeah. Oh, yeah.

1 MF: Oh, okay.

2 MO: Yeah.

3 MF: And it was before that --

4 MO: Well, it had to be after six 'cause he's -- he said

5 that his -- his little demonstrate -- his speech was

6 gonna take about a half hour and it was about a half

7 hour. So --

8 MF: Okay. So after six?

9 MO: Yeah.

10 MF: So you folks go out in the back and how far away are

11 you from -- when Mary gets -- 'cause she get -- got

12 a gun, right?

13 MO: Yes.

14 MF: About how far away were you?

15 MO: Oh, gosh. I was right -- um, right where the rocks

16 were when the two patrol cars were -- were -- were

17 there.

18 MF: Okay.

19 MO: So I guess about 100 (unintelligible).

20 MF: 100 feet?

21 MO: Yeah.

22 MF: Okay.

23 MO: I was standing right behind the Chief.

24 MF: You were standing behind the Chief?

25 MO: Yeah.

1 MF: Okay. And --

2 MO: Mary came over and he was showing Mary how to use it  
3 again, making sure --

4 MF: Okay. Did he give any -- did he give any -- did the  
5 Chief -- was it -- was this the Chief showing her?

6 MO: Well, the other officer showed her and he came over  
7 and he just wanted to make sure she knew.

8 MF: Was this the Chief or was it the other officer?

9 MO: The other officer showed her how to use it first and  
10 then they came over to talk to the Chief and the  
11 Chief goes -- says, "I just wanna make sure you know  
12 how to use this," and --

13 MF: Okay.

14 MO: -- showed her how to --

15 MF: Do you remember how it was discussed? Do you  
16 remember the words and -- did they describe the type  
17 of ammunition they were gonna use?

18 MO: Yeah. They were gonna use these little pellets and  
19 the -- some of them are different colors. It's dish  
20 soap.

21 MF: Oh, okay.

22 MO: And, yeah, they can hurt --

23 MF: Okay.

24 MO: -- if they're close.

25 MF: Okay -- okay.



1 MO: But that's -- they'd use in the training.

2 MF: Okay. Did Mary have any safe -- did they issue her  
3 any safety gear, like any goggles, any head gear,  
4 any chest protection?

5 MO: Not that I remember.

6 MF: Okay. Uh, how many people were involved in this  
7 scenario?

8 MO: Just Mary and the other officer.

9 MF: Okay. Describe the other officer to me.

10 MO: Um, he was tall. He -- he was dressed up with a  
11 hoodie and a face mask --

12 MF: Okay.

13 MO: -- and everything just to -- to --

14 MF: Do you know --

15 MO: -- be like a (unintelligible).

16 MF: -- do you know if he had a weapon?

17 MO: I did not know if he had a weapon.

18 MF: Okay. Was there any type of, uh, safety  
19 presentation done about any type of weapon that --  
20 that that officer would be using?

21 MO: I didn't hear that. No.

22 MF: Okay. Did you see anything -- I mean, were they may  
23 have held it up and showed the same type of bullets  
24 or the same type of pellets that you described in  
25 that officer's gun?

1 MO: No.

2 MF: Nothing? Okay. So the Chief and the other officer

3 -- do you know who the officer was that was briefing

4 on this (unintelligible).

5 MO: Coel -- I think his last name was Coel.

6 MF: Coel? Okay.

7 MO: Oh, the -- the briefing?

8 MF: Yeah.

9 MO: No. I don't know who the (unintelligible) --

10 MF: The safety briefing?

11 MO: I don't know who --

12 MF: Okay.

13 MO: -- (unintelligible). No.

14 MF: So does there come a time when the scenario started

15 taking place?

16 MO: Well, after the Chief goes --

17 MF: Okay.

18 MO: -- over that with her --

19 MF: Okay.

20 MO: -- then, um --

21 MF: Did -- did they explain to the audience about what

22 type of scenario this was gonna be?

23 MO: Yeah -- yeah.

24 MF: Tell me about that.

25 MO: Well, it was gonna be somebody who's gonna be

1 supposedly looking around in cars and stuff and a  
2 suspicious guy and they're being called in to check  
3 it out.

4 MF: Okay. And what was Mary's role gonna be?

5 MO: She was gonna be the officer.

6 MF: Okay. And the other guy was gonna be --

7 MO: Be the -- the suspect, I guess.

8 MF: Okay. And so -- and there come a time when the  
9 scenario was -- began, right?

10 MO: Uh-huh.

11 MF: All right. Tell me -- walk me through that. Tell  
12 me what actions Mary took and the other -- the  
13 suspect.

14 MO: Okay. Um, the other suspect -- we were -- we was  
15 going through and we were watching him looking in  
16 cars, opening the car doors and everything. He was  
17 in a hoodie, like I said, and he had a safety  
18 (unintelligible) mask on and Mary comes walking up  
19 and she has the gun in her hand --

20 MF: Do you remember what -- what hand she had it in?

21 MO: Oh, gosh. I think she was in her left hand.

22 MF: Her left hand? Okay.

23 MO: Um, and he was between cars and he had just opened  
24 the car door (unintelligible) --

25 MF: Now, was this the passenger's side or the driver's

1 side?

2 MO: Driver's side.

3 MF: Driver's side? Okay.

4 MO: And -- um, and then Mary asked him, you know, "Hey.  
5 What are you doing?" and he goes, "Well --, he goes,  
6 "I'm looking for my dog." He -- she goes, "You're  
7 looking for his -- your dog?" and he goes, "Yeah,"  
8 and he goes -- she -- he goes, "Why you would have a  
9 gun in your hand?" and she goes, "I'm just trying to  
10 figure out --," you know, I can't remember  
11 everything. "Just trying to see, you know, what's  
12 going on here. You're looking for your dog," and he  
13 -- I guess it was his cell phone. He throws it on  
14 top of the hood of the car.

15

16 He goes, "Well --," and he said something and walked  
17 off to -- behind the car and he came back and then  
18 shocked us all. She -- he -- you -- you could hear  
19 the -- the gun go off.

20 MF: Could -- you could hear it. Could you see it?

21 MO: Yeah.

22 MF: Okay.

23 MO: Yeah.

24 MF: How many times did it go off?

25 MO: Two is all I really heard. It might have been

1 three. I got -- I -- I jumped because it was so  
2 loud that it shocked me.

3 MF: Okay. Um, what happened then?

4 MO: Uh, what happened then is that Mary -- I thought --  
5 I thought she was acting.

6 MF: Okay.

7 MO: She just bent over and -- um, and then she turned  
8 around and just started falling --

9 MF: Okay.

10 MO: -- head first in -- in like a -- like a V shape and  
11 somebody started yelling and she -- and Chief just  
12 dropped everything, went running over there and  
13 somebody kept yelling, "Stay with us. Stay with  
14 us," and --

15 MF: Okay. Okay.

16 MO: -- "91" -- "Get the paramedics. Get the  
17 paramedics."

18 MF: Okay. Um, do you know who those people were that  
19 made the statements, you know, call the paramedics?

20 MO: I believe it was the Chief.

21 MF: Okay.

22 MO: Yeah.

23 MF: The -- the officer that was doing the role playing  
24 that discharged allegedly -- discharged the weapon,  
25 did he make any statements afterwards?

1 MO: I -- no.

2 MF: Okay.

3 MO: 'Cause they told us all to go back inside.

4 MF: Okay. Were you able to see what he did after the  
5 weapon discharged?

6 MO: I believe he went over there to - to see what was  
7 going on with her.

8 MF: Okay. Um, while you were watching the scenario,  
9 were you taking any photographs?

10 MO: No.

11 MF: Taking any video?

12 MO: No. I left my phone in the car.

13 MF: Okay. And when you came this evening, did you --  
14 were you accompanied with anybody?

15 MO: My husband.

16 MF: Okay. And what's his name?

17 MO: Ron Olsen. I thought she was having a heart attack.

18 MF: Uh-huh. And was your husband standing by you when  
19 this was occurring?

20 MO: Uh, I can't -- he was standing near me, but not --

21 MF: Oh, okay.

22 MO: -- next to me. I was standing right next to the  
23 Chief.

24 MF: Okay. Um, so at some point, you were directed to go  
25 back inside -- the whole group was, correct?

- 1 MO: Yes. They told us (unintelligible).
- 2 MF: About how long after the discharge of the firearm  
3 were you -- were you --
- 4 MO: Well, we was -- it seemed like just -- immediately.
- 5 MF: Immediately?
- 6 MO: Yeah.
- 7 MF: Okay. And -- and where did you go?
- 8 MO: Back in here.
- 9 MF: And when you say "here", is that the classroom?
- 10 MO: The classroom.
- 11 MF: Okay. Did you hear anybody make any statements?
- 12 MO: No.
- 13 MF: No? (Unintelligible).
- 14 MO: We all just thought, you know, wow, you know. What  
15 happened?
- 16 MF: Okay. Okay. That's all the questions I have at  
17 this -- at this time. Um, is there anything that  
18 you can think of that I haven't asked you that you  
19 feel is important?
- 20 MO: No. It just -- just happened so --
- 21 MF: Okay.
- 22 MO: My husband said he thought he saw blood -- he --  
23 when they rolled her over.
- 24 MF: Okay. Did you see any injury?
- 25 MO: I didn't see anything.

1 MF: Okay.

2 MO: I didn't see anything 'cause I started coming back  
3 in here.

4 MF: Okay. Was Mary responsive?

5 MO: I didn't see her respond.

6 MF: Okay. Again, that's all the questions I have.

7 MO: Okay.

8 MF: Is there anything that you wanna add, change, or  
9 delete from this statement that you just provided?

10 MO: No.

11 MF: Okay.

12 MO: No.

13 MF: Has everything you've told me been the truth to the  
14 best of your knowledge and belief?

15 MO: Yes.

16 MF: Okay. And that'll conclude our interview this  
17 evening. Today's date is the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, 2016;  
18 time is 10:59 p.m. Thank you Miss Olsen.

19 MO: Does anybody know --

20 MF: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

21 MO: I was just --

22 MF: We're still on tape.

23 MO: -- wondering if (unintelligible) how Mary's doing?

24 MF: She's still in the hospital. That's all I know.

25 MO: Okay.



1 MF: I've been here about two hours doing interviews. So

2 --

3 MO: Okay.

4 MF: I'm -- you -- you'll be updated, I'm sure.

5 MO: Okay.

6 MF: Okay. Again, that's all the questions I have.

7 Thank you, ma'am.

8 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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21 Transcribed by: dml/dml/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF NANETTE LEONARD, 2016-0108)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 NL = Nanette Leonard

6 DM = Special Agent Dan Mehler

7 DM: Special Dan Mehler, Florida department of Law  
8 Enforcement. Today is August 9th, 2016. It is  
9 approximately 9:20 p.m. I'm here at Punta Gorda  
10 police department with, ma'am, please go ahead and  
11 state your full name for me.

12 NL: Nanette Leonard.

13 DM: Okay. And your date of birth?

14 NL: 4/5/50.

15 DM: Okay. Um, Nanette, we're here to talk about an  
16 incident that occurred earlier that you, uh, may  
17 have observed.

18 NL: Yes.

19 DM: Um, go ahead and just tell me what --

20 NL: Okay.

21 DM: -- what happened from beginning to end.

22 NL: Um, we met here in the -- the conference room. Um,  
23 Tom had a video PowerPoint. He went through that.  
24 It took about 25 minutes or so. Then we split into  
25 groups. Um, various officers -- Tom took a group,  
26 and Jason took a group, and then I guess there was a

1           third group. I'm not quite sure. And we went  
2           throughout the police department. They explained  
3           which -- how -- how they work -- the interior of  
4           this all works. Then we all went out to the parking  
5           lot. There was a police car, uh, that was open to  
6           us to sit in it, uh, to look at -- inside of it. I,  
7           of course, went in and I turned on the lights and  
8           the sirens and -- and all that. Um, there was a  
9           marine boat in front of us and, um -- and so we hung  
10          out there for a while. And then we went over to the  
11          back area where the demonstration was going to take  
12          place.

13   DM:   Okay.

14   NL:   And, uh, uh, they gave Mary, um, the gun, the weapon  
15          and I guess showed -- told her how to use it. Uh,  
16          and then Lee Coel, who I know, um --

17   DM:   Okay.

18   NL:   -- uh, was in a hoodie and was the perpetrator, and  
19          the scenario was that he was looking in cars to see  
20          if he could steal something. I think that's what  
21          they said the scenario was. And I have a picture  
22          that I took. It doesn't show anything, but it's --  
23          it was before the weapon was -- his weapon was  
24          charged --

25   DM:   Okay.

1 NL: -- or discharged. Excuse me.

2 DM: All right.

3 NL: That's the only one I took. That was before. And

4 then I guess there was, you know, the interaction

5 between Lee and her, and then I heard three shots

6 and then she went down on her knees first, and then

7 she fell on her hands, and then she fell on her

8 head. And I think all of us thought that it was

9 part of it. We -- it was so surreal, and then we

10 thought she had a heart attack. I didn't see any

11 blood. I didn't -- I wasn't in a position to see

12 that. All I know is that I started hearing, I think

13 it was Lee, scream, "Medic. Get -- get -- get

14 E.M.S. Get" -- and then all of the police officers

15 just charged at her and they -- then we knew

16 something terrible had happened.

17 DM: Okay.

18 NL: Do you need me to email that to you or --

19 DM: That would be fantastic --

20 NL: -- or, I mean, that -- that -- or, I mean --

21 DM: -- if you could email it.

22 NL: -- text it or what do you want me to do?

23 DM: text or email.

24 NL: Okay.

25 DM: Whatever you prefer. Whatever's easier for you. If

1           you just wanna --

2   NL:   I don't care.

3   DM:   -- text it that's fine.

4   NL:   You -- you tell me.  Okay.  So, uh, probably email

5           because then I can just stick your email in there

6           and I can type it.  Okay?

7   DM:   It's right there on the bottom.

8   NL:   Daniel?

9   DM:   Yeah.

10  NL:   D-A-N-I-E-L.

11  DM:   Mehler, M-E-H --

12  NL:   M-E-H --

13  DM:   -- L-E-R.

14  NL:   -- L-E-R at --

15  DM:   -- F-D-L-E --

16  NL:   -- F-D-L-E --

17  DM:   -- dot state --

18  NL:   -- dot state --

19  DM:   -- dot F-L dot U-S.

20  NL:   -- dot U-S.  Daniel M-E-H-L-E-R at F-D-L-E dot state

21           dot F-L dot U-S?

22  DM:   Yes, ma'am.

23  NL:   Subject, um, Punta Gorda PD  (unintelligible).

24           Send.  Okay.  Okay.

25  DM:   Thank you.

1 NL: Um, and then they brought all of us inside and, uh,  
2 that was it.

3 DM: Now, just to -- to recap a little bit --

4 NL: Uh-huh.

5 DM: -- um, what -- what organization are you with that -  
6 - that came in, or is this just something that's  
7 open to the public?

8 NL: We all are with the Chamber. We're all with the  
9 Punta Gorda Chamber.

10 DM: Okay.

11 NL: Um, and, uh, it's my understanding that they do this  
12 sort of thing a lot with different groups, or  
13 sporadically with different groups. And so a lot of  
14 us, um, signed up because we thought that it was  
15 gonna be, you know, really interesting so -- and  
16 look, this is a wonderful police department. These  
17 people are amazing. Tom is wonderful. Uh, all of  
18 them are just terrific people.

19 DM: Yeah.

20 NL: And for this to happen, it's just unfathomable.

21 DM: Yes.

22 NL: It's surreal. It's absolutely --

23 DM: It's tragic is what it is.

24 NL: Because -- and I'll tell you that Lee -- I'm on the  
25 board of directors for the Animal Welfare League,

1 and so Lee and Spirit are the only canine people  
2 that we have, so I, um, suggested to our executive  
3 director that we give him a -- a -- an award.

4 DM: Uh-huh.

5 NL: This is before all the video stuff came out. Okay?  
6 This was in, uh, oh God, June. I can't remember.  
7 And, um -- and we gave him this really nice award.  
8 He put on this phenomenal demonstration --  
9 phenomenal, where they had guns and they were  
10 shooting up, and Spirit gets out of the car and  
11 sails through the perpetrator's car, doesn't even  
12 touch the ledge, and it was wonderful and everybody  
13 loved seeing it. And then, you know, it -- it's --  
14 they do so much for this community, and for this to  
15 happen, it's just horrendous, just absolutely  
16 horrendous.

17 DM: So, this, tonight, was more of like, you know, it's  
18 a -- kind of like an open house for the police  
19 department for you guys --

20 NL: Yeah.

21 DM: -- to come and visit, see?

22 NL: That's my understanding.

23 DM: So, you broke up into groups?

24 NL: Right.

25 DM: Well, you had your PowerPoint first?

1 NL: Right.

2 DM: Kind of like an overview of how the department runs?

3 NL: Yeah, um --

4 DM: Is that what it was?

5 NL: I took a picture of Tom. Gallery. It was in the --

6 I guess that was him going somewhere. I don't know

7 where he was going.

8 DM: Uh-huh.

9 NL: That was everybody looking. That was before

10 anything happened. Tom was over -- Tom is right

11 there. That was the PowerPoint. So --

12 DM: (Coughing). Excuse me. So you had your PowerPoint

13 and you broke up into groups. Everybody got kind of

14 like a tour of the station. Um, you went outside

15 and got to see the vehicles --

16 NL: Uh-huh.

17 DM: -- and then that's when the demonstration took

18 place. Um, did you witness the setting up of the

19 demonstration?

20 NL: She was -- there really wasn't a setup. I mean she

21 -- this -- this is where the car was.

22 DM: Uh-huh.

23 NL: And Lee was around -- there were two cars, and he

24 was next to one of them. We were all over here next

25 to the do not enter sign that's over there.



1 DM: Uh-huh.

2 NL: And then she was over here talking to one of the  
3 police officers, I guess getting counseled as to how  
4 the gun worked.

5 DM: Okay.

6 NL: And Tom did say that it will shoot off, um, a  
7 laundry detergent pellet, or something like that.

8 DM: Okay.

9 NL: Um, and he said that if there are multiple  
10 (coughing) -- do you need to get some water?

11 DM: No, I'll, uh, get some in a minute. Thank you.

12 NL: Um, if there were multiple people involved in a  
13 scenario they would have different colored pellets -  
14 -

15 DM: Uh-huh.

16 NL: -- so that they would know which person shot off  
17 which color.

18 DM: Right.

19 NL: Um, so, um, she was standing over here, and then she  
20 just walked over to where Lee was, and he was egging  
21 -- you know, he was -- not egging her on, but he was  
22 doing what a perpetrator would do. "I'm not doing  
23 anything." you know, "Leave me alone." or whatever.  
24 And -- and then she went down, and at first I think  
25 we all thought she had a heart attack because I

1 didn't see any -- I mean they were blanks, so --

2 DM: Now, were, um -- were you guys told that what he was  
3 gonna be carrying were blanks, or you just assumed  
4 that?

5 NL: That -- that was never even brought -- I mean you  
6 assumed.

7 DM: Okay.

8 NL: You know? Uh, I don't know.

9 DM: Okay.

10 NL: I don't know. Do blanks look like regular bullets?  
11 And if you put a blank in a gun and you put a  
12 regular -- do the bullets look the same?

13 DM: They're very similar but, um --

14 NL: Um, I've never even held a gun, so I'm not the right  
15 person to ask.

16 DM: Okay. No, that's all right. I just --

17 NL: Yeah.

18 DM: You know, I -- you -- you -- you -- you mentioned  
19 blanks. I just wanted to know if you'd be somebody  
20 that's able --

21 NL: I mean I'm -- I mean when he was at the  
22 demonstration at (unintelligible) they were blanks.

23 DM: Right.

24 NL: You know? I mean --

25 DM: Okay. Um, so after she goes down and Lee's calling

1 for -- for a medic you said?

2 NL: Yes, I thought it was Lee. I mean I assume it  
3 'cause he was standing over her and they were  
4 screaming, whoever was surrounding her. And then  
5 everybody just rushed her.

6 DM: Okay.

7 NL: And then they screamed for E.M.S. and whatever --  
8 whatever else.

9 DM: How --

10 NL: And she fell on her head. I mean she went down on  
11 knees, then she went down on her hands, and I  
12 thought she had a heart attack because the pops were  
13 so loud --

14 DM: Uh-huh.

15 NL: -- that -- and she was an older lady.

16 DM: Yeah.

17 NL: So, um, I'm didn't know, you know, maybe thought she  
18 had a heart attack, just --

19 DM: And when you said she hit her-- she hit her head --

20 NL: She --

21 DM: -- she went forward or back or --

22 NL: She went down on her knees first. Then I think she  
23 went down on her hands, and then she just went down  
24 on her head, and she slid on her head.

25 DM: Okay. So, when -- when everything was said and done

1 she was face down on the ground?

2 NL: She was on the floor.

3 DM: Okay.

4 NL: She was on the ground.

5 DM: All right. Um, was there anything that stuck out

6 that you thought was suspicious or anything like

7 that or --

8 NL: No.

9 DM: -- you know?

10 NL: No. I mean --

11 DM: Okay.

12 NL: -- it was a -- we thought that she -- it was part of

13 the demonstration. I mean a lot of us thought this

14 is part of it. You know?

15 DM: Right.

16 NL: This is an act.

17 DM: Right.

18 NL: Because this is like "Law and Order" to us. I mean

19 the closest we get to any of this stuff is "Law and

20 Order." You know? So to -- to know that it was

21 real and that she was shot was just --

22 DM: Okay.

23 NL: -- horrendous.

24 DM: Is there, um -- is there anything that I haven't

25 asked you that you think is important for me to

1 know, or is there anything else that you want to  
2 take a moment to think about?

3 NL: I've -- I think I've told you everything that I can  
4 remember. Uh, after it happened Gloria ushered all  
5 of us inside. She said, "You all have to stay  
6 inside. You all have to stay inside and, uh, nobody  
7 can leave." You know?

8 DM: Who's -- who's Gloria?

9 NL: Gloria is the accreditation person here.

10 DM: Okay.

11 NL: Uh, but -- her last name is with an S, but something  
12 -- I can never pronounce it. Gloria -- I might just  
13 have it. Hold on. I'm not sure. Yeah, I have  
14 Gloria's cell, but there's only one Gloria.

15 DM: Okay. And you said it was, uh, with an S?

16 NL: Yeah, yeah.

17 DM: Okay.

18 NL: They'll tell you -- I mean they can all tell you who  
19 she is.

20 DM: All right.

21 NL: And then, um, they brought us coffee and, uh, water,  
22 and then one of the gentlemen, um, has a restaurant  
23 here in town --

24 DM: Uh-huh.

25 NL: -- and he brought in -- in food. He had food

1 brought in for all of us, and, uh, they brought in  
2 water and just, you know, tried to make us as  
3 comfortable as possible.

4 DM: How many people do you think attended tonight, if  
5 you had to take a wild guess?

6 NL: They have a list. They have a -- they -- we -- we  
7 all wrote our names down. I think they said at the  
8 beginning 39.

9 DM: Okay.

10 NL: I don't know whether every -- all 30 -- because you  
11 had to sign up for this in advance.

12 DM: In advance? Okay.

13 NL: And it was sold out so, um --

14 DM: So, there's kind of like 39 R.S.V.P.s?

15 NL: There should be, and there is a list. They took  
16 everybody's name down --

17 DM: Okay.

18 NL: -- and all the addresses are there with cell phone  
19 numbers and, um, birthdays.

20 DM: Okay. All right.

21 NL: So, there is that list.

22 DM: What's Lee's last name?

23 NL: Coel, C-O-E-L.

24 DM: Okay.

25 NL: My heart just breaks for him. It breaks for all of

1           them.

2   DM: Absolutely. Um, okay. I -- I don't have any other

3           questions for you at this time.

4   NL: I mean you can -- if you think of anything else and

5           you need to reach me you have my phone number.

6   DM: What, uh -- go ahead with it, please.

7   NL: It's 908-618-1776.

8   DM: That's your cell?

9   NL: I only have the cell phone number.

10  DM: What -- what area code is that?

11  NL: New Jersey.

12  DM: Oh. Okay. Is that where you're originally from?

13  NL: I grew up in New York City and then I moved to --

14  DM: Moved?

15  NL: -- New Jersey, and the fact that I don't have an

16           accent that you can pick up is --

17  DM: Well, my mom's from Jersey.

18  NL: Where?

19  DM: My father's from New York, so --

20  NL: Where in New Jersey?

21  DM: Uh, Newark.

22  NL: Okay.

23  DM: She was born and raised and my dad, uh, born in the

24           Bronx, grew up in Brooklyn --

25  NL: Uh-huh.

1 DM: -- and came down after --

2 NL: Yeah.

3 DM: -- uh, later on.

4 NL: Good place.

5 DM: I just got to visit for the first time.

6 (unintelligible) like it.

7 NL: Well, Newark isn't very New Jersey. I mean there

8 are nicer places than -- than Newark. Newark's sort

9 of like Arcadia.

10 DM: Yes, it is.

11 NL: You know?

12 DM: I -- I know Arcadia, so I know how --

13 NL: Oh, okay. Well I do mean that, and I said it out of

14 the side of my mouth.

15 DM: No, no, you're fine.

16 NL: Um --

17 DM: Um, yeah, I -- I try to stay away from there.

18 NL: So -- so maybe you can answer this for me. So, how

19 long does this process take in terms of

20 investigating this and --

21 DM: Well, we -- we talk to everybody, um, so really it

22 all depends on how quickly we can get through all

23 the interviews. Um, some people, you know, they

24 take things like this a little bit harder, so it's

25 harder for them to sit here and talk about it, um,



1 so realistically we'll -- we'll be here for most of  
2 the night trying to -- trying to get through  
3 everybody. Um, we'll talk to every -- all the  
4 visitors that had signed up and then we'll talk to  
5 all the officers and whoever was outside at the  
6 time.

7 NL: Oh, my heart breaks for Lee. Just -- I mean it  
8 breaks for Mary. She's such a sweet lady.

9 DM: Absolutely.

10 NL: I mean Lee -- I mean I don't know what -- I don't  
11 know internally how things go, who checks the  
12 bullets or any of that. I mean I don't know whose -  
13 - whose responsibility that is --

14 DM: Right.

15 NL: -- but it's such a horrendous accident.

16 DM: Right. No, I -- I couldn't tell you who's --

17 NL: I know. No, and I don't --

18 DM: -- specifically responsible here, so --

19 NL: No, no, no, I just should not -- should let it be.

20 DM: Okay. Um, one last thing before I turn this off. I  
21 just wanna make sure. Um, do me a favor; raise your  
22 right hand for me. Do you swear that everything  
23 you've told me here is the truth, the whole truth,  
24 and nothing but the truth?

25 NL: Yes, I do.

1 DM: Okay. Thank you. Um, it is now 9:35, and I'll be  
2 ending this interview.

3 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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24 Transcribed by: hmc/hmc/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF PATRICIA OLIVA, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MO = Special Agent Mike Ortiz

6 PO = Patricia Oliva

7 MO: Good evening. I'm Special Agent Mike Ortiz of the  
8 Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's date  
9 is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Time is 11:31 p.m. I'll be  
10 taking a sworn statement from white, female  
11 Patricia, Pat, Oliva, O-L-I-V-A. Mrs. Oliva's date  
12 of birth is 3/6 of 1954. Home address is [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED]. And, Mrs.  
14 Oliva, can I get your telephone number, cell phone?

15 PO: Uh, [REDACTED].

16 MO: Mrs. Oliva's contact phone number is [REDACTED].  
17 Uh, tonight's interview is taking place at the Punta  
18 Gorda Police Department, 1410 Tamiami Trail in Punta  
19 Gorda, Florida. Uh, specifically, we're in the, uh -  
20 - uh, the office of the accreditation manager. Uh,  
21 Mrs. Oliva, can you, please, state your name and  
22 your date of birth?

23 PO: Patricia Oliva, 3/6/54.

24 MO: And Mrs. Oliva, you know the meaning of perjury?

25 PO: Yes.

26 MO: In your own words, can you tell me what perjury is?

1 PO: Lying under oath.

2 MO: Yes, ma'am. At this time, will you allow me to swear  
3 you in for the purpose of taking a sworn statement?

4 PO: Yes.

5 MO: Please, raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
6 raised. Do you, Patricia Oliva, solemnly swear to  
7 tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
8 truth in the matter we're about to discuss?

9 PO: I do.

10 MO: Very good. And the reason why we're here today is,  
11 it -- it involves an officer-involved, uh, discharge  
12 of a firearm that occurred at the, uh, Punta Gorda  
13 Police Department on this date. Uh, Mrs. Oliva, uh,  
14 direct your attention to, uh, I guess, uh, your  
15 arrival at the police department, uh, today. Can you  
16 give me a little background on what time you came to  
17 the police department and for what reason?

18 PO: I came here about a quarter after 5. We were having  
19 a chamber night, uh, with chamber members with the  
20 police doing, um, a citizen's academy.

21 MO: Okay.

22 PO: And we had gone through the different steps and the  
23 last thing -- well, not the last thing, but the  
24 thing was to go outside and see the shoot, don't  
25 shoot.

1 MO: Okay. And when you arrived today, is it Chamber of  
2 Commerce for Punta --

3 PO: Punta Gorda Chamber.

4 MO: -- Punta Gorda Chamber. And what do you do at the  
5 chamber?

6 PO: I'm the Marketing and Recruitment Manager.

7 MO: Okay. And prior to your arrival, did you have any  
8 idea what you would be doing at the chamber tonight?

9 PO: Um, I did. Not anybody else, only because they sent  
10 me a schedule, you know --

11 MO: Okay.

12 PO: -- on what was gonna happen and all that.

13 MO: Okay. And what -- what did -- basically was -- was  
14 tonight's training or chamber going to entail?

15 PO: Just telling about the police department and see the  
16 workings in the different departments, and, um --  
17 and they tried to make a little fun out of it, you  
18 know, to do the shoot, don't shoot, and then the  
19 Taser, but we never got to that point.

20 MO: Okay. So, when you arrived at 5:15, now, from you  
21 told me you, uh, got some prior, uh, information of  
22 what was gonna, uh --

23 PO: Uh-huh.

24 MO: -- were you part of setting this up tonight?

25 PO: Um --

1 MO: Or coordinating the activities?

2 PO: -- well, I was -- I was the one that told them,  
3 "Let's do it." 'Cause the chamber members love it.

4 MO: Okay.

5 PO: And we've sold -- we'd filled it up right away. And,  
6 matter of fact, they wanted to do a second night --

7 MO: Okay.

8 PO: -- you know, so --

9 MO: So, this was a one night --

10 PO: -- yes.

11 MO: -- uh, thing? Okay. And what time period was this  
12 supposed to last for?

13 PO: It was supposed to go from 5:30 to 7:30.

14 MO: 5:30 to 7:30? Okay. And were any refreshments  
15 served?

16 PO: They had cookies and water, and --

17 MO: Oh. Cookies and water? Okay. Any alcohol?

18 PO: -- no.

19 MO: Okay. Um, so you arrived at 5:15. Did you come  
20 alone, or did you come with someone?

21 PO: My husband is with me.

22 MO: And what's your husband's name?

23 PO: Richard. Same last name.

24 MO: Okay. And before I forget, did you take any video or  
25 photographs --

1 PO: No.

2 MO: -- of tonight's events?

3 PO: No.

4 MO: Okay. So, you arrive at 5:15 with your husband,  
5 Richard. And where did you -- what did you do first  
6 when you came in?

7 PO: When we came in everybody was waiting in the front  
8 hallway, and, uh, then I found Gloria and she led us  
9 back in here to the room where we were --

10 MO: And who's Gloria?

11 PO: -- the accrediting manager that you're sitting in  
12 her office.

13 MO: Okay. So, the --

14 PO: Yeah.

15 MO: -- listener --

16 PO: That's okay.

17 MO: -- or whoever listens or reads the transcript, they  
18 know who Gloria is.

19 PO: That's okay.

20 MO: Okay. Um, did there come a time when you went back  
21 in the classroom?

22 PO: Yes.

23 MO: And what took place in the classroom?

24 PO: We were just all taking a seat and, um -- uh, Tom --  
25 Chief Tom Lewis got up there to start everything

1 off. And it was him first, you know, saying  
2 different statistics of the police department and,  
3 um -- and then he had a little book, notebook,  
4 prepared on the thing, and he said, "Everybody look  
5 in the back of the book. I have four business cards  
6 out there. Two say Taser. Two say" -- uh, ammo or  
7 something, gun or something. And, um --

8 MO: Two say what? Two say?

9 PO: -- two say Taser.

10 MO: Two say Taser?

11 PO: And that's how he was picking his people to --

12 MO: Okay.

13 PO: -- participate in the demonstration. And Mary, the  
14 lady that got hurt, um, where she was sitting she  
15 didn't have a business card in her book. So, she  
16 said to her husband, "I was sitting back at this  
17 table first. I'm gonna see if that book has one."  
18 And it did. So, she took the card from the table  
19 behind her.

20 MO: So, these cards -- these cards and notebooks, they  
21 were all random?

22 PO: Yeah.

23 MO: Correct?

24 PO: Yeah.

25 MO: There was no assigned seating?



1 PO: No.

2 MO: So, it was random?

3 PO: Yeah. Everybody just sat where they wanted to sit.

4 MO: Okay. And she picked a card that had ammo or --

5 PO: Yeah.

6 MO: -- gun, or something --

7 PO: Yeah.

8 MO: -- like that in there?

9 PO: So, it was her and another lady that got picked for  
10 the gun.

11 MO: Okay. And when Chief Lewis gave his initial  
12 presentation, did he go over, uh, tonight's  
13 activities?

14 PO: Uh, they were doing it step-by-step as it went  
15 along. So, in his 30 minutes he basically told what  
16 was gonna happen, you know, what -- all the things  
17 we were gonna see.

18 MO: Okay.

19 PO: And then we broke up into little, small groups and,  
20 you know, went, uh, into the detectives' room and  
21 the -- you know, the mail room and all that. Had --  
22 had broken up into little groups. And then we went  
23 and met back into the big room --

24 MO: Okay. And what group were you with?

25 PO: -- I was in the second group of people.

- 1 MO: And who led your group?
- 2 PO: Jason Chaschini [phonetic].
- 3 MO: Okay. And -- how many people were in your group?
- 4 PO: Ten. There were just around 10 people in each --
- 5 MO: Ten? So, 10 people in each group?
- 6 PO: -- yeah. Just about --
- 7 MO: So, three groups?
- 8 PO: -- yeah. Uh-huh.
- 9 MO: Okay. So, uh, Captain Chaschini -- am I getting his  
10 name right?
- 11 PO: Chaschini. Yeah.
- 12 MO: Chaschini. Okay. Um, he led you -- basically gave  
13 you a tour?
- 14 PO: Yes.
- 15 MO: Okay. And did there come a time when you ended up  
16 outside?
- 17 PO: Yeah.
- 18 MO: Okay.
- 19 PO: After we went back into the room -- we all met back  
20 in the room, and then, um, Chief Lewis said, "We're  
21 gonna go outside now."
- 22 MO: Okay.
- 23 PO: And the two ladies that drew the -- the gun card  
24 stayed inside.
- 25 MO: Okay.

1 PO: And we all went outside and, um --

2 MO: Who -- who -- who drew the other gun card?

3 PO: -- her name was Debbie Malinowski [phonetic].

4 MO: Debbie Malinowski? Okay.

5 PO: Yeah. And, uh -- so, she was in here and Mary was in

6 here, and, um, we were outside. And then they were

7 showing the bicycle, the police car. They were

8 showing all that stuff. In the meantime, they were

9 showing Mary and Debbie, I guess, about the, uh, gun

10 that they -- she was gonna use.

11 MO: In here?

12 PO: Yeah.

13 MO: In the classroom?

14 PO: Yeah.

15 MO: Were you privy to that?

16 PO: No.

17 MO: Okay.

18 PO: No.

19 MO: So, you -- you didn't witness that, right?

20 PO: No.

21 MO: Did you --

22 PO: I just know that -- I mean they kept them back here

23 to get them set up for that.

24 MO: -- now, how do you know that?

25 PO: You know -- well, when they came out, um, Jeff --

1           what's his name? Jeff?

2   MO:   Woodard?

3   PO:   Yes.

4   MO:   Okay.

5   PO:   He, uh, was carrying the gun that Mary was gonna

6           hold, and, um -- and then went out and went over

7           everything. Chief Lewis went over with the --

8           putting the -- the thing in the gun and showing them

9           that it was a pellet and all that. And, uh --

10  MO:   Okay. Who was -- would you call that a safety

11          briefing?

12  PO:   -- yeah.

13  MO:   Who was doing the safety briefing?

14  PO:   Uh, actually Chief Tom Lewis did it out there.

15  MO:   Okay. And --

16  PO:   With Jeff. He -- you know, he said to Jeff, "Did you

17          show her this?" And, you know.

18  MO:   -- so, it was -- uh, it was Chief Lewis and Jeff

19          Woodard?

20  PO:   Yeah.

21  MO:   That were doing -- but who was predominantly doing

22          the safety briefing?

23  PO:   Um, they really both did it.

24  MO:   Okay. And what kind of safety were they -- tell me

25          more about the safety? What they were --

1 PO: Just showing -- you know, telling her about the  
2 pellet that -- he said, "The pellet could hurt you."  
3 Not like a bullet, you know, but the pellet could  
4 hurt you if you -- you know, if she -- if you got  
5 hit with it, and all that. And it had, like, blue  
6 suds in it or something.

7 MO: -- okay.

8 PO: And --

9 MO: And was he -- was he telling -- was he explaining to  
10 Mary or was he explaining to Mary as well as the  
11 audience?

12 PO: -- yes. He was explaining --

13 MO: Mary and --

14 PO: -- to everybody.

15 MO: -- the audience? So, everybody had an idea --

16 PO: Yeah.

17 MO: -- of what kind of --

18 PO: Yeah.

19 MO: -- weapon, safety --

20 PO: Right.

21 MO: -- that was -- uh --

22 PO: And Mary had some questions. She was asking her  
23 questions and they were answering her.

24 MO: -- okay. What kind of questions was Mary asking?

25 PO: Just double-checking herself on the use of the gun

1 and all that. And they put the clip in and, um, you  
2 know, she was all set to go. And they gave her the  
3 gun and then she went over to the car --

4 MO: Okay.

5 PO: -- where --

6 MO: Okay. Now, was she right or left-handed. Do you  
7 remember?

8 PO: -- hmm? I think right handed.

9 MO: Okay.

10 PO: I'm not 100 percent sure.

11 MO: Okay. Um, so the scenario? Tell me about what type  
12 of scenario was gonna take place with Mary?

13 PO: Well, it was supposed to be -- somebody was supposed  
14 to be looking into the cars, you know --

15 MO: Okay.

16 PO: -- like, breaking into the car, which was Officer  
17 Coel.

18 MO: Okay.

19 PO: And, um, he had a hoodie thing on and was walking  
20 around and Mary went over to him, and, uh, he said,  
21 "I'm looking for my dog." Or something. And she  
22 said, "What do you mean, 'your dog'?" And next think  
23 you know, um, he shot the gun. He shot his gun. It  
24 was, like, three shots. And Mary fell to the floor.  
25 And when she fell to the floor, at first, we all

1 thought it was part of the thing, you know, that she  
2 was kidding. But then she was bleeding and they were  
3 working on her for a very long time.

4 MO: Okay. Prior to the three shots did you hear Mary  
5 engage this -- and I'm doing this in quotes that --  
6 that the suspect or the role-player --

7 PO: Well, she -- I mean, I don't think Mary was going to  
8 shoot the gun. I really don't.

9 MO: -- okay. Did she give any commands?

10 PO: Uh, she -- she just kept asking him questions, you  
11 know, like, as far as, "What are you doing?" And all  
12 that.

13 MO: Okay.

14 PO: And then --

15 MO: Okay.

16 PO: -- when he was, uh -- Lee went around the front of  
17 the car and next thing you know it was the three  
18 shots went off.

19 MO: Okay. And let me ask you this, was Mary wearing any  
20 protective gear? Was she issued any goggles, any  
21 head gear?

22 PO: I -- I -- she had goggles on.

23 MO: So, she had goggles on?

24 PO: Yeah. Yeah.

25 MO: Any type of chest protector or anything --

1 PO: No.

2 MO: -- like that?

3 PO: No.

4 MO: Okay. And prior to -- I know Mary was giving or --

5 and the audience was privy to seeing a safety

6 briefing on Mary's weapon.

7 PO: Uh-huh.

8 MO: Uh, the role-playing officer, was there any type of,

9 uh --

10 PO: No.

11 MO: -- safety, uh, briefing done with him with the

12 audience or --

13 PO: No.

14 MO: -- Mary shown that he's got a safety gun, too, with,

15 uh --

16 PO: No.

17 MO: -- pellets?

18 PO: No.

19 MO: Um, did you ever see a firearm on the role player?

20 Was he wearing a holster? Could you see --

21 PO: Uh --

22 MO: -- a firearm prior to --

23 PO: -- no, I didn't see --

24 MO: -- the shots?

25 PO: -- only when he shot.



- 1 MO: Only when he shot?
- 2 PO: Yeah. It was, like, he took the gun and -- and then
- 3 just shot.
- 4 MO: And when he took the gun, do you know where he took
- 5 the gun from?
- 6 PO: I think a pocket.
- 7 MO: Pocket?
- 8 PO: 'Cause he had like a hoodie on, a big hoodie. So, I
- 9 think, he --
- 10 MO: Okay.
- 11 PO: -- it came out of a pocket.
- 12 MO: Can you describe the gun to me? Do you remember?
- 13 PO: No.
- 14 MO: Okay.
- 15 PO: No. By that time everybody was just beside
- 16 themselves with Mary being on the floor.
- 17 MO: Okay. When Mary went to the floor, how did she fall?
- 18 PO: Well, first she went down and then it was like she
- 19 flipped over and she just fell on her face.
- 20 MO: Okay. So, she initially fell on her face?
- 21 PO: When she went down she was, like, on her back and
- 22 then just flipped over.
- 23 MO: Okay. So, she initially went down on her back and
- 24 then --
- 25 PO: Yeah.

1 MO: -- okay. Did you see any type of wound?

2 PO: I didn't, no.

3 MO: Okay. And how far away were you from this scenario?

4 PO: Oh. Maybe 20, 30 feet.

5 MO: Okay. And were you -- were you next to your husband,

6 Richard?

7 PO: Uh, he was -- I was, like, here and he was, like,

8 over here.

9 MO: Okay. When you -- 'cause, like --

10 PO: Well, I -- oh, yeah.

11 MO: -- now --

12 PO: I forgot. I'm sorry. Yeah. I was, uh, to the right

13 here, the right side, and he was, like, two people

14 away from me --

15 MO: -- okay.

16 PO: -- on the -- on my left-hand --

17 MO: So, you were --

18 PO: -- side.

19 MO: -- so, you were to his right and he was to your --

20 PO: Yeah. I was --

21 MO: -- you to his right?

22 PO: -- to his right, yeah.

23 MO: Okay.

24 PO: And he was to my left.

25 MO: Two --

1 PO: Yeah.

2 MO: -- people away?

3 PO: Yeah.

4 MO: Okay. After Mary went down, what happened? Did she -  
5 - was she -- was she responsive? Did she make any  
6 statements?

7 PO: No. She was -- they were working on her. They --

8 MO: Okay.

9 PO: -- were -- they were doing compressions on her. They  
10 called the fire department and they ran over to the  
11 fire department to get the EMT guys over here.

12 MO: Okay.

13 PO: And -- I mean and that happened real fast, but they  
14 were working on her real bad.

15 MO: Okay.

16 PO: The only thing that I'm really upset over is, um, I  
17 just wish they would've told us something --

18 MO: Uh-huh.

19 PO: -- all through the night, instead of just -- I mean  
20 I'm sitting here as the last one, and I just -- my  
21 son texted me and said, uh -- you know, that she  
22 died, and somebody else texted and said that she  
23 died, and it's on the news and all that. So, I  
24 would've much rather hear it from them --

25 MO: Uh-huh.

1 PO: -- then hearing it like this, you know.

2 MO: Right. And the role-playing officer, did he make any  
3 statements after the shooting?

4 PO: No.

5 MO: No?

6 PO: No.

7 MO: Okay.

8 PO: Not that I saw, no. Because then what happened was  
9 Gloria, the accreditation manager, here, um, was  
10 getting everybody back in the room. She wanted  
11 everybody out because they were working on Mary.

12 MO: So, was that pretty quick that you folks were moved  
13 back into the --

14 PO: Yeah. Yeah. She --

15 MO: -- okay.

16 PO: -- they tried real hard to --

17 MO: Did you hear any -- anybody make any spontaneous  
18 statements or anything? But -- maybe different  
19 perspective what somebody saw or anything like that?

20 PO: -- no. I mean there was some people that were close  
21 and saw that Mary was bleeding.

22 MO: Okay.

23 PO: You know, uh, closer than where I was, you know.

24 MO: Okay. Uh, Mrs. Oliva, that's all the questions that  
25 I have.

1 PO: Okay.

2 MO: Is there anything that you can think of that I may  
3 have not asked?

4 PO: I don't think so.

5 MO: Okay.

6 PO: I think --

7 MO: Has everything you've told me been the truth, to the  
8 best of your knowledge and belief?

9 PO: -- yes.

10 MO: Okay. That'll conclude today -- this evening's  
11 interview. Uh, again, today's date is August the 9<sup>th</sup>,  
12 2016. The time is 11:45 p.m. Thank you, Mrs. Oliva.

13 PO: Thank you.

14 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: erz/erz/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF PEGGY ANDREWS, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)  
4

5 CT: Special Agent Christopher Tiso

6 PA: Peggy Andrews

7 US: Unidentified Speaker

8 PA: Where is your office?

9 CT: I'm going to set up right now.

10 PA: Okay.

11 CT: Okay. My name is Christopher Tiso. I am a Special  
12 Agent with the Florida Department of Law  
13 Enforcement, out of Fort Myers.

14 PA: Okay.

15 CT: Um, today's date is August 9th, 2016. Time is  
16 currently 9:53 p.m. This is in reference to an  
17 incident which occurred at the Punta Gorda Police  
18 Department, located at 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta  
19 Gorda, Florida, 33950. I'll be taking a sworn taped  
20 statement from Peggy Andrews, A-N-D-R-E-W-S. Date  
21 of birth December 12th, 1956. Living at 25665 Aysen  
22 Drive, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33983. Okay. Is it  
23 okay if I call you Peggy --

24 PA: Yes.

25 CT: -- or Ms. Andrews?

26 PA: No, Peggy.

1 CT: What do you prefer? Okay.

2 PA: Yeah.

3 CT: Okay, Peggy, before we begin do you know what  
4 perjury is?

5 PA: Perjury is lying under oath.

6 CT: Correct. And it could be done in one of two ways.

7 Um, you could either tell an outright lie or leave  
8 out all or part of information, in order to mislead  
9 an investigation. Okay.

10 PA: Okay.

11 CT: And we tell everyone that in the state of Florida if  
12 you commit perjury it is a misdemeanor. Okay.

13 PA: Okay.

14 CT: Um, being a law enforcement officer I'm empowered to  
15 swear you in under oath. So, would you please raise  
16 your right hand? Swear or affirm to tell the truth,  
17 the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

18 PA: I do.

19 CT: Okay. Okay. Very well. Peggy, if you would, just  
20 start from the beginning -- when you got here  
21 tonight -- um, all the way to the very end, being as  
22 detailed as possible.

23 PA: Okay. We came in. We were taken to, uh, like a  
24 conference room. And there were what looked like  
25 little, uh, law enforcement passport books on the

1 table, and pens. And, uh, like a badge, um, decal.  
2 And Chief Lewis was starting the presentation, and  
3 said, "Look inside the little notebook passport  
4 thing, and you might have a business card" that  
5 would say either "Taser" or, um, "Glock" I think. I  
6 forget -- I forget exactly what it said.

7 CT: Okay.

8 PA: And, um -- actually, my husband had the card that  
9 said "Taser" and he handed it to me, as he's kind of  
10 shy and I know a lot of the people that were there  
11 tonight. And, um, so then Captain Lewis asked who  
12 had. And I said, "Well, I do." And he -- he said,  
13 "What is it?" And I said, "Taser." And he said,  
14 "Okay, and you're going to be able to shoot a  
15 Taser." And, he said, "Who has the handgun or Glock  
16 card?" And first only one person raised their hand,  
17 and I said, "Oh, I'll do it." You now.

18 CT: Okay.

19 PA: And, uh, then this older woman, uh, said she had it.  
20 So, um, he went through his presentation and then he  
21 said he's going to break us out into three groups  
22 and we'd go through the police headquarters, and  
23 then go out and see, uh, some of the different cars  
24 and, um, the boat and things like that. And, um, I  
25 don't remember at that time he said we'd do the



1 little shooting exercise or not. I -- it might have  
2 been at that time. I'm not real sure.

3 CT: Okay.

4 PA: And so, we went out and, of course, everybody  
5 gathered around the police car. And somebody got in  
6 and set off the sirens and lights and stuff, and I  
7 went over and talked to the police officer with the  
8 boat and asked him a few questions. And then  
9 they're going, "Oh, you know, we got to come and do  
10 the, you know, gun demonstration because there's a  
11 storm coming in."

12 CT: Okay.

13 PA: "We got to get in before it rains." And, um, so  
14 we're all gathered around, "Hey," you know, and --  
15 and, um, they had this older woman -- who I learned  
16 her name is Mary. I -- I do not know Mary.

17 CT: Okay.

18 PA: And they said, you know, that "Officer So and So is  
19 over here telling her what to do" and all that. And  
20 -- and they had a couple of guys over here dressing  
21 up, you know, like bad guys. And he was explaining  
22 that, you know, Mary was going to kind of reenact  
23 what the police go through every day.

24 CT: Okay.

25 PA: You have to decide if it's a good guy or a bad guy,

1 and are you going to shoot him or not.

2 CT: Okay.

3 PA: And so, we're all, you know -- somebody is like,

4 "I'm going to hide behind the -- the Chief," you

5 know, and -- and so then they had Mary come over.

6 And he showed us the little fake Glock that she had,

7 and the little, um, gun and the magazine, I guess,

8 and that it had detergent in it.

9 CT: Okay.

10 PA: He was explaining all that to us. And he was, uh,

11 then showing her the index finger thing. And then,

12 um, an officer took her over to a police car to

13 explain a little bit more of what she needed to do

14 -- how she was going to interact with these bad

15 guys.

16 CT: Okay.

17 PA: And, um, so a bad guy comes out and Mary is doing

18 real well, you know. You know, like, "Stay calm.

19 Stay calm. I'm just here to" -- you know. And he's

20 like, "What are you hassling me for?" And -- and he

21 threw something on the top of the police car, and

22 she still has her hand down -- because the gun is in

23 her left hand. And he swings around the back of

24 this other police car, where he'd thrown the thing

25 on the top, and all the sudden you hear gunshots.

1 And Mary -- it's all kind of a blur, but Mary kind  
2 of like spun around and then she like started  
3 falling in slow motion and sort of went down on her  
4 knees, and then went down like this.

5 CT: Okay.

6 PA: And we're all like, "Wow. Really good acting."

7 CT: Right.

8 PA: You know.

9 CT: Right.

10 PA: And I guess when she didn't get up right away some  
11 of the other police officers went over to check on  
12 her, and -- and then rolled her over and then  
13 started calling for help.

14 CT: Okay. All right.

15 PA: So -- and then, um -- um, they told us to go back  
16 inside. And -- and --

17 CT: Okay. All right. And then everyone just waited in  
18 here?

19 PA: Yeah.

20 CT: Okay.

21 PA: Yeah.

22 CT: Okay.

23 PA: All of us -- I mean, we were saying prayers, you  
24 know.

25 CT: Oh --

1 PA: The whole group and everything.

2 CT: I can imagine.

3 PA: Yeah.

4 CT: I can imagine. Well, my first question was -- would  
5 be, did you happen to film it with, like, a -- your  
6 cell phone or anything?

7 PA: No, sir. No.

8 CT: Okay. Okay.

9 PA: There was a woman there with a camera taking  
10 pictures. Not -- I don't believe filming, but she  
11 was taking -- a redheaded woman taking -- had like a  
12 professional camera.

13 CT: Okay. All right. All right. So, when did you  
14 first get here tonight? Approximately.

15 PA: Um, 5:30.

16 CT: Okay.

17 PA: A little before. Because it was supposed to start  
18 at 5:30.

19 CT: Okay. So, you said they did a little presentation  
20 inside.

21 PA: Uh-huh.

22 CT: Um, then everyone went outside. Is that correct?

23 PA: Uh-huh.

24 CT: Um, and you were looking at the boat and police car  
25 and stuff like that?

1 PA: Uh-huh. Now, I can tell you -- if it helps -- um,  
2 somebody was like keeping -- timekeeping. And he  
3 said, "Chief, it's 5:55."  
4 CT: Was that an officer or a civilian?  
5 PA: It -- it was an officer.  
6 CT: Okay.  
7 PA: "It's 5:55." And so, um, Chief Lewis knew to wrap  
8 up so we could go outside.  
9 CT: Oh, okay.  
10 PA: And if that helps --  
11 CT: He was helping him with his time.  
12 PA: -- if that helps --  
13 CT: Okay. Yeah.  
14 PA: -- you at all.  
15 CT: Definitely.  
16 PA: Okay.  
17 CT: Okay.  
18 PA: Okay.  
19 CT: So, after everyone was looking at the boat and all  
20 that stuff --  
21 PA: Uh-huh.  
22 CT: -- sitting in the car, hitting the siren, then am I  
23 correct in saying you went over -- everyone went  
24 over to the scenario?  
25 PA: Yes.

1 CT: The gun scenario.

2 PA: Uh-huh.

3 CT: Did everyone go over together, as far as you know?

4 PA: Um, yeah. Yeah. Because, uh, Chief Lewis was going

5 -- um, you know, "Richie, everybody, get up here

6 close."

7 CT: Okay.

8 PA: Because there were like two police cars parked back

9 over here, and that's where the suspects were, you

10 know, geared --

11 CT: Okay.

12 PA: -- getting geared up and kind of hanging out. And

13 Chief Lewis said, "So and So, are you going to bring

14 a police car up?" Like for Mary to have stepped out

15 of.

16 CT: Right.

17 PA: So, they did. They brought a police car up --

18 CT: Okay.

19 PA: -- this way, then.

20 CT: All right. I'll stop you there, because I'm going

21 to probably --

22 PA: So --

23 CT: -- I'm going to ask for, like, that detail again.

24 PA: Okay.

25 CT: So, I don't want to have you to repeat --

1 PA: Okay.

2 CT: -- yourself.

3 PA: Okay.

4 CT: Okay. So -- so, everyone gets up to that area. And

5 I haven't even been back there. Okay.

6 PA: Uh-huh.

7 CT: So, I mean, like I said, I know very little. So,

8 I'm assuming it -- it was in the rear of the Punta

9 Gorda Police Department. Correct?

10 PA: Yes. Yes.

11 CT: Okay.

12 PA: Uh-huh.

13 CT: Okay. Now, did the scenario take place on blacktop

14 or on grass?

15 PA: Blacktop.

16 CT: On Blacktop. Okay. Now, where was everyone -- all

17 the spectators in relationship to the scenario? How

18 far, and where did they have you guys stand?

19 PA: There is a little, um -- okay, when you come out

20 these back doors there's, um, a berm --

21 CT: Okay.

22 PA: -- maybe -- sidewalk and -- and a berm.

23 CT: Okay.

24 PA: And we were all around the berm. Some of us were up

25 on the berm and some of us were just like -- maybe

1           there's, like, a driveway back here maybe.

2   CT:   Okay.

3   PA:   And so we were, like, huddled in the driveway.  And

4           I -- I actually believe Mary went down between the

5           two police cars that were over here.  There were

6           two.  And I think she went down in between them

7           here.

8   CT:   Okay.

9   PA:   So, she was -- we were all looking this way.

10  CT:   Okay.  So, you're all in that area.  And about how

11          many feet would you estimate, if you could, from --

12  PA:   Oh, I'm no good at that.

13  CT:   Okay.

14  PA:   I'm sorry.  I'm no good at that.

15  CT:   Close enough for -- did you have a clear view of

16          what happened?

17  PA:   Um, I thought I did.

18  CT:   Okay.

19  PA:   But, to tell you the truth, I never saw any blood or

20          holes or anything.

21  CT:   Okay.  Okay.

22  PA:   So, I -- I guess I wasn't that close, or I'm just

23          not very observant.

24  CT:   Okay.  No, that's fine.  That's fine.  So, everyone

25          spectating was in the area you just explained.



1 PA: Uh-huh.

2 CT: And on the blacktop area Mary was up there.

3 Correct?

4 PA: Uh-huh.

5 CT: And with how many officers would you estimate? And

6 do you know who they were? What -- the officers

7 that were in that area with Mary.

8 PA: I do -- I do not know them.

9 CT: Okay.

10 PA: The only officer I know is Chief Lewis.

11 CT: Okay.

12 PA: Okay.

13 CT: Was he up there with everyone?

14 PA: He was with us.

15 CT: He was with you guys.

16 PA: Yes.

17 CT: Okay.

18 PA: Yes.

19 CT: So, there were other officers you don't know up

20 there.

21 PA: The two dressed as the bad guys. And -- and

22 actually, only one bad guy was out with her.

23 CT: Okay.

24 PA: I had seen two earlier, but only one was out with

25 her.

1 CT: Okay. So, one was -- one officer was dressed like a  
2 bad guy.

3 PA: Uh-huh.

4 CT: Like, what -- what did he have? What did he wear?

5 PA: He had like a -- like a plastic thing over his head,  
6 but maybe like black goggles underneath it.

7 CT: Okay.

8 PA: And then, um, a sweatshirt and jeans.

9 CT: Okay.

10 PA: Yeah.

11 CT: So, he -- he wasn't wearing a police uniform in that  
12 --

13 PA: No, sir.

14 CT: Okay. Okay.

15 PA: Unless it was underneath the --

16 CT: Okay.

17 PA: -- the sweatshirt. But, um, he was -- he was  
18 dressed up like a bad guy.

19 CT: Okay. He was playing the bad guy.

20 PA: Yeah.

21 CT: Okay. All right. So, he was up there with Mary.  
22 Is that correct?

23 PA: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

24 CT: Okay. And how many vehicles were in this scenario?

25 PA: Well, like I said, the two.

1 CT: Okay.

2 PA: The two parked -- they were probably parked facing  
3 in. I -- I don't -- I honestly don't remember.

4 CT: Okay. No, that's fine.

5 PA: And then the one that they had pulled up here for  
6 her --

7 CT: Okay.

8 PA: -- to pretend she was the cop getting out of the  
9 car.

10 CT: Okay. So, they pretended she was the cop. Got out  
11 of the car.

12 PA: Uh-huh.

13 CT: And once the scenario began, where did she go?

14 PA: She walked -- okay, here's -- here's the car that  
15 she supposedly got out of.

16 CT: Okay.

17 PA: So, she walks over here.

18 CT: Okay.

19 PA: And here is the bad guy.

20 CT: Okay.

21 PA: And like I said, she's going -- you know, she's got  
22 the gun in this hand. She said -- and she's like,  
23 you know, "Calm down. Calm down." I mean, I don't  
24 hear her. This is the way it looks to me.

25 CT: Right.

1 PA: Okay. And he's like, well, you know, "Why do you --  
2 what are you coming after me for and why do you have  
3 your gun out?" And -- and then he went between the  
4 two cars that are over here.

5 CT: The other two cars.

6 PA: Yes.

7 CT: Not the one she pretended to get out of?

8 PA: Exactly.

9 CT: Okay.

10 PA: Exactly.

11 CT: Okay. So, he went between them?

12 PA: Yes.

13 CT: Okay.

14 PA: And that's when --

15 CT: And then what happened?

16 PA: -- he threw something onto the roof of the car.

17 CT: Do you remember what it was?

18 PA: I have no idea.

19 CT: Okay.

20 PA: It was something smallish.

21 CT: Okay.

22 PA: Okay. Um, and then he went behind the car and just  
23 spun around -- I didn't even see the gun he had. He  
24 spun around --

25 CT: Okay.

1 PA: -- and you heard gunshots.

2 CT: All right. So, you didn't actually see his gun.

3 PA: I did not.

4 CT: You just heard the shots.

5 PA: Exactly.

6 CT: Okay.

7 PA: And boy, were they loud.

8 CT: I -- I -- I can imagine. So, she -- she -- she

9 walked up with her pretend gun.

10 PA: Yes.

11 CT: Okay. And --

12 PA: And she didn't even have it raised. She --

13 CT: Okay.

14 PA: Yeah.

15 CT: All right. So, she didn't even have it raised. And

16 he went between the two vehicles. Correct?

17 PA: Uh-huh.

18 CT: And you said he spun around?

19 PA: He went behind --

20 CT: Behind the vehicle?

21 PA: Yes. And spun around.

22 CT: Okay. Okay. And then --

23 PA: Uh-huh.

24 CT: -- and then you heard the shots.

25 PA: Yes.

1 CT: Correct? Okay. And from there, what happened?

2 PA: Well, she -- like I said, she kind of spun around.

3 And I think her arms were kind of like this. And  
4 she kind of spun around, and then she started slowly  
5 falling. And she fell, like, to her knees and her  
6 hands first, and then she went down. And, you know,  
7 at first we thought it was -- it was acting. And  
8 then we thought, "Oh, my God, she must have had a  
9 heart attack from the sound of the shots."

10 CT: When the -- right.

11 PA: And it was like a split second, and a couple of  
12 police officers went over there and turned her over.  
13 And then I think Chief Lewis realized something was  
14 wrong, and he went over there.

15 CT: I got you.

16 PA: And they started screaming for EMS.

17 CT: Okay.

18 PA: And before I went in -- or, maybe I looked back, and  
19 I saw them working on her.

20 CT: Okay. Now, I don't know if you told me or not. Did  
21 they show you the gun that Mary was using?

22 PA: Yes.

23 CT: And that was -- that was a toy gun or something?

24 PA: It was -- Chief Lewis said it's just like the guns  
25 they use in training. It looks just like a Glock.

1 CT: Okay.

2 PA: Except it was, like, black and blue.

3 CT: Okay.

4 PA: It had blue plastic or something in it.

5 CT: Okay. Okay.

6 PA: But he says it looks just -- feels just like a Glock

7 you would use --

8 CT: Right.

9 PA: -- on the police force. But that's what they train

10 with.

11 CT: What if anything did they tell you about the officer

12 who played the bad guy -- his gun? Did they tell

13 you anything about his gun, like --

14 PA: Just that there were blanks in it.

15 CT: They told you that?

16 PA: Uh-huh.

17 CT: Okay. Did you get to actually, like, see it up

18 close or anything?

19 PA: No, sir.

20 CT: No?

21 PA: NO, sir.

22 CT: Who told you they were blanks?

23 PA: Uh, Chief Lewis, I believe.

24 CT: Chief Lewis?

25 PA: Yeah. Yeah.

1 CT: Okay. So, you -- you -- at least you -- I'm not  
2 going to say everyone else. You can't speak for  
3 them. But at least you were under the impression  
4 that the officer's gun were blanks.

5 PA: Right.

6 CT: Okay.

7 PA: Right.

8 CT: Okay. The -- the Chamber -- I'm not familiar --  
9 what is the -- the Chamber of --

10 PA: It -- this is the Chamber of Punta Gorda. There's  
11 three of them in town.

12 CT: Okay.

13 PA: There's the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce.

14 CT: Right.

15 PA: The Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce.

16 CT: Okay.

17 PA: And probably the Port Charlotte.

18 CT: Okay.

19 PA: I don't know.

20 CT: You're the Punta Gorda Chamber of --

21 PA: Yes.

22 CT: Okay. I just want to make sure I got that right.

23 PA: Yes.

24 CT: Okay. Punta Gorda Chamber. And about how many  
25 people were here in the Chamber, do you think?



1 PA: Um, I think they said there were 30.

2 CT: Okay. All right. Okay, Peggy. Is there anything  
3 else you could think of that may help our  
4 investigation, off the top of your head? I mean,  
5 you were pretty thorough, and I appreciate it.

6 PA: I can't think of anything that's going to help.  
7 But, I just want to say I do not want Chief Lewis to  
8 lose his job. He is wonderful for this community.  
9 I --

10 US: Hey, do you have a moment?

11 CT: Yeah.

12 US: Sorry to interrupt.

13 CT: Wondering if you had video. I told him we already  
14 asked that, so --

15 PA: Okay.

16 CT: No, that --

17 PA: I mean, because people are afraid he's going to lose  
18 his job over this. And it's a horrible, horrible  
19 accident.

20 CT: Oh, I'm -- I definitely agree. I definitely agree.  
21 And like I said --

22 PA: And he is --

23 CT: -- I -- I know very little. I mean, I know you --  
24 you may think that I'm saying that. I --  
25 realistically, I got here. We started interviewing,



1 (INTERVIEW OF PHIL CERCIELLO, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MO = Special Agent Mike Ortiz

6 PC = Phil Cerciello

7 MO: Good evening. I'm Special Agent Mike Ortiz of the  
8 Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's date  
9 is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The time is 11:03 p.m. Be  
10 taking a sworn statement from white male, Phil  
11 Vincent Cerciello, C-E-R-C-I-E-L-L-O. Mr.  
12 Cerciello's date of birth is 5/27/1953. Home  
13 address of 10096 Winding River Road, in Punta Gorda,  
14 Florida, 33950. Uh, Mr. Cerciello's, uh, cell phone  
15 number is 941-763-0289. Today's interview is taking  
16 place at the Punta Gorda Police Department at 1410  
17 Tamiami Trail in Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. Uh,  
18 we're specifically in the accreditation manager's  
19 office. Uh, Mr. Cerciello, can you please state  
20 your name and your date of birth?

21 PC: Uh, Phil Cerciello; May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1953.

22 MO: And Mr. Cerciello, do you know the meaning of  
23 perjury?

24 PC: Yes.

25 MO: In your own words can you tell me what perjury is?

26 PC: Lying under oath.

1 MO: Yes, sir. At this time will you allow me to swear  
2 you in for the purpose of taking a sworn statement?

3 PC: Sure.

4 MO: Please raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
5 raised. Do you, Phil Cerciello, solemnly swear to  
6 tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the  
7 truth, in the matter we're about to discuss?

8 PC: Yes, I do.

9 MO: Very good. Put your arm down. Uh, the reason why  
10 we're here tonight is an investigation of a officer-  
11 involved, uh, discharge his weapon. Um, and, uh,  
12 that's why we're here. So we're gonna start, uh,  
13 from, uh -- from the beginning when you arrived at  
14 the police department today. Uh, what time did you  
15 arrive at the Punta Gorda Police Department?

16 PC: Uh, 5:30.

17 MO: And what was the purpose of your visit today?

18 PC: Uh, through the Chamber of Commerce was supposed to  
19 be a citizen's, um, academy, learning about how the  
20 police department operates and --

21 MO: Okay. Was this a -- a one-time deal or was it --  
22 were you taking a series of police (unintelligible)?

23 PC: No, no, no. No, it was the first time that I  
24 (unintelligible) --

25 MO: Okay.

1 PC: Yeah.

2 MO: And did you receive any type of menu or an itinerary  
3 of what was supposed to take place this evening?

4 PC: Uh, yeah. Um, they went over, um, some statistics  
5 as far as, uh, budgets for the police department.

6 MO: Before then did you receive any advance notice --

7 PC: No.

8 MO: -- what was gonna be covered?

9 PC: No.

10 MO: Okay.

11 PC: No.

12 MO: And how long was this, uh, class supposed to take  
13 tonight?

14 PC: We had no idea. I had no idea.

15 MO: Okay. So -- but you knew it started at 5:30?

16 PC: I mean, it was a Chamber of Commerce event. Usually  
17 7, 7:30 usually the event is over with. So I --

18 MO: Okay.

19 PC: -- I imagine it was a typical Chamber of Commerce  
20 event.

21 MO: Okay. So this was actually a Chamber of Commerce  
22 event at the --

23 PC: Right.

24 MO: -- police department.

25 PC: Right.

1 MO: I get you. Okay. So you arrive at 5:30. And when  
2 you arrived where did you meet at?

3 PC: I parked on the side of the building, um, and, um,  
4 as I was coming in, Officer, um, Ludloff [phonetic]  
5 saw me and he let me in through the side door. And  
6 I came in and went to this conference room where we  
7 are right now.

8 MO: Okay. And other people have pointed to that room  
9 and called it the classroom.

10 PC: Classroom. Yeah.

11 MO: Would that be a --

12 PC: Yeah. Yeah, that classroom.

13 MO: -- would that be a fair --

14 PC: Yeah. Yes.

15 MO: Okay. So led you in the classroom. About how many  
16 people were there?

17 PC: Um, I didn't count 'em but I think there's about 35,  
18 40, somewhere around there.

19 MO: Okay. And when you came tonight were you by  
20 yourself?

21 PC: Yes.

22 MO: Okay. Uh, so when you arrived, um -- what took  
23 place when you arrived at the classroom?

24 PC: Well, we waited, uh -- they announced, uh, that we  
25 were still waiting for some other people to show up.

1 And then, um, Chief Lewis started the initiation  
2 with, uh, talking about budgets and how the police  
3 department operates and --

4 MO: Okay. And before -- let me back up a little bit.

5 And you're the first -- I knew it was a -- I was  
6 told it was a citizen's police academy, and now --

7 PC: Uh-huh.

8 MO: -- it's a Chamber of Commerce --

9 PC: But --

10 MO: -- event. And I've been to chamber of Commerce  
11 events before. Was there any alcohol being served?

12 PC: No. No.

13 MO: Any other refreshments?

14 PC: Uh, I believe they -- didn't they -- no, they didn't  
15 even have coffee, it was water.

16 MO: Didn't have coffee?

17 PC: Water and cookies.

18 MO: Water and cookies. Okay. All right. So thanks for  
19 -- 'cause I've been to chamber meetings before --

20 PC: Right. Right.

21 MO: -- where they've served alcohol --

22 PC: Yeah.

23 MO: -- and wine, so I just wanted to be clear that, you  
24 know --

25 PC: No, no, no.

1 MO: -- nobody had had anything --

2 PC: No.

3 MO: -- to drink. Which is not a problem, I just wanna  
4 know. Um, so the chief gets there and does he do a  
5 presentation, Chief Lewis?

6 PC: Yeah. Yeah.

7 MO: Okay. And --

8 PC: You know, a laptop on the screen on the --

9 MO: Okay.

10 PC: And he did a presentation of the, uh -- uh, first it  
11 was about the overall budget --

12 MO: Okay.

13 PC: -- you know, what it costs to run a police  
14 department, then it got into statistics: how many,  
15 um, employees, how many officers, how many cars and  
16 -- and broke everything down. Um --

17 MO: Okay. Um, after Chief Lewis' presentation, what  
18 transpired next?

19 PC: Then we took, um -- we split up in groups and took a  
20 tour of the police station.

21 MO: How many groups?

22 PC: I don't know.

23 MO: Okay.

24 PC: All I know is I was the first, uh, eight people.

25 MO: Okay. What group --



1 PC: (Unintelligible) --

2 MO: -- what group were you in?

3 PC: With -- with Lewis.

4 MO: With Chief Lewis?

5 PC: Chief Lewis. Yeah.

6 MO: Okay. And you -- you say you went on a tour?

7 PC: Yeah.

8 MO: Okay.

9 PC: Uh, from the detective, uh, room, the interrogation

10 room, um -- okay. I'm having a mental block here.

11 MO: It's all right. Take your time. You do a tour.

12 PC: Yeah.

13 MO: All right. And there come a time when the tour

14 ended and you went outside?

15 PC: Uh, well, tour ended and then we went back to the,

16 uh, classroom.

17 MO: Okay.

18 PC: Is that we call it? Conference room, whatever.

19 Classroom. And, uh -- and then he explained, um,

20 that, uh -- everybody had one of these in front of

21 'em, these booklets.

22 MO: Okay.

23 PC: And there's a business card in it.

24 MO: Okay.

25 PC: And he explained that there's only a couple that

1           would say either "Taser" or "weapon."  
2   MO:   Okay.  And you drew a card --  
3   PC:   Taser.  
4   MO:   -- that said "Taser?"  
5   PC:   Yeah.  
6   MO:   Okay.  I'm gonna take a picture of that.  
7   PC:   Sure.  
8   MO:   Okay?  And I'm gonna check and see if they want this  
9           for evidence.  Is that all right?  
10  PC:   Yeah.  
11  MO:   Yeah.  Because just -- how many cards were given  
12           out?  Do you know?  
13  PC:   I have no idea.  
14  MO:   Now when you -- when you got to -- was this on your  
15           seat when you got to the --  
16  PC:   Well, these, uh -- the, uh, seats were already, um -  
17           -  
18  MO:   Assigned?  
19  PC:   No.  
20  MO:   No?  
21  PC:   There was no assigned seats.  
22  MO:   Okay.  
23  PC:   But every seat had this booklet.  
24  MO:   Okay.  
25  PC:   But I'm -- I don't -- I'm not even sure now.  I

1            imagine with a -- a -- a business card in it and one  
2            of these in it.

3    MO:    And you're showing me a picture of the --

4    PC:    Punta Gorda shield.

5    MO:    -- the Punta Gorda Police Department, uh --

6    PC:    Right.

7    MO:    -- patch.

8    PC:    Patch.    Right.

9    MO:    Right.

10   PC:    Okay.    And -- and as people came in they would take  
11           a seat, I mean, at random.    And, um -- and we didn't  
12           even know it was in there until he mentioned that,  
13           "If you open your booklet, the ones that have a -- a  
14           business card will either say a weapon or a Taser."  
15           Uh, I never found out what Taser was supposed to be  
16           --

17   MO:    Okay.

18   PC:    -- um, because we never got there.

19   MO:    Okay.

20   PC:    But, uh, the one with the weapon, he explained that,  
21           um, we were gonna go outside and demonstrate, um,  
22           some of the things that an officer goes through when  
23           they get a -- a call, uh, whether it be somebody  
24           just looking in their car or a break-in or -- and  
25           it's gotta a -- a life, uh, instant decision whether

1 to shoot or not.

2 MO: Okay.

3 PC: So -- and the, uh -- he said, and, you know, the  
4 people -- that's what the people with the weapon  
5 card meant. Um, and then we went outside.

6 MO: Okay.

7 PC: First we went outside to, uh -- we saw a display of  
8 the police cars, the boat, uh, the bicycle. Uh,  
9 they demonstrated on the police car the sirens, the  
10 lights, the laptops. Um, and then they kind of  
11 rushed it a little bit because dark clouds were  
12 coming in and it looked like it was gonna rain. So  
13 they wanted to get the demonstration over with and  
14 we went on this other -- on the other side of the  
15 building. And they pulled the car up. Um, they  
16 pulled one of the police cars up. And, uh, there  
17 was an officer that, um, put a mask on to protect  
18 his eyes because, um, Mary, the lady that was one of  
19 the volunteers -- well, I don't know if you call  
20 that a volunteer, but, I mean --

21 MO: So you think she got a card, too?

22 PC: Yeah.

23 MO: Okay.

24 PC: Yeah. Um, she had the -- she had a -- a -- a pellet  
25 gun. I don't know. It would, uh, shoot paint

1           bullets.

2   MO:   Okay.

3   PC:   Okay?  But he did say that if you hit one of those,

4           it -- it stinks.

5   MO:   Right.

6   PC:   Um, and he was explaining to Mary how to use it,

7           load it, keep your finger off your -- uh, keep the

8           finger off the, uh, trigger.  Um, never put your

9           finger on the trigger unless you're ready to fire

10          it.

11  MO:   And who's giving her the safety instruction?

12  PC:   Lewis.

13  MO:   Chief Lewis?

14  PC:   Chief Lewis.

15  MO:   Okay.

16  PC:   Right.

17  MO:   All right.

18  PC:   Um, the same time the, uh -- the officer that was in

19          plain clothes with a hoodie on, and had a mask on to

20          protect his eyes from, I guess, the paint, if she

21          got that far as far as shooting him.  Um, so they

22          initiated the demonstration by, you know, getting a

23          call that somebody's looking around the car.  Mary,

24          uh, slowly approached the, uh, vehicle while, uh --

25          what do I call, the suspect or a cop?

1 MO: Suspect.

2 PC: Okay. While the suspect is looking in the car and  
3 was talking on the phone. And, uh, I didn't quite  
4 hear because people -- you talk about 40 people were  
5 all talking. I'm not quite sure what Mary said as  
6 she approached him. Meanwhile she had a gun by her  
7 side.

8 MO: Okay.

9 PC: The pellet gun.

10 MO: Do you remember if she was using her right hand or  
11 left hand? Okay.

12 PC: Left hand.

13 MO: Left hand? Okay.

14 PC: Only because when, uh, Lewis was demonstrating to  
15 her, and to keep the finger on this side here --

16 MO: Right.

17 PC: -- above -- not on the trigger, she said, "Well, I'm  
18 left-handed so I'll have to put it on the other  
19 side." So, um -- but -- so anyway, so she -- she  
20 approached the -- the suspect and they exchanged  
21 words, and the suspect, uh, threw the phone on top  
22 of the roof. And --

23 MO: The roof of the car or the building?

24 PC: Yes.

25 MO: Uh, the -- okay.

1 PC: The -- the car. Yeah.

2 MO: Okay.

3 PC: And, um, meanwhile she still has her weapon, um, on  
4 the side of her leg, hanging down.

5 MO: Okay.

6 PC: And the agitated, uh, suspect walks behind the car  
7 and -- I couldn't tell if he pulled -- the weapon  
8 was already on the car or -- it doesn't look like he  
9 pulled it out of him.

10 MO: Okay.

11 PC: Okay? It looked like he pulled it from the car,  
12 from the hood of the car, because you couldn't see  
13 'cause the car was parked --

14 MO: Uh-huh.

15 PC: -- facing the other way. And shot three -- I think  
16 it was three shots.

17 MO: Okay.

18 PC: I think it was three shots.

19 MO: Okay.

20 PC: It was loud. Um, Mary was a little older. And  
21 first we -- and she -- soon as the -- the three  
22 shots went off Mary, um, lurched over -- leaned  
23 over, and we thought because either she was --  
24 everybody was saying, "Oh, my God. She's cracking  
25 up." Either she was laughing or it was so loud that

1 it scared her.

2 MO: Right.

3 PC: But then she was going slowly lower and lower, and  
4 all of a sudden everybody kept quiet 'cause they  
5 couldn't figure out what the hell was going on. And  
6 then the minute that she fell over onto her face,  
7 that's when everybody went over there.

8 MO: Okay.

9 PC: And that's when we realized something was wrong.

10 MO: Okay. Um, how far back were you from the scenario?

11 PC: Uh, 20 feet.

12 MO: Twenty feet? Okay. And I know before we went on,  
13 uh, the pre-interview I asked you if you took any  
14 photos or videos.

15 PC: Right.

16 MO: Yes or no?

17 PC: No.

18 MO: No. Okay. And when Mary went down was she -- did  
19 you ever see her become responsive after that?

20 PC: Uh-uh.

21 MO: Say yes or --

22 PC: No, I ran over there, too.

23 MO: Okay.

24 PC: And (unintelligible) I was one of the guys that was  
25 in the front --



1 MO: Okay.

2 PC: -- and when everybody ran over there, obviously  
3 there was something wrong where she hit her face on  
4 the, um -- and, uh, Lewis was yelling, [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] It looks like she was  
6 having convulsion or, um, blacking out.

7 MO: Okay.

8 PC: And when they saw some blood spots here --

9 MO: And you're pointing to your stomach area?

10 PC: Yeah.

11 MO: Middle chest?

12 PC: Yeah. Right -- right about here.

13 MO: Okay.

14 PC: Um, when they realized that, they ripped the shirt  
15 and that's when, uh, I saw blood gushing out of a  
16 hole.

17 MO: Okay.

18 PC: Now for the life of me I couldn't understand how  
19 that -- my first thought was that when he shot the  
20 blank, that she got so scared that maybe he pulled  
21 the -- the pellet gun --

22 MO: Right.

23 PC: -- the paint gun --

24 MO: Right.

25 PC: -- maybe she jerked and shot herself.

1 MO: Right.

2 PC: At that close range, I mean, it could penetrate.

3 Who knows, right?

4 MO: Right.

5 PC: That's what I thought at first. Um, and nobody knew

6 for sure what happened. Nobody knew until Chief

7 Lewis came in and -- and said [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 MO: Okay. Now after Mary went down did the officer  
10 doing the role playing, did he make any statements?

11 Did he say anything?

12 PC: Who?

13 MO: The officer doing the role playing that discharged

14 his firearm, did he make --

15 PC: [REDACTED] --" he just kept saying, [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

17 MO: Okay.

18 PC: Um --

19 MO: Okay. Do you know who that officer was?

20 PC: Yeah, Officer Lee.

21 MO: Officer Lee. Okay.

22 PC: I mean I know all these people.

23 MO: Right.

24 PC: I know all these officers. They all come to the

25 restaurant and eat. I know most of 'em personally.

1 I just can't fathom something like this happening.

2 MO: Right. Um, obviously resuscitation efforts were --  
3 were -- were being performed, as well?

4 PC: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

5 MO: Uh, at any point were you directed to go back in the  
6 building?

7 PC: Oh, no, as soon -- well, as soon as they realized  
8 that blood was coming out --

9 MO: Right.

10 PC: -- they -- they pushed everybody back.

11 MO: Okay. And where'd they push everybody back to?

12 PC: Back to where we were, 20 --

13 MO: Okay.

14 PC: -- feet away.

15 MO: Okay. And did there come a time when you went back  
16 in the building?

17 PC: Yeah, actually they told us to go back inside --

18 MO: Okay.

19 PC: -- and then they asked us to -- not to leave until --  
20 -

21 MO: Okay.

22 PC: -- we find out what (unintelligible).

23 MO: Did -- did you hear any statements from any of the  
24 witnesses, what they may have saw or  
25 (unintelligible)?

1 PC: It -- we were all speculating.

2 MO: Okay.

3 PC: Okay? It was either who shot that she was having a  
4 heart attack.

5 MO: Okay.

6 PC: Um, at first they thought -- like I said, they  
7 thought they -- she was laughing, cracking up. Um,  
8 nobody knew. It was nothing but speculations.

9 MO: Okay. Um, that's all the questions that I have  
10 right now. Is there anything that you can think of  
11 that I may not have asked you that you feel may be  
12 important?

13 PC: Uh, no. No.

14 MO: Okay.

15 PC: Um, no.

16 MO: Okay. Um, is there anything that you wanna add,  
17 change or delete from the statement that you just  
18 provided?

19 PC: That's my recollection.

20 MO: Okay. And has everything you've told me been the  
21 truth to the best of your knowledge and belief?

22 PC: Yes.

23 MO: All right. That'll conclude today's -- or this  
24 evening's interview. Today's date is August 9<sup>th</sup>,  
25 2016. The time is 11:21. Thank you, Mr. Cerciello.

(CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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8 Transcribed by: jak/jak/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF RICHARD OLIVA, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT = Christopher Tissot

6 RO = Richard Oliva

7 CT: My name is Christopher Tissot. I'm a special agent  
8 with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement out  
9 of Fort Myers. Today's date is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The  
10 time is currently 11:32 p.m. This is in reference to  
11 an incident which occurred at the Punta Gorda Police  
12 Department, 1410 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda,  
13 Florida. I'll be taking a sworn, taped statement  
14 from Richard Joseph Oliva.

15 RO: Yes.

16 CT: O-L-I-V-A. Uh, date of birth, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 1950.

17 Residing at [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]. All right. Richard, before we begin, um, do  
19 you know what perjury is?

20 RO: Yes.

21 CT: Okay. Can you, please, explain it?

22 RO: Lying under oath.

23 CT: Correct. Perjury is lying under oath and it can  
24 occur in one -- in, uh, two ways. Either telling and  
25 outright lie or leaving out all or part of  
26 information in order to mislead an investigation.

1           Okay?

2   RO:   Uh-huh.

3   CT:   And in the state of Florida, uh, if you are found of  
4           perjury, yourself, it is a misdemeanor. Okay? We  
5           tell everyone this. Do you understand?

6   RO:   Yes.

7   CT:   Okay. Being a law enforcement officer, I'm empowered  
8           to swear you in under oath. Okay?

9   RO:   Uh-huh.

10   CT:   Would you, please, raise your right hand. Swear and  
11           affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and  
12           nothing but the truth?

13   RO:   Uh, yeah.

14   CT:   All right. Okay. Sir, like I said, would you just,  
15           please, explain or start from the very beginning,  
16           when you got here, about what time it was, and just  
17           take me all the way through, being as detailed as  
18           possible.

19   RO:   Well, I arrived here approximately 5:30. Uh, we met  
20           in the lobby and were taken inside to, uh, the room.  
21           And the Chief explained certain things about the  
22           Punta Gorda Police Department, uh, you know, what  
23           their jobs are, and went through, uh, different  
24           procedures --

25   CT:   Okay.

1 RO: -- and that stuff. From there we went into smaller  
2 groups and took a tour of the building, and we --  
3 then we went outside and, uh, they showed us, you  
4 know, patrol car, the bicycle patrol --

5 CT: Uh-huh.

6 RO: -- and, uh, the marine patrol.

7 CT: Okay.

8 RO: After that, we were taken over to another area in  
9 the parking lot where they were going to have a  
10 demonstration of, uh -- a shoot, no shoot scenario.

11 CT: Okay.

12 RO: Uh, we were asked to, you know, move in a certain  
13 area. I was standing on an island in the parking  
14 lot.

15 CT: Okay.

16 RO: Then from where I was standing I had, you know, a  
17 view of straight on of the incident.

18 CT: Okay.

19 RO: You know, it took a little time to get everything  
20 into place. Uh, you know, they were explaining, I  
21 guess, to the people who were gonna be involved in  
22 it, you know, what their job -- what they were  
23 supposed to do.

24 CT: Okay.

25 RO: And, uh, the Chief explained what the officer was



1 going to do. He was a, uh -- just a person who was  
2 checking out cars in the parking lot and the police  
3 department got a call of a suspicious person.

4 CT: Okay. Okay.

5 RO: When the incident happened -- when the scenario  
6 started, the officer was playing the part. He was  
7 looking in -- in the vehicles, walking back and  
8 forth, different cars, different areas, walking  
9 around checking out. The woman, who was playing the  
10 part of the officer, approached him and questioned  
11 him what he was doing. And he was saying, you know,  
12 "I'm not doing anything. I'm just here. I'm looking  
13 for my dog. Uh, you know, just leave me alone. I'm -  
14 - I'm not doing anything." He started to back away  
15 from her.

16 CT: Okay.

17 RO: At that time, I guess, there was a weapon that he  
18 had on top of the vehicle, and he retrieved the --  
19 the weapon and, uh, pointed it at the woman and  
20 fired approximately four shots at her, rounds at  
21 her. He then turned around, you know -- I guess, he  
22 didn't know what had happened.

23 CT: Okay.

24 RO: He turned around, as a perp would do, and tried to  
25 flee. When he turned and he saw the woman was

1 hunched over grabbing her, uh, abdomen area, he  
2 immediately ran right to her. She was on the ground  
3 at this time. He turned her over and he immediately  
4 called for EMS, you know. He said, "We need EMS here  
5 now."

6 CT: Okay. All right. My first question is, which I'm  
7 asking everyone, is, did you happen to have a camera  
8 or a cell phone and you happened to film?

9 RO: No.

10 CT: No? Okay. Um, so you got there around 5:30. Everyone  
11 was inside. Broke up into smaller groups, uh --  
12 correct?

13 RO: Uh-huh.

14 CT: Smaller groups. And then eventually moved outside,  
15 looking at the boats, cars.

16 RO: Uh-huh.

17 CT: Moved over to the scenario, the shoot, no shoot  
18 scenario. Now, you said you were on an island. So,  
19 were you away from everyone else?

20 RO: No. There was other people standing next to me.

21 CT: Okay. Were -- so, were you and other people standing  
22 away from the rest of the group, or was the whole  
23 group, like, on that island?

24 RO: No. We were away from the other group.

25 CT: Okay.

1 RO: The other group was behind us or to the side --  
2 sides of us.

3 CT: Okay. So, would it be fair to say -- is it accurate  
4 saying you had, uh -- a closer view? Is that why you  
5 went to the island, or?

6 RO: Yeah. I was approximately I'd say 20, 25 feet from  
7 the incident.

8 CT: Okay.

9 RO: And like I said, I was -- where I was standing I was  
10 straight on --

11 CT: Okay.

12 RO: -- to the whole --

13 CT: All right. So, this took place in the back of the  
14 building --

15 RO: Uh-huh.

16 CT: -- on the blacktop? Um -- so, the rest of the group  
17 was -- how far were the rest of the group, you  
18 think, from you and the couple other people that was  
19 with you?

20 RO: Maybe another five feet behind me or so.

21 CT: All right. So, not so -- not too, too far. Um, now,  
22 did they tell you about the gun that Mary, uh, was  
23 gonna use? Did they tell you about it? Explain it to  
24 you?

25 RO: Yes. Yes.

1 CT: Can you tell me about that?

2 RO: He said -- the Chief, uh, told us that the, uh --  
3 the gun that she was going to use was identical to  
4 what an LEO would use.

5 CT: Okay.

6 RO: All right. The -- the only difference that I saw was  
7 it was a bright blue in color.

8 CT: Okay. All right.

9 RO: He also said that the, uh -- the cartridges, the  
10 ammo that she was -- that they use fires, uh --  
11 like, uh -- a soap.

12 CT: Okay.

13 RO: A detergent. Like, makes a blue dot.

14 CT: Okay.

15 RO: And all.

16 CT: Did they tell you anything about the -- the officer  
17 playing the perpetrator about his gun -- what --

18 RO: No.

19 CT: -- no?

20 RO: Not that I remember, no.

21 CT: Okay. So, when you guys were all outside and they --  
22 Mary got the gun that she was using, were you guys  
23 around when that happened? Did you see it when --

24 RO: No.

25 CT: -- they issued her -- no?

1 RO: No.

2 CT: Okay. All right. So, when the scenario began, where  
3 was Mary? What happened with her? Where did she go?  
4 I mean how did that all -- how did it all take  
5 place?

6 RO: She started walking from behind us from the  
7 building.

8 CT: Okay.

9 RO: I get -- they said that she was getting instructions  
10 on what to do.

11 CT: All right. And we'll use these two as, like,  
12 vehicles. You can, like, separate them if you need  
13 to. If you --

14 RO: Okay.

15 CT: -- need another phone.

16 RO: Yeah. Okay. These were the -- the two vehicles.

17 CT: Okay.

18 RO: Then there was another vehicle that was here. I was  
19 standing, like I said, about here --

20 CT: Okay.

21 RO: -- on the island.

22 CT: Okay.

23 RO: The officer was between these two vehicles, going  
24 around the vehicles and looking into them.

25 CT: Okay.

1 RO: Mary approached from behind me.

2 CT: Okay.

3 RO: She came through the other people.

4 CT: Okay.

5 RO: And walked straight towards the officer.

6 CT: Okay.

7 RO: As I said, at that time, uh, the officer said to  
8 her, you know, "What's wrong?" And I didn't hear her  
9 conversation with him.

10 CT: Right.

11 RO: He said, "I'm not doing anything wrong. I'm looking  
12 in the car. I'm looking for my dog."

13 CT: Right.

14 RO: As he was saying that, he started backing up.

15 CT: Okay.

16 RO: Then he went behind this car, came out, produced the  
17 weapon, and fired at Mary.

18 CT: Now, while we're here, he's backing up. Is he  
19 backing up to the rear of the vehicle?

20 RO: Yes.

21 CT: Okay. So, he's backing up towards the rear. And then  
22 the vehicle next to it had a gun on the roof?

23 RO: It had, uh -- it had to have a gun somewhere --

24 CT: Okay.

25 RO: -- on -- if I'm looking at it --

1 CT: Right.

2 RO: -- it was the vehicle to the left --

3 CT: Okay.

4 RO: -- that he produced the weapon from.

5 CT: Did you see him grab it off the vehicle?

6 RO: No, I didn't.

7 CT: Okay. So, he starts backing up. And what does Mary

8 do?

9 RO: Mary is between the two vehicles.

10 CT: Okay. So, now, how did the shooting occur? Like, uh

11 -- okay. So, this is the vehicle. How did they

12 shoot? I mean -- so, the officer is back here.

13 RO: Uh-huh.

14 CT: Mary is here. So, was it like a direct shot here --

15 RO: Yes.

16 CT: -- across the -- okay.

17 RO: Yeah.

18 CT: So, it wasn't like shooting across the vehicle or

19 anything?

20 RO: No. No. He was maybe five feet --

21 CT: Okay.

22 RO: -- from her.

23 CT: And you said it was approximately four shots?

24 RO: Yes.

25 CT: Okay. And you said then he turned around, like,

1 playing the role, like, he was gonna run?

2 RO: Right.

3 CT: But then he realized Mary was hurt?

4 RO: Right.

5 CT: Went back and, uh -- okay. So -- and then after --  
6 after Mary fell then what happened? I mean did they  
7 bring you --

8 RO: They brought us inside.

9 CT: -- okay.

10 RO: Yeah. They got us all and took us inside.

11 CT: Okay. Now, besides, um -- besides Mary, were there  
12 any other civilians or -- or chamber members, uh --  
13 a part of that scenario, or was it just Mary?

14 RO: At that time, it was just Mary.

15 CT: Okay.

16 RO: But there was supposed to be a second scenario --

17 CT: Okay.

18 RO: -- that never --

19 CT: Never happened?

20 RO: -- never happened.

21 CT: And officers, uh, playing perpetrators, were there  
22 any other officers involved with the scenario, or  
23 just the one who -- who shot?

24 RO: That scenario, there was just that one officer.

25 CT: Okay. Do you know who that officer is?



1 RO: No, I don't.

2 CT: Okay. All right. Is there anything, um, I'm  
3 forgetting to ask you that could help me, or do you  
4 think we pretty much summed everything up?

5 RO: Pretty much covered.

6 CT: Okay. Well, if that's the case, then we're gonna end  
7 this interview today on the same date, August 9<sup>th</sup>,  
8 2016, at 11:42 p.m.

9 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: erz/erz/jck

1 (INTERVIEW OF ROBERT C. PETERSON, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 CT: Special Agent Christopher Tiso

6 RP: Robert Peterson

7 CT: My name is Christopher Tiso. I'm a special agent  
8 with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement out  
9 of Fort Myers. Today's date is August 9th, 2016.  
10 The time is currently 10:13 p.m. I'll be taking a  
11 sworn taped statement from Robert Carl Peterson, P-  
12 E-T-E-R-S-O-N. Date of birth November 29th, 1946.  
13 Living at 3606 Bonaire Court, Punta Gorda, Florida,  
14 33950. Okay, Bob, before we begin I have to ask you  
15 if you know what perjury is.

16 RP: Yes. I do.

17 CT: In your own words, can you tell me what it is?

18 RP: When you make false statements, or lie.

19 CT: Correct. Perjury is lying under oath. That can be  
20 done in two ways. Either telling an outright lie,  
21 or leaving out all or part of information to mislead  
22 an investigation.

23 RP: Okay.

24 CT: Okay. And we tell everybody -- not just you -- we  
25 tell everybody that in the state of Florida if you  
26 are found to have perjured yourself it is a

1           misdemeanor.  Okay.  Um, being a law enforcement  
2           officer I'm empowered to swear you in under oath.  
3           So, can you please raise your right hand?  Do you  
4           swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth  
5           and nothing but the truth?

6  RP:  I do.

7  CT:  All right.  Okay, Bob.  And for the record, I'm  
8           calling Robert Bob.  That's what he goes by.  Um, as  
9           I said, would you just take me from the beginning,  
10          when you got here today -- this evening -- to the  
11          end of the incident?

12  RP:  Yes.  We got here a little late because I was  
13          working in -- in Naples today.  Got home.  I came  
14          over here about 6:00.  Uh, they were in the middle  
15          of conducting the tours of the building here.  We  
16          joined Captain -- or, not Captain -- Chief Lewis's  
17          group.  And we got to see some of the facilities,  
18          and they took us into the, um, main room in there  
19          that -- I'm not sure what it's called.

20  CT:  Okay.

21  RP:  And we were in there for a while.  Then they took us  
22          back out, and we got to see the cruisers.  Somebody  
23          turned the lights on, ran the siren.  We got to see  
24          the marine unit.  We got to see this -- um, the K-9  
25          -- actually, we didn't see the K-9 unit.  We got to

1 see the, um -- uh, crime scene unit.

2 CT: Okay.

3 RP: And then they brought us back in to the -- no, did  
4 they bring us back in? No, they didn't. Then we  
5 went over from there and they were going to go  
6 through this simulation.

7 CT: Okay.

8 RP: Now, I had seen this simulation. I was in  
9 Leadership Charlotte this past spring. I had seen  
10 it before.

11 CT: Okay.

12 RP: So, I kind of knew what was going on.

13 CT: Right.

14 RP: Or, at least what was supposed to be going on.

15 CT: I got you.

16 RP: So, as the woman went up there and started --  
17 looking, I knew what was going to happen. I looked  
18 over to see the, uh -- what was going to be people's  
19 faces.

20 CT: Okay.

21 RP: Because when -- you know, when you -- you hear the  
22 shots and you see the -- I mean, you just -- you're  
23 in shock.

24 CT: Right.

25 RP: Well, and then I caught out of this -- the corner of  
American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.

1 my eyes the woman kind of lurched like that.

2 CT: Okay.

3 RP: And -- and the -- I heard two shots fired, and then

4 I heard a -- he walked away and he -- he fired a

5 third one. And next thing I know, she went down.

6 CT: Okay.

7 RP: My thinking at that time was she may have been in

8 shock or she might have had a heart attack.

9 CT: Okay.

10 RP: She was an elderly woman. My guess -- I don't know

11 her age. My guess would be probably mid-seventies.

12 CT: Okay.

13 RP: Um, and I did not see that she had been shot. I --

14 I turned around and ran and said, "Get an EMT. Get

15 an EMT."

16 CT: Okay.

17 RP: And someone went in and all the sudden they came

18 out, and they were attending to her. They started

19 leading us in. I looked around, and they were

20 pumping her chest.

21 CT: Okay. Okay. All right. I'm going to go from the

22 beginning. Like I said, I'm just asking questions.

23 RP: Okay.

24 CT: Um --

25 RP: I may have missed some details, but it's -- it's --

1 CT: No, it's fine. And I'll probably ask you. And, uh,  
2 if you don't know just tell me.

3 RP: Okay.

4 CT: If my question doesn't make sense, tell me that.

5 You're not going to offend me. Um, first question  
6 is did you happen to have a camera or anything --  
7 videotape?

8 RP: No.

9 CT: Just -- okay. Just -- just -- just a question. So,  
10 you got here around 6 p.m., um, doing tours of the  
11 building, um, with the other members of the Chamber.  
12 Is that correct?

13 RP: Um, there were three or four different groups --  
14 maybe five different groups.

15 CT: Okay.

16 RP: And so, they were in different groups. We were the  
17 first one to go into that room. Another group came  
18 in.

19 CT: Okay.

20 RP: Then there were others came in, and they -- they  
21 wanted to take us --

22 CT: Oh, I see. It was like rotating out?

23 RP: Yeah.

24 CT: Okay.

25 RP: And then Tom Lewis came -- came in the room and

1           said, "We're going to take you out, and I want you  
2           to look at the cruiser."

3   CT:   Okay.

4   RP:   "You can see what the other -- look at the marine  
5           unit. Look at the other stuff."

6   CT:   Okay.

7   RP:   "And then we're going to go through, uh, a, um --  
8           kind of a planned activity for you."

9   CT:   Okay. When you -- fast-forwarding, when you got to  
10          the scenario -- the shooting scenario.

11  RP:   Uh-huh.

12  CT:   Okay. I haven't been out there yet. Um, so that --  
13          that was in the back of the building. Correct?

14  RP:   Yes. It was.

15  CT:   Now, did it take place on blacktop? On -- on the  
16          pavement --

17  RP:   Yes.

18  CT:   -- or was it on like -- okay. It was on the  
19          pavement. Where was the crowd of spectators --  
20          everyone in relationship to it?

21  RP:   Okay. If I can use some --

22  CT:   Absolutely.

23  RP:   -- materials here.

24  CT:   Yeah.

25  RP:   They had two cars like here.

1 CT: Okay.

2 RP: Right over here. There was another cruiser that was  
3 here. And all of the people were back in here.

4 CT: Okay.

5 RP: So, we were probably 30 to 40 yards away from it at  
6 the time.

7 CT: Okay.

8 RP: That would be my guess.

9 CT: Okay. Okay.

10 RP: So, we were standing -- I was right here on the  
11 left. Some -- some of the people who were here  
12 could see more at that -- at that angle. I was more  
13 at this -- this angle right here.

14 CT: Okay.

15 RP: She was -- she had been given instruction. Now, she  
16 was brought out -- she did not know what we were  
17 told about what was going to happen. And this guy  
18 was like he was looking to enter a car, opening the  
19 doors, stuff like this. And so she kind of walked  
20 up to him --

21 CT: Right.

22 RP: -- and started talking to him. And he said  
23 something like that. She turned around. She came  
24 back. And all the sudden he came at and he shot  
25 her.



1 CT: Okay.

2 RP: And it was -- uh, probably, if this being a car, it  
3 was probably at that distance. He fired two shots.  
4 Started to walk away, and fired a third one.

5 CT: Okay. Now, by the diagram we're going with here, he  
6 -- when I say he, the officer playing the bad guy --

7 RP: Yeah.

8 CT: -- he -- was he in the front or rear of -- of the  
9 vehicles?

10 RP: Okay. Um --

11 CT: If you recall. It not, that's fine.

12 RP: I believe this was the front. And I believe this  
13 was the front.

14 CT: Okay. Okay. So, they were opposite ways, the  
15 vehicles?

16 RP: Yeah. Yeah.

17 CT: Okay. All right. So, he was -- but he was in the  
18 middle of the vehicles. Is that correct?

19 RP: When -- when -- when she was walking over there, I  
20 was watching what he was doing. Because he was  
21 opening the doors. When I saw it the first time,  
22 they were --

23 CT: Right.

24 RP: -- he was opening the door here, coming around here.  
25 Opening the door here.

1 CT: Oh, okay.

2 RP: And she kind of walked up on him. And he said  
3 something about, "I think this is my wife's car" or  
4 something. I'm not sure what he said. And, you  
5 know, she kind of went there. And then he kind of  
6 pointed her to another direction. She started here.  
7 Then, she started coming back. And that's when he  
8 pulled out a gun and shot her twice.

9 CT: Okay.

10 RP: And then shot her the third time, and then that's  
11 when I saw her go down.

12 CT: Okay. When she walked up, did she have her -- her  
13 gun drawn? Do you remember any of that stuff? Just  
14 curious.

15 RP: She was right-handed. So, I -- it was blocked. I  
16 could not tell.

17 CT: Okay. Okay. Um, do you remember -- her name, do  
18 you remember her name?

19 RP: Mary.

20 CT: Mary. Do you know Mary's last name?

21 RP: No, I do not.

22 CT: Okay.

23 RP: I do know that she is the -- the head of the Friends  
24 of the Library.

25 CT: Okay. Now, before -- I know you did this before,

1           this --

2   RP: Uh-huh.

3   CT: -- but just -- just talking about this one now.

4   RP: Uh-huh.

5   CT: The one that happened tonight. Did they show you  
6       guys what kind of gun she was given?

7   RP: Yes.

8   CT: And what did they show you? Like, what was that  
9       about?

10  RP: Okay. It was a -- it was a -- a Glock. It was, um,  
11       colored, like light, you know, blue or something  
12       like that. He showed us the rounds, that they were  
13       detergent.

14  CT: Uh-huh.

15  RP: He did say that she would -- if, you know, you hit  
16       that -- got hit with something like that, it could  
17       leave a welt.

18  CT: Right.

19  RP: What surprised me was when we -- I saw this this  
20       spring. I did not see them having a -- a vest on or  
21       anything. But, today they also had on hoods and  
22       shields. What -- you know, plastic shields.

23  CT: On Mary?

24  RP: No, on --

25  CT: Okay.

1 RP: -- on the two --

2 CT: On the officers?

3 RP: -- officers. Yeah.

4 CT: Okay.

5 RP: She had nothing on.

6 CT: She had nothing. Okay. Now, did they tell you

7 anything about the officer's gun? Like, what he was

8 -- what his was about?

9 RP: From what I remember Tom Lewis saying, [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

11 CT: He has blanks. Okay. Did they show you the gun at

12 all, or anything?

13 RP: No.

14 CT: No, just --

15 RP: He -- he was already over there.

16 CT: Okay. And you said he was dressed up?

17 RP: He was in a, um -- he had dark pants on. He had

18 kind of like a gray hoodie --

19 CT: Okay.

20 RP: -- over here, and he had this hood thing. And you

21 could see the -- the clear -- I would say it was

22 probably plastic.

23 CT: Okay. Okay. Um, and how many officers playing bad

24 guys were -- took part in this incident?

25 RP: Well, in this one there's only one. The second one,

1           they usually have two. Because they're over here  
2           kind of wrestling around --

3   CT: Oh, okay.

4   RP: -- and stuff like that. Um, there was an officer  
5           that kind of escorted her up to here.

6   CT: Okay.

7   RP: And there were several others that were standing  
8           around.

9   CT: Okay. But, in the actual incident being like a  
10          role-play or so to speak --

11   RP: Right.

12   CT: -- that -- you're saying there was only one officer?

13   RP: There was only one. Yeah.

14   CT: Okay. So, it was Mary and an officer?

15   RP: Yes.

16   CT: Okay.

17   RP: Uh-huh.

18   CT: All right. So, Mary walks up. The officer is  
19          messaging around with the vehicles --

20   RP: Yeah.

21   CT: -- pretending to do who knows what. And then he  
22          turns around --

23   RP: Well, I -- he -- I think he pointed to her to come  
24          over here, because she started to walk this way.

25          Then she turned around. And when she turned around,

1           he pulled the gun and shot her.

2   CT:   Okay.  Did you actually see the -- the officer shoot

3           Mary?

4   RP:   No, I did not.  I heard it.

5   CT:   You heard it?  Okay.  And, I mean, you --

6   RP:   Now, wait a minute.  Wait a minute.  Did I see it?

7           Yes, I did see it.

8   CT:   Okay.  All right.  Now, I mean, can you describe

9           that as detailed as possible?  I mean, when the guy

10          was shooting --

11   RP:   Well, he had a gun and he -- he pulled -- shot it

12          twice.

13   CT:   Uh-huh.

14   RP:   And then he either backed up, turned around -- and

15          as he turned around, then shot her a third time.

16   CT:   Okay.  And then once she was shot --

17   RP:   And the first boom, boom.  Boom.

18   CT:   Okay.  So, two and then one.  So, three.

19   RP:   Uh-huh.

20   CT:   That's fine.  And after she was shot, can you

21          describe how she -- how she reacted?

22   RP:   Again, much of that was blocked by the car.

23   CT:   Okay.

24   RP:   But I -- I did see her go like that.

25   CT:   Okay.

1 RP: And then the next thing you knew, she was down on  
2 the ground.

3 CT: Okay.

4 RP: And, you know, I did not see that she had been shot.

5 CT: Okay.

6 RP: From the angle -- she was here and I was here. I  
7 could not see that she had been shot. Because she  
8 was at that point down on the ground.

9 CT: Right.

10 RP: I assumed that she might have had a heart attack.

11 CT: Okay.

12 RP: I mean, when we did this simulation -- one of the  
13 guys that did it is in his early forties, and he  
14 said, "I about shit my pants."

15 CT: Oh, really?

16 RP: With that.

17 CT: Okay.

18 RP: But, I mean -- I mean, it's -- it's -- it's a -- you  
19 know, one of those things --

20 CT: Right. It's a shocker.

21 RP: -- where, you know --

22 CT: Right. Okay. Um, after she went down what happened  
23 next? What did they do with all the spectators?

24 RP: Well, I don't know, because that's when I turned and  
25 I started moving quickly towards the fire

1 department.

2 CT: Okay.

3 RP: And I said, "Get an EMT. Get an EMT." Just was  
4 yelling it. And all of a sudden one of the police  
5 officers -- the black one -- took out running.

6 CT: Okay.

7 RP: The next thing you knew, they were coming out with,  
8 you know, stuff that they were carrying.

9 CT: Okay.

10 RP: And then as I was walking in, I saw them with a --  
11 looked like a -- a gurney or something that they  
12 were going to put her on.

13 CT: Okay.

14 RP: And I saw the one guy on her chest.

15 CT: Okay. I got you. Um, do you know the officer's  
16 name? Do you have -- do you know him? Who it was  
17 that -- that fired?

18 RP: It was -- it was the K-9 officer.

19 CT: It was a K-9? Okay.

20 RP: I don't know his name. The only reason I know that  
21 is he had the K-9 shirt on.

22 CT: Okay.

23 RP: And then when he put the sweatshirt on, you couldn't  
24 tell.

25 CT: I got you. Okay.



1 RP: He was real -- real tall. He was probably about --

2 CT: Was he?

3 RP: -- 6-5, 6-6.

4 CT: Okay.

5 RP: Yeah.

6 CT: All right. So, you were about -- you -- you

7 estimated about 30 to 40 yards from the incident.

8 From the scenario.

9 RP: Um, I don't think it was -- well, yeah, it was

10 probably -- from here to here. About 30 yards,

11 something like that.

12 CT: Okay. All right. Anything else you could think of

13 that I may have forgot to ask you, or anything else

14 helpful? I mean, you've been pretty detailed, and I

15 appreciate it. Did you see anyone with a camera

16 filming it?

17 RP: No.

18 CT: No? Okay.

19 RP: Now, there was someone from the Charlotte Sun who

20 had a camera. Now, whether or not she filmed it I

21 don't know.

22 CT: All right. She was with the spectators?

23 RP: She was part of the group.

24 CT: Okay. She was part of the Chamber group? Okay.

25 RP: Yeah. And there was a guy that was with the

1 Charlotte Sun as a reporter.

2 CT: Okay.

3 RP: But he stayed inside.

4 CT: Did he? Okay. All right.

5 RP: And then he left.

6 CT: Okay. All right, Bob. Well, if there's nothing  
7 else, um, I'm going to conclude the interview then.

8 RP: Okay.

9 CT: Okay.

10 RP: It's -- it's a tragedy. I'll tell you, it's --

11 CT: Absolutely it is. Oh --

12 RP: Oops, I'm sorry.

13 CT: No, no. You're fine. I just got to look at the  
14 time. So, we're going to conclude the interview.

15 Same day, August 9th, 2016, at 10:25 p.m.

16 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF RONALD OLSEN, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DM = Special Agent Dan Mehler

6 RO = Ronald Olsen

7 DM: This is Special Agent Dan Mehler, Florida Department  
8 of Law Enforcement. Today is August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It's  
9 approximately 10:45 p.m. I'm here at the Punta Gorda  
10 Police Department with -- Ron, go ahead and state  
11 your full name and date of birth.

12 RO: Um, Ronald Olsen. Uh, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1954.

13 DM: Okay. Thank you, Uh, do me a favor, raise your right  
14 hand for me. Do you swear that everything we're  
15 gonna talk about is the truth, whole truth, and  
16 nothing but the truth?

17 RO: I do.

18 DM: Okay. Good. Um, start from the beginning as far as  
19 you getting here and how the evening went, and --

20 RO: Uh, it was a chamber thing. We came. We parked. We  
21 walked in. Went into the conference room. Sit down.  
22 Uh -- uh, Chief Tom -- Tom Lewis [phonetic] gave us  
23 a presentation on the statistics and, um, then we  
24 broke into little groups and started doing our  
25 tours. Um, there was -- you know, he said, "Hey.  
26 Check your booklets and see who has the tickets for

1 the Taser and the gun." And we were all kind of  
2 joking about, you know, "Hey. I want to be getting  
3 Tased, you know." And just kind of having a good  
4 time.

5 DM: Uh-huh.

6 RO: Was just supposed to be a fun event. And, uh, so we  
7 broke up, went -- went and did some tours of the  
8 different offices back here and then rooms and  
9 things. And, uh, then we went out and looked at the  
10 boat and the squad cars, and did that. Um -- and  
11 then we walked over to -- they took Mary off, 'cause  
12 she had the ticket for the gun. We walked over to  
13 the, uh, back area and kind of got around, and then  
14 Chief Lewis told us what was gonna happen.

15 And -- and they brought Mary out, and they were  
16 kind of showing her the gun with the index finger  
17 up, so it wasn't on the trigger. And they were  
18 showing us the bullets and everything. It looks like  
19 a toy gun. He showed us the colors in it and talked  
20 about how they use it to train with, and they have  
21 different colors for each officer, so they can tell  
22 who's doing what.

23 And -- and then the -- the two other guys were  
24 -- they had their helmets on, and the one guy had a  
25 gray, um -- uh, gray sweater or sweatshirt type

1 thing on.

2 DM: Uh-huh.

3 RO: You know, we kind of knew what was gonna happen.

4 That he was going to go look in the windows, be peek

5 -- peeking into cars and things. And so, she walked

6 over there between the two cars as he walked around

7 one in between them. And then he -- we were, you

8 know, back, uh, across -- I was standing on the

9 island right next to Chief. And, um, he kind of

10 walked up to her and said, like, he was just -- you

11 could hear him saying, "I'm just looking for my

12 dog," or something.

13 DM: Okay.

14 RO: And then she just stood there, and he walked back

15 around the car. And then three shots from -- he

16 pulled out -- you know, I -- I couldn't see the gun

17 or anything though.

18 DM: Okay.

19 RO: It looked like, uh -- you know. And -- and there was

20 three shots fired, and everything seemed fine. And

21 then Mary kind of just stood there. And then she

22 bent over, and then she fell down. We all -- I

23 thought she was just having -- I said -- I said,

24 "She's fainting 'cause she got scared."

25 DM: Yeah.

1 RO: And then she went clear to the ground and then --  
2 then Chief Lewis ran over there, and I saw him -- he  
3 -- he -- obviously, something was wrong. I saw him  
4 open her shirt up and, you know, calling for, um,  
5 the paramedics. And I could see some red things, and  
6 I was going, "This doesn't make sense."

7 Um, and, uh, then they asked us to go back in  
8 the conference room, and Chief came back in, and he  
9 said, uh, [REDACTED] And  
10 we were just -- I was just -- this is not real. It  
11 was supposed to be a fun afternoon. Um --

12 DM: And you didn't see the gun that the officer had?

13 RO: I did not. I -- I could see something, but it just  
14 looked like a little, teeny, toy gun. I -- I mean I  
15 just -- I -- I didn't see it.

16 DM: Okay. Um, the, uh -- the other -- the other role  
17 player, uh, bad guy, um, he -- he didn't take part  
18 in this scenario? He was just there at first?

19 RO: I -- he -- he was -- he just had his black outfit  
20 on, and he was just kind of there. In fact, I don't  
21 even remember if he had his helmet on yet.

22 DM: Okay. And the other scenario was a Taser scenario,  
23 you were saying?

24 RO: Never got there. It stopped right there.

25 DM: Based on the cards that somebody had gotten in the

1 pamphlet, you said one was a gun and one was a  
2 Taser?

3 RO: Well, somebody was gonna fire a Taser gun.

4 DM: Okay.

5 RO: I -- I've been to this before.

6 DM: Okay.

7 RO: And, you know, they -- they go in they shoot the  
8 Taser into the aluminum foil thing. So, somebody was  
9 gonna get to shoot the Taser.

10 DM: Okay.

11 RO: Um -- but none of that happened.

12 DM: Gotcha. Um, so, you did Power Point, broke up into  
13 groups, did the tour inside and out?

14 RO: Yep.

15 DM: Um, all -- all the -- all the groups then had split  
16 off. At that time, they were all back outside for  
17 the scenario?

18 RO: Yeah. Uh-huh.

19 DM: Okay. Um, three shots. Did you hear any other  
20 officers or anybody else, for that matter, yelling  
21 anything, you know, when she went down to the  
22 ground, or during the time that you were being asked  
23 to be -- go back inside, did you hear anybody say  
24 anything?

25 RO: Uh, well, I heard Chief Lewis go, [REDACTED]

1           █████ Or, █████ Or something. He was --  
2           he was trying to talk -- they were -- they were  
3           doing things on her.

4   DM:   Okay.

5   RO:   I never left where I was standing and went over  
6           there.

7   DM:   Okay.

8   RO:   Um, you know, I turned around, and I saw they were  
9           running back to get the, uh -- the paramedics out  
10          there. Obviously, at that point, you knew something.  
11          I, uh -- I still thought she was just having a heart  
12          attack.

13  DM:   Okay. You said you saw the Chief open her shirt up  
14          and you saw red on there?

15  RO:   I saw what I thought was red -- two -- two red areas  
16          in this area.

17  DM:   All right. Do you know who that officer was, by any  
18          chance? The one that fired the weapon?

19  RO:   No.

20  DM:   Okay. Do you know any of the officers' names that  
21          went over to help with the Chief as far as --

22  RO:   No.

23  DM:   -- okay. Um, were you there when EMS got there?

24  RO:   When they first ran --

25  DM:   When they --



1 RO: -- up? Yeah. We -- but we then started turning  
2 around and walking. They asked us to.

3 DM: Okay. Do you know who was ushering you guys back  
4 inside?

5 RO: Uh, what's her -- I don't know. I can picture her,  
6 but I don't know her name.

7 DM: Female officer?

8 RO: Yeah.

9 DM: Okay. Um, do you think this was anything other than  
10 just a tragedy? I mean do you -- do you think --

11 RO: I can't imagine --

12 DM: -- there was any --

13 RO: -- it being anything else. I -- you know, I -- I  
14 know something went wrong.

15 DM: All right.

16 RO: And I --

17 DM: Do you think there was any intent behind it or  
18 anything?

19 RO: I couldn't see anything. I -- I -- you know, I'm --  
20 I'm sure that you guys will figure this out. Um,  
21 something went wrong. There shouldn't have been  
22 bullets in that gun.

23 DM: Absolutely.

24 RO: I'm -- I'm retired from the Navy. I'm a submariner.  
25 I know things don't happen unless somebody makes a

1 mistake.

2 DM: Do you think there was anything -- or did you see or  
3 hear anything that you thought was suspicious as far  
4 as the evening went --

5 RO: No.

6 DM: -- to make you think that somebody intentionally --

7 RO: No. I -- I just --

8 DM: -- put bullets in the gun or anything?

9 RO: I just saw -- I -- I -- I -- I just saw a police  
10 department just go, "Oh, my God. What has happened?"

11 DM: Okay.

12 RO: The -- I -- I think -- I know the Chief was just  
13 totally -- he -- he looked -- and just was -- he was  
14 just taken completely by surprise.

15 DM: Um, did you, uh -- you said you left your phone in  
16 the car, right? So, you --

17 RO: Yeah.

18 DM: -- okay. So, you didn't take any photos or pictures?

19 RO: No.

20 DM: Do you know of anybody that recorded -- that video  
21 recorded the incident?

22 RO: Yeah. The Sun Newspaper was -- oh, no. Video  
23 recorded it? No, I don't.

24 DM: Okay. The Sun Newspaper was photographing it?

25 RO: She took a few pictures. Um, I know that. She was --

1 but I don't think she -- I don't --

2 DM: Okay. Um, is -- is there anything that I haven't  
3 asked you you think is important for me to know?

4 RO: No.

5 DM: Okay. All right. Um, Ron, I greatly appreciate you  
6 coming in and talking to me.

7 RO: Yeah.

8 DM: Um, I'm gonna go ahead and turn the recorder off. It  
9 is now --

10 RO: Mary was our friend.

11 DM: -- 5 'til 11.

12 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: erz/erz/alw

1 (INTERVIEW OF SHARON HUCK, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 DM = Special Agent Dan Maylor [phonetic]

6 SH = Sharon Huck

7 DM: Special Agent Dan Maylor of the Florida Department  
8 of Law Enforcement. Today's August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It is  
9 approximately 10:30 p.m. here at the Punta Gorda  
10 Police Department. And I'm with -- Sharon, state  
11 your whole name and date of birth for me, please.

12 SH: Okay. Sharon Jean Huck.

13 DM: And date of birth?

14 SH: Uh, 11/10/62.

15 DM: Okay. Thank you so much.

16 SH: Uh-huh.

17 DM: Um, like I just previously said, we're gonna just --  
18 tell me about the scenario tonight and what -- what  
19 all occurred, um, throughout the evening?

20 SH: Okay. Well, we -- um, I got here a little late,  
21 because I was working. And, um, when I got in here  
22 we all were put into groups. Went around and had a  
23 tour of the different things they do in each area.  
24 And then we all went outside as a group. Uh, looked  
25 at a police car and a boat. And then, uh, we -- they  
26 had a scenario set up before I got in. I guess, they

1 picked people to do it. And so, they took them off  
2 to the side and they gave them a little training on  
3 what they needed to do. While they did that, we just  
4 stood around and talked for a few minutes, and, uh,  
5 made a lot of jokes and stuff, 'cause it was cute.  
6 And I -- that's the first time I met Mary. And, uh,  
7 we were chatting for a few minutes before.

8 And so, you know, they handed her her gun, and  
9 the gentleman who was acting as the thug, um, he had  
10 the gun that I saw. Um, it had the light blue strip  
11 on it or whatever. The handle was -- stood out. It  
12 was much brighter. And, um, he was just pacing  
13 around the car, pretending, like, he was, you know,  
14 trying to get into them or look at them. And then  
15 when they said, "Okay. Go ahead and start it." You  
16 know, Mary walked over like she was a police officer  
17 and she had her gun out because she didn't have --  
18 the way she was dressed, she couldn't have a  
19 holster.

20 DM: Okay.

21 SH: And she started in on the thug, asking him what he's  
22 doing, you know, and to get away. And she was kind  
23 of going after him and, um, as he got a little  
24 distance away he turned around and he started  
25 shooting at her. And I thought that she was just

1 acting, um, like pretending like she got shot and  
2 going down. But when she turned and she folded in  
3 half, uh, I -- and she was gentle going down, most  
4 of the way, and then she just hit the pavement,  
5 like, with her face, and went down. And that's when  
6 we all realized that she wasn't acting. There was  
7 something wrong. One of the other people next to me  
8 said, "I saw blood." And I said, "Well, it's  
9 probably 'cause when she fell." I would think, you  
10 know, a little warning that it's gonna be really  
11 loud or whatever might have helped. She was an older  
12 woman.

13 DM: Uh-huh.

14 SH: Maybe she has a heart problem. And then, uh, when we  
15 -- you know, then they hollered, "Everybody go  
16 inside." You know, EMTs then called for people to --  
17 to get moving right away and got over there, and  
18 they just started on her right away. And, um, we --  
19 eventually we got back inside and then they came in  
20 and, you know, kept us updated for what they could  
21 update, and then ordered food.

22 DM: Okay.

23 SH: So --

24 DM: Um, you said you saw his gun?

25 SH: -- uh-huh.

1 DM: Uh, the -- the officer that was part of the  
2 scenario?

3 SH: Yeah. There were -- there were two gentlemen that  
4 were walking around that were -- I don't know if  
5 they were both gonna be thugs or one was. One had a  
6 mask on --

7 DM: Uh-huh.

8 SH: -- and he had his, you know, hoodie on and all that.  
9 And the gun that I remember seeing, but now I'm not  
10 sure if it was him or if it was the other guy that  
11 looked like he would be a thug as well --

12 DM: Uh-huh.

13 SH: -- um, but, yeah, they had -- it looked like the gun  
14 that they gave Mary to use.

15 DM: Okay. So --

16 SH: And it had --

17 DM: -- like, the blue stripe, you said?

18 SH: -- yeah. Uh-huh.

19 DM: Okay.

20 SH: Yeah.

21 DM: All right. Um, so, you -- just to recap real quick.  
22 You, uh -- you said you got here a little bit later,  
23 but you got here just in time to break off into  
24 groups, and --

25 SH: Yeah. I got --

1 DM: -- take a tour --

2 SH: -- here at like -- I think, like, 10 to 6 or 6:00.

3 So, it was -- we -- just as they were splitting up

4 into groups, I just jumped into a group.

5 DM: -- okay.

6 SH: Yeah.

7 DM: Um, were -- were all the groups outside at the time

8 of the scenario?

9 SH: Yes.

10 DM: Okay.

11 SH: Uh, there was just one woman inside who was going to

12 be the next one acting as a police officer and they

13 kept her in so that she wouldn't see how the other

14 one reacted.

15 DM: Okay. All right. So, you did the tour. You're inside

16 and you did the tour outside. Got to see all

17 vehicles.

18 SH: Uh-huh.

19 DM: Um, scenario started. How far away do you think Mary

20 and the officer were when the shots were fired?

21 SH: Uh, around the car. Because she was standing on one

22 side of the car and kind of chasing him around. I

23 think, it was the front of the car. Now, I'm not

24 sure. But it was the end of the car.

25 DM: Okay.



1 SH: And then, um, he skirted around the side of the car,  
2 and then, I think, he kind of came back a little bit  
3 and he took his gun out, and he was shooting. But, I  
4 think -- you know, I -- it was at least the -- the  
5 width of the car.

6 DM: So, they were on opposite sides of the car when --

7 SH: From --

8 DM: -- when he fired?

9 SH: -- yeah.

10 DM: Okay.

11 SH: Yeah. She was in between the two police cars and he  
12 was on the other side of the one police car.

13 DM: How, um -- how many sounds did you hear? Or how many  
14 shots did you hear?

15 SH: I thought it was four.

16 DM: It was four? Okay.

17 SH: But I don't know if she shot at -- I mean who was  
18 shooting who. I just -- I thought I heard four  
19 bangs. But it was so loud that it startled -- you  
20 know, it startled me anyhow, 'cause I wasn't -- I  
21 was expecting a bang. I wasn't expecting it to be so  
22 -- so -- so loud.

23 DM: When -- when she went to the ground and everybody  
24 started to run over towards her, did you hear  
25 anybody saying anything?

1 SH: Um, there were only a couple people that ran over to  
2 her there. It's not like the whole crowd did.

3 DM: Right.

4 SH: Because, I think, so many of us thought she was  
5 pretending, and she -- you know, she's faking she  
6 was shot. Um, but when she was going down to the  
7 ground and -- and then hit her face, then it was --  
8 I think, there was one gentleman from our crowd,  
9 because he was closer --

10 DM: Uh-huh.

11 SH: -- I think, he ran, and then the police officers  
12 came over there, and that -- and the police officer  
13 said, you know, right away, as soon as -- he's like,  
14 "Mary. Mary." And he flipped her. And -- because he  
15 was still face down.

16 DM: Uh-huh.

17 SH: And he turned her over and then he hollered, "Get  
18 the EMTs." And then -- and then he said, "Get  
19 inside." You know, and -- so then he told everyone  
20 to get inside and the -- the EMTs were coming out.

21 DM: When -- was that one of the uniformed officers at  
22 that point --

23 SH: Yes.

24 DM: -- or was that the gentleman who was in the  
25 scenario?

1 SH: No. That was the uniformed officer --

2 DM: Okay.

3 SH: -- who hollered that. He took over right away. He's  
4 the one that checked Mary, um, like flipped her  
5 over. The other gentleman was there --

6 DM: Uh-huh.

7 SH: -- but, um, the police officer was the one that  
8 flipped her over. And I'm not sure if -- if it was a  
9 Lieutenant or not. I didn't -- I don't think that it  
10 was, uh, Chris Salsman. I think it was a Lieutenant.

11 DM: Okay. Were you there when EMS came over?

12 SH: The, um -- they had her -- they -- we were still out  
13 there walking away, but when they opened up her  
14 shirt and when they started doing, uh, CPR --

15 DM: Uh-huh.

16 SH: -- uh, the guys were running. You know, they were --  
17 I think they were running out of here. I mean  
18 everything was just kind of a cluster where -- we  
19 were trying to get of their way. And, um, I don't  
20 know where the EM -- you know, where the EMTs came  
21 from. Um, but they -- and I didn't see them work on  
22 her. I saw the police officer that hollered and  
23 said, "Get inside and get, you know the EMTs". I saw  
24 him working on her.

25 DM: Okay.

1 SH: And the other police officers came over, too.

2 DM: Okay.

3 SH: So, I think, there were probably about four or five  
4 of them around her at -- at that point.

5 DM: Did you take any pictures or video of the evening?

6 SH: Uh-huh.

7 DM: Uh, on your phone or --

8 SH: No.

9 DM: -- anything like that?

10 SH: No.

11 DM: Do you know of anybody that did?

12 SH: Yeah. The photographer.

13 DM: Okay.

14 SH: Yeah.

15 DM: So, female?

16 SH: Yeah. She's -- actually she was right behind me in  
17 line.

18 DM: Okay.

19 SH: So, they -- they know, you know, that she was a  
20 photographer. She's got her camera. And she said she  
21 took, like, two or three pictures, like, as it was  
22 going on, 'cause she had a couple pictures when Mary  
23 was practicing. You know, they were teaching --

24 DM: Uh-huh.

25 SH: -- her how to use the gun. And then, um, I think,

1 she said she may have snapped two or three while the  
2 event was taking place, um, before she realized, you  
3 know, what was happening. And -- but she doesn't --  
4 when she went back to look at it, even with her  
5 glasses on, she said everything was pretty, you  
6 know, fuzzy looking. So, she'd have to look at it on  
7 her computer and see if there was any -- you know, I  
8 mean if it was a good picture or not. I don't know.

9 DM: Okay.

10 SH: So -- but -- yeah.

11 DM: Is there anything that I haven't asked you that you  
12 think I should know about tonight?

13 SH: Not that I know of. I mean the police officers were  
14 -- they were wonderful. They, uh -- they responded  
15 immediately. I mean it was -- you know, and actually  
16 when we first came in, because there was so many --  
17 one woman I was walking next to said, "I think they  
18 had real bullets in the gun." And I said, "Why would  
19 say that?" And they said, "Because she had, you  
20 know, blood." And I said, "Well, probably because of  
21 when she fell she probably skinned her arm or  
22 whatever and her face." She hit really hard.

23 DM: Uh-huh.

24 SH: And, uh -- so I said, "She may have done some damage  
25 with that." She said, "No. I saw blood on her

1 shirt." I didn't see that. But she did. So as soon  
2 as we came in, um, when they had a chance -- because  
3 one police officer got -- the woman, um, she was  
4 telling us -- and I'm sorry, I don't know their  
5 names.

6 DM: That's fine.

7 SH: But I missed the part where everyone was introduced.  
8 Um, she was saying that, uh, you know, they go  
9 through this routinely. It's a normal thing. There's  
10 -- you know, certainly wouldn't have real bullets in  
11 the gun. They had to be blanks, and, you know, we  
12 just have to see what happened. If -- you know, if  
13 she had a health condition or -- I think -- 'cause  
14 it -- you really didn't think that it was really  
15 happening.

16 DM: Yeah.

17 SH: And, um -- and then about 10 or 15 minutes later,  
18 then the other police officer came in and said that  
19 there weren't blanks in the gun. However, that --  
20 way that it happened they don't know, but that she  
21 was shot. They -- the worst happened. So, um --

22 DM: Who -- did -- you don't know who the officer was  
23 that came in and said that?

24 SH: -- no.

25 DM: Okay.

1 SH: But we were all asking, "What is going on? You know,  
2 we want to -- did she get shot? Was it a heart  
3 issue? You know, what was it?" And he said, "Well,  
4 we don't think" -- you know, he said, "They -- they  
5 weren't blanks." So, we, um -- and then they said  
6 that they weren't able to air lift her because of  
7 the weather. So, she -- they had to, uh, transport.  
8 So -- I mean they may have shared a little more  
9 information with us, just because so many people are  
10 like family in this group.

11 DM: Right.

12 SH: So, the, uh -- but they -- they handled it really  
13 well.

14 DM: Okay.

15 SH: I mean other than having to wait a long time, they -  
16 - they took care of everything that they could. They  
17 were very considerate.

18 DM: Um, do -- do you think that anything tonight was  
19 anything more than just a tragedy? I mean --

20 SH: Just an accident.

21 DM: -- okay.

22 SH: Just a simple accident. You know, something that  
23 shouldn't have happened and, you know -- but - but  
24 it was -- nothing was intentional.

25 DM: Okay. All right.

1 SH: Yeah. And I can -- my heart goes out to the young  
2 cop who shot her, 'cause, you know, he -- he looked  
3 pretty -- I mean I don't know, 'cause he was pretty  
4 geared up.

5 DM: Uh-huh.

6 SH: But he looked really young. So, it was probably the  
7 first time he shot someone.

8 DM: I don't know.

9 SH: Yeah.

10 DM: All right. Um, I'm gonna go ahead and end the  
11 interview if you don't have anything else?

12 SH: That's fine.

13 DM: Okay. It is now approximately 10:45.

14 SH: Okay.

15 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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24 Transcribed by erz/erz/ms



1 (INTERVIEW OF SHARON HUESTON, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 AD = Special Agent Alberto Diaz

6 SH = Sharon Hueston

7 AD: Today's date is August 9, 2016. The time now is  
8 approximately 11:15 p.m. Me, Alberto Diaz, special  
9 agent with Florida Department of Law Enforcement,  
10 um, at the Punta Gorda Police Department, inside at  
11 1410 Tamiami Trail in Punta Gorda. I'm inside the  
12 shift -- Incident Shift Commander's Office. Uh, I'll  
13 be interviewing, um, Miss Sharon Hueston?

14 SH: Hueston.

15 AD: Hueston. I'm sorry. Uh, Miss Hueston, if you'd  
16 please tell me what your date of birth is.

17 SH: 8/3/66.

18 AD: Okay. And, uh, Miss Hueston, as just part of the  
19 interview, I have to swear you in.

20 SH: Okay.

21 AD: In your own words, what is perjury?

22 SH: Lying under oath.

23 AD: Yeah. Okay. So -- all right. So, um, all right,  
24 if you could please raise your right hand. Do you  
25 swear and affirm that the statement you're about to

1 give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing  
2 but the truth?

3 SH: I do.

4 AD: Okay. Just, uh -- Miss Hueston, just if you could  
5 tell me what you saw, um, tonight, what you saw,  
6 heard, observed or -- and what you did and anything  
7 applicable to tonight.

8 SH: Um, we gathered around for a demonstration of  
9 somebody looking into cars, and the lady, um, Mary  
10 -- they were trying to show her before we started,  
11 how to use the handgun, and they went over it with  
12 her several times, because I think she wasn't sure  
13 or -- and then I remember the guy who is the police  
14 officer who's supposed to be -- he was in a -- a  
15 hoodie with a mask, and before it all started, I saw  
16 him, like, running from over there to the building a  
17 couple times back and forth while they were trying  
18 to get things set up to go.

19 And then they started the process of showing us  
20 how -- when someone is looking into vehicles -- and  
21 she was acting as a police officer, coming up to him  
22 and trying to get -- question him to find out what  
23 he was doing. He proceeded around the back of the  
24 car, and she went trying to talk to him, and he --

1 he pulled out a gun and shot her, and I think it was  
2 three or four times.

3 AD: Okay.

4 SH: I -- I saw her have blood on her right -- sorry.

5 AD: No, it's all right.

6 SH: Her right, just like arm here, because she had on a  
7 -- a blue blouse.

8 AD: Okay.

9 SH: And, um, she kind of, like, stumbled, grabbed her  
10 stomach, like, and fell to the ground. And then I  
11 saw the officer, or whatever he was supposed to be,  
12 run over to her, and then the Chief who was out  
13 there giving us the tour -- sorry.

14 AD: No, it's all right.

15 SH: They all ran over there. I saw them pull her, like,  
16 over to her side at first, and then they pushed her  
17 back on her back and then, like, ripped off -- you  
18 know, opened her shirt because it was -- stuff was  
19 on it, and then they told us all to go inside, and  
20 they were yelling, "Call 911." Um, the -- next door  
21 is the, um, Fire Department, and they came out to  
22 try to work on her.

23 AD: What did you -- what did you see?

24 SH: What did I see? I just saw them going there with,  
25 like, uh, boxes and stuff to go work on her. I saw

1 the -- the Chief working on her, and they were  
2 making us go inside.

3 AD: Okay. So, okay, going back to -- going back to the  
4 scenario --

5 SH: Okay.

6 AD: -- of where she's walking up to the car and, you  
7 know, he's, uh -- he was -- or she's approaching  
8 him.

9 SH: And she's talking to him --

10 AD: Okay.

11 SH: -- trying to find out what he's doing --

12 AD: Okay.

13 SH: -- looking into the cars.

14 AD: Okay.

15 SH: I think she did that two -- two -- two or three  
16 times.

17 AD: Okay.

18 SH: And he's still backing -- you know, he's going back  
19 behind it, and then that's when he pulled out a gun  
20 and shot her three or four times. And that's when  
21 she, like, had -- like I said, it looked like blood,  
22 and the reason why I'm saying it looked like blood,  
23 because before it started, they explained to us that  
24 there's different color, like, uh, detergents,  
25 sometimes they're red or blue. She had a blue one,

1 and I was assuming, when I saw that, at first that  
2 it was a red one. But it sounds so real, like a  
3 gun, because I know. It was --

4 AD: Did he -- did he -- did you see him point the gun at  
5 her --

6 SH: Yes.

7 AD: -- the officer? Okay. About how far was he from  
8 her when he -- when he did that?

9 SH: How far? I'm not good with feet and stuff right  
10 now, but I -- let's say you're -- can I get up and  
11 show you --

12 AD: Sure.

13 SH: -- or no?

14 AD: Of course.

15 SH: Okay. Let's say this is the back of the car, and so  
16 like -- like that, like right -- like this distance.  
17 It was very close.

18 AD: From where I'm sitting?

19 SH: Yeah, so I --

20 AD: Okay.

21 SH: -- don't know how many feet this is, but, you know  
22 --

23 AD: Okay. All right.

24 SH: Maybe five, six? I don't really know.

25 AD: Five, six feet? Okay. And then, uh --

1 SH: Maybe -- maybe a little bit -- let's see. Yeah,  
2 maybe seven or eight feet, but it was very close.

3 AD: When -- when he was holding it --

4 SH: It looked like he was holding it --

5 AD: Was he holding --

6 SH: But he's a tall guy.

7 AD: Uh-huh.

8 SH: So I said for -- since he's a tall guy, you know, it  
9 wasn't, like, low, because he's a tall guy.

10 AD: Uh-huh.

11 SH: I do know that.

12 AD: Okay.

13 SH: So -- and she was probably my height, which I'm 5,5,  
14 so I don't know exactly, but I do know he was a tall  
15 gentleman.

16 AD: With what hand was he holding the gun?

17 SH: I think the right.

18 AD: Okay. But, I mean, was it one hand or was it two  
19 hands?

20 SH: I only saw one hand.

21 AD: Okay. What, uh -- what color was the gun?

22 SH: I don't know.

23 AD: Okay. All right. Um, and then -- so your what --  
24 heard about what -- how many shots?

25 SH: Three or four.

1 AD: Okay. And then -- and then after that happened,  
2 what did she do?

3 SH: First, she grabbed her, like, stomach --

4 AD: Uh-huh.

5 SH: -- and she kind of did a step, like a -- like -- she  
6 went like this: step, step. And then she fell down,  
7 like, to the ground, and that's when the gentleman  
8 ran over there.

9 AD: The -- the officer who --

10 SH: The officer who had shot her.

11 AD: Okay.

12 SH: And then the cap -- the cap -- I mean, the Chief,  
13 like they -- everybody, all the police officers ran  
14 over there, trying to -- and, like, I saw the Chief  
15 and him working to -- they, you know, ripped her and  
16 working, and they were telling everybody, "Get  
17 inside. Get inside," but then they were yelling,  
18 "Call 911," or -- and, "Get Rescue next door," and  
19 the Rescue came out, and I saw them with some boxes  
20 and stuff, and they were trying to get us inside.

21 AD: Okay. Uh, did you see what the officer did -- what  
22 happened to that gun?

23 SH: No, I did not.

24 AD: Okay. Uh, so, basically, when she was stepping, she  
25 kind of made a circle, then fell down?

1 SH: Kind of like a circle, yes, and fell. Right.

2 AD: Okay. All right. And then do you know her? Did  
3 you know that woman?

4 SH: No, I just met her -- I just kind of -- she sat at  
5 the table behind me --

6 AD: Uh-huh.

7 SH: -- and they put a card in, um, the little booklet.  
8 Like, they said at the beginning there's two cards  
9 that say "firearm" in one of the chairs with the  
10 book -- booklet. She was sitting behind me. She  
11 reached to the next table behind her, because nobody  
12 had the extra card. So the table behind her was  
13 empty -- sorry.

14 AD: It's all right.

15 SH: She reached for the other booklet at the tables  
16 behind her and found the card. So she -- then she  
17 said, "Well, here, I have the card." So when we  
18 were out there before it started, I remember someone  
19 was teaching her how to use it, and they brought her  
20 back up to where we were all standing with the  
21 Chief, and she still wasn't sure about it, so they  
22 said, "Let's take you back over here and show you  
23 again," you know, "how to use it."

24 AD: The -- the gun.

25 SH: The gun, which is --



1 AD: Yeah.

2 SH: -- yeah, with the detergent they said that's like --  
3 detergent soap, I think they said.

4 AD: Okay.

5 SH: So they took her back again to show her how to use  
6 it.

7 AD: Can you describe that gun, what it looked like or  
8 what it was?

9 SH: It looked like a Glock --

10 AD: Okay.

11 SH: -- to be honest with you.

12 AD: What color was it?

13 SH: I -- I -- honestly, I'm -- I don't know. I don't  
14 want to --

15 AD: Okay.

16 SH: -- say black because I'm not sure.

17 AD: Okay.

18 SH: I just remember seeing the --

19 AD: Okay.

20 SH: The handle was -- the -- the -- the, uh -- my mind  
21 is so -- the clip was black, and it looked like real  
22 bullets because, you know, they -- they showed us  
23 with the little blue, you know, uh, detergent they  
24 kept saying that they called it.

1 AD: Okay. Um, all right. Um, around what time was this,  
2 all this?

3 SH: It was around 7-ish.

4 AD: Okay. All right. So -- um, and about how many  
5 people were in the crowd -- I mean, in -- in the  
6 group watching, would you estimate?

7 SH: Thirty-five.

8 AD: Okay. Um --

9 SH: But a lot of people didn't see, probably, because,  
10 you know, everyone's standing there, like, you know,  
11 all around.

12 AD: Okay.

13 SH: And I remember before it started, I just looked  
14 around at people and some people were on their cells  
15 or --

16 AD: Okay. What did, um -- um, all right, so she's, um  
17 -- the scenario was someone looking into cars. Um --

18 SH: Right.

19 AD: And then this guy, um -- you know, she goes and sees  
20 what he's doing, uh --

21 SH: And she's trying to --

22 AD: -- during roleplaying.

23 SH: Right, and they explained to us what she was  
24 supposed to do, like if she thought she should pull  
25 her weapon, like, for instance, if a cop -- that's

1           what you guys deal with every day, and they  
2           explained to us that either she talks him down or  
3           she pulls her gun and shoots him. That's what they  
4           explained to us, but for her to figure out -- to  
5           handle the scenario.

6   AD: Take your time.

7   SH: I'm sorry.

8   AD: It's all right. It's okay.

9   SH: It's not every day you see something like that.

10  AD: It's okay. It's all right.

11  SH: Um, and that's what she was trying to do, was figure  
12       out the scenario, and that's what they explained to  
13       us that you -- you know, she would do. And they had  
14       picked, you know, the two people who got the card,  
15       and -- and she went first.

16  AD: Was there -- was there anybody, um, behind them when  
17       this whole scenario was being played out --

18  SH: No.

19  AD: -- or anything? Everyone was --

20  SH: Everyone was over here on this side, um, you know,  
21       where they had us back up over on -- on one specific  
22       side, and they parked a police car, like I said,  
23       over there for it to happen.

24  AD: A -- a police car. Any other cars?

1 SH: Well, I -- I didn't look to see if there was any  
2 other cars. Like, I didn't --

3 AD: Okay.

4 SH: Like, my focus when it was happening --

5 AD: Yeah.

6 SH: Because I thought it was too real to hear gunshots  
7 like that, because I know what gunshots sound like,  
8 and that's why I was like, "Wow, that's really damn  
9 good for a fake."

10 AD: Were they all -- were they all the same?

11 SH: Yes.

12 AD: The sound.

13 SH: Yes.

14 AD: Okay. Okay. And so after, then, when she grabbed  
15 herself and kind of did the circle and fell, the  
16 officer ran over to her?

17 SH: The one with the hoodie and the --

18 AD: The one -- yeah, the one who was --

19 SH: Yes, the one who was there, and then --

20 AD: The roleplaying?

21 SH: Yes, the roleplaying sir. Uh-huh.

22 AD: And do you remember his name or who he -- who he is?

23 SH: No, I don't.

24 AD: Just really tall.

25 SH: All I know, he was really tall.

1 AD: Okay. All right.

2 SH: And I know the Chief ran over there --

3 AD: Okay.

4 SH: -- and then a bunch of other people, and they were,  
5 like, getting us inside.

6 AD: How -- how -- how long do you think -- how long do  
7 you think it take -- it took them to get you inside?

8 SH: Not very long, maybe five minutes.

9 AD: Okay.

10 SH: When everything was happening, they wanted us -- it  
11 was like less than five minutes.

12 AD: Okay. Did they -- was anything said to you, though,  
13 while you were inside or --

14 SH: Um --

15 AD: -- anything said at all?

16 SH: Um, a lady came in and says -- uh, she was waiting  
17 for someone to come in to talk to us to let us know  
18 what happened, what was happening. Um, the Chief  
19 walked in, and he was white as a ghost, and I guess  
20 he walked through and -- honestly, I was in shock.  
21 I don't remember what exactly he said. He said  
22 something, and then I think it was -- I couldn't  
23 remember who the other man was, but he came in and  
24 they told us not to discuss anything among  
25 everybody.

1 AD: Okay.

2 SH: And I don't know -- I don't know anybody from the  
3 Chamber. It was my first time coming back.

4 AD: Okay.

5 SH: And the -- how I happened to come here tonight was  
6 they had told me I didn't make the -- the -- they  
7 already had too many people, and at 2:00 today, they  
8 sent me an email saying they had, um, two openings  
9 if I would be interested.

10 AD: Did you, um -- when -- when all this happened  
11 between her and then -- and the -- the roleplaying  
12 officer, did you hear her say anything after --  
13 after the -- that interaction and she grabs herself  
14 and kind of spun around? Did you hear her say --

15 SH: Didn't hear her say anything.

16 AD: -- say anything to --

17 SH: Nothing.

18 AD: Okay. All right.

19 SH: Nothing.

20 AD: All right. Is there anything else that you can  
21 think of that I didn't -- is there anything that I  
22 did not ask you, anything that I did not cover with  
23 you that comes to mind in reference to this whole  
24 incident?

25 SH: Not that I can think of.

1 AD: Okay. All right. Thank you. All right, Miss  
2 Hueston, this, uh, concludes the interview. End of  
3 interview, time 11:32 p.m.

4 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

5 Transcribed by: sdk/aef

1 (INTERVIEW OF SUSAN K. HUNTER, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MO: Special Agent Michael Ortiz

6 SH: Susan K. Hunter

7 MO: Good evening. I'm Special Agent Michael Ortiz of  
8 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's  
9 date is August the 9th, 2016. The time is 10:25  
10 p.m. Be taking a sworn statement from white female  
11 Susan K. Hunter. Last name is spelled H-U-N-T-E-R.  
12 Ms. Hunter's date of birth is 8/10 of 1958. Uh,  
13 home address is 3640 Bal Harbor Boulevard, No. 213,  
14 and that's in Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950. Uh, Ms.  
15 Hunter's phone number -- contact, uh, number is 239-  
16 289-2644. Uh, this evening's interview is taking  
17 place at the Punta Gorda Police Department, 1410  
18 Tamiami Trail, in Punta Gorda, Florida. And  
19 specifically, we're in the accreditation manager's  
20 office. Um, Ms. Hunter, can you -- also, the  
21 purpose of this interview this evening is -- is a  
22 discharge of a firearm by -- by an officer. Uh, Ms.  
23 Hunter, can you please state your name and your date  
24 of birth?

25 SH: Uh, my name is Susan K. Hunter. And my date of  
26 birth is 8/10/1958.



1 MO: And, Ms. Hunter, you know the meaning of perjury?

2 SH: Yes. I do.

3 MO: In your own words, can you tell me what perjury is?

4 SH: Uh, lying under oath.

5 MO: Yes, ma'am. At this time, will you allow me to  
6 swear you in for the purpose of taking a sworn  
7 statement?

8 SH: Yes.

9 MO: Please raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
10 raised. Do you, Ms. Hunter -- Susan Hunter,  
11 solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth  
12 and nothing but the truth in the matter about to  
13 discuss?

14 SH: Yes. I do.

15 MO: Very good. Relax. Uh, Ms. Hunter, directing your  
16 attention -- uh, you came to the Punta Gorda Police  
17 Department this evening. And what was the purpose  
18 of coming to the police department?

19 SH: Uh, a Chamber of Commerce -- for the Punta Gorda  
20 Chamber of Commerce event --

21 MO: Okay.

22 SH: -- was held tonight.

23 MO: What type of event was it?

24 SH: Uh, it was just a night with the police --

25 MO: Okay.

1 SH: -- department.

2 MO: Was that invite only or how did that work?

3 SH: Uh, yes. Yes.

4 MO: Okay. And what time did you arrive?

5 SH: Uh, about 5:15.

6 MO: Okay. And this activity at the police department,  
7 what times were they supposed to -- what time was it  
8 supposed to take place?

9 SH: Uh, I think 5:30 to 8.

10 MO: Okay.

11 SH: I believe.

12 MO: And were you given a -- a menu or an activity -- an  
13 idea of an activity? What you were going to be  
14 doing at the police department tonight.

15 SH: Um, after I got here, yes.

16 MO: Okay. But before then, did you have any idea --

17 SH: No.

18 MO: -- what you were doing?

19 SH: No.

20 MO: What did you think you would be doing?

21 SH: Not -- I knew it was going to be maybe like a little  
22 tour of the station, and --

23 MO: Okay.

24 SH: -- some more information about what the police  
25 department does here in Punta Gorda.

1 MO: Okay. And when you -- come -- did you come by  
2 yourself tonight?

3 SH: No.

4 MO: Who did you come with?

5 SH: I came with my boyfriend.

6 MO: And his name?

7 SH: Logan Davis.

8 MO: Okay. So, you arrive at 5:15. And where did you go  
9 once you came to the police department?

10 SH: Um, we came into the front lobby area and sat there  
11 for a while, until Gloria came out and let us in.

12 MO: Okay.

13 SH: At about 5:30.

14 MO: And I may have asked -- and my -- it escapes right  
15 now. This was a Chamber of Commerce event?

16 SH: Yes.

17 MO: Okay. And about how many people were here?

18 SH: Uh, I think they were expecting 39. And I think  
19 about 30 showed up.

20 MO: Okay.

21 SH: Something like that.

22 MO: So, Gloria takes you from the front lobby and she  
23 takes you to where?

24 SH: Uh, we first went to -- I'm trying to think of where  
25 we first went. I know we went into a -- with, uh,

1 Captain Jason, we went into the records department.  
2 But I think we -- I'm not quite sure where we  
3 initially started. I think just at the lobby area.  
4 MO: Okay.  
5 SH: Something in the -- I don't remember.  
6 MO: Okay.  
7 SH: I know we first went to the records. But --  
8 MO: Okay. And this was a part of a tour?  
9 SH: Yes. Part of the tour.  
10 MO: Okay. And did there come a time -- did you go into  
11 a classroom at all?  
12 SH: No, wait. Okay. That's what it was. We went into  
13 the classroom.  
14 MO: Okay.  
15 SH: Then we watched a video with -- with the chief, at  
16 first.  
17 MO: Okay. And what type of --  
18 SH: And then we went into the --  
19 MO: -- video -- what type of video was it?  
20 SH: Um, it was about -- just a PowerPoint presentation  
21 about what the police department does, how many  
22 employees, what -- the kind of budget, and things  
23 like that. Just going over the, you know --  
24 MO: Okay.  
25 SH: -- the operations of it.

1 MO: And -- and at this time, or even prior to that, were  
2 you given any idea what you would be doing?

3 SH: Yeah. They kind of went over that we were going to  
4 have a tour and be described certain areas of the  
5 police department, and certain people and what they  
6 do. And then there was going to be a couple of  
7 other things, that we were going to go outside for,  
8 and, uh --

9 MO: What were you going to go outside for? Did they  
10 explain to you?

11 SH: Um, yeah. There was -- there was two things that  
12 they put business cards in -- in the handouts that  
13 they gave out. And -- and there was like four  
14 business cards, I think. And then two of them were  
15 going to be using the Taser, and two of the people  
16 are going to be using a -- a -- doing a -- like a  
17 live action takedown, or something.

18 MO: Okay. Was this like a role-playing type scenario?

19 SH: Yes. Yes.

20 MO: Okay.

21 SH: It was.

22 MO: So, out of the class only four people had got, uh --

23 SH: Got chosen, yeah.

24 MO: Okay. Were they randomly or --

25 SH: Just, like I said, the business cards were put in

1 the, uh, handouts and --

2 MO: Oh, okay. So, everybody got the handout. And

3 they're -- so, the business card --

4 SH: Right.

5 MO: -- in --

6 SH: Whoever that was, that --

7 MO: And what -- do you remember, what did the business

8 card -- I guess the business card, from what I've

9 gathered from you, gave them their assignments?

10 SH: Yeah. It was just the chief's card was put into

11 their --

12 MO: Okay.

13 SH: -- their booklet that was handed out. And then, um,

14 I think it said either "Taser" on one or "Live

15 Action" on the other. And --

16 MO: Okay.

17 SH: -- that determined who the four people were going to

18 be able to do this.

19 MO: Okay. And was it explained exactly how that

20 scenario -- that role-playing was going to go?

21 SH: Um, not -- I don't think so, really.

22 MO: Okay.

23 SH: No. Not too much.

24 MO: Did there come a time -- who was -- who handed out

25 the booklets or who was present --

1 SH: It was just on the table when we came in.

2 MO: It was on the table when you came in.

3 SH: Yeah.

4 MO: Did you have assigned seats? Or --

5 SH: No.

6 MO: So, wherever somebody sat --

7 SH: Yeah. It was just random.

8 MO: Okay. And so, at some point you were directed to go  
9 outside?

10 SH: Yes. Uh-huh.

11 MO: Okay. And do you remember what time of day that  
12 was?

13 SH: Uh, I'd say 6, 6:30ish. Something like that.

14 MO: Okay. Was it dark out?

15 SH: No.

16 MO: Okay.

17 SH: It wasn't dark.

18 MO: Was it raining?

19 SH: Uh, it was just starting to spit rain a little bit.

20 MO: Okay.

21 SH: Just barely.

22 MO: Okay. When you went outside, what area of the  
23 police department outside did you go to?

24 SH: Um, we went out and we looked at, uh -- one of the  
25 cruisers had its trunk open, and -- and they did a

1 demonstration of the lights and the sirens. And  
2 then the -- the marine officer was there with his  
3 boat and his truck. And he explained a few things.  
4 And then we went and talked to the bicycle officer,  
5 and he explained a few things. And -- and then I  
6 think that's when we went over to do the live action  
7 thing. And --

8 MO: Where did that take place at?

9 SH: It was kind of right in front of the community  
10 garden.

11 MO: Okay.

12 SH: Toward the back of the lot.

13 MO: Okay. And describe that area to me. What -- what  
14 was set up for the scenario?

15 SH: Um, there were, I think, two cars straight out of  
16 the back of the building parked in the far --  
17 against the back wall.

18 MO: Okay.

19 SH: And then I think there was a police car that was  
20 still running up by the door.

21 MO: Okay.

22 SH: Diagonally where the door was.

23 MO: Okay.

24 SH: And, uh, then on the other side there was an ammo  
25 truck.



1 MO: An ammo truck?

2 SH: Yeah.

3 MO: What's that'?

4 SH: For -- from some -- red truck that said something  
5 ammunition on it.

6 MO: Okay.

7 SH: Or something. I don't know. I think it was just  
8 there to deliver or --

9 MO: Okay.

10 SH: -- something. I don't know --

11 MO: Okay.

12 SH: -- if that had anything to do with it or not.

13 MO: Okay.

14 SH: But, I noticed it.

15 MO: Okay. And you go outside now. Are these -- are  
16 they -- are four people -- how many people are  
17 participating in this -- give me a word picture that  
18 I can picture what's going on.

19 SH: Well, what was going to happen -- this was like the  
20 first scenario, and, um, and the officer was -- had  
21 put a face mask on and a -- and a hoodie on.

22 MO: Okay.

23 SH: And he was going to be the suspect.

24 MO: Okay.

25 SH: And then Mary Knowlton from the library was going to  
American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.

1 be the -- play the role of the officer.

2 MO: Okay.

3 SH: And so the chief explained to her a few things  
4 about, you know, this -- this play gun that she was  
5 going to use and how things worked. And he  
6 explained a little bit about the, uh -- the, uh,  
7 soap bullets that are made.

8 MO: Okay.

9 SH: And that certain colors for certain officers, and  
10 certain things like that he explained, and stuff.

11 MO: Okay.

12 SH: And, uh, then they said, "Okay, let's do this."

13 MO: Okay. Now, was Mary wearing any safety equipment?  
14 Say goggles, any headgear?

15 SH: No. They gave her a badge and they gave her a gun.

16 MO: Okay.

17 SH: And they might have given her something else small,  
18 but I don't --

19 MO: Okay.

20 SH: -- remember. Oh, I think it was supposed to be a  
21 holster but they said she was left-handed. So, they  
22 -- it didn't work.

23 MO: Okay.

24 SH: That didn't work.

25 MO: So -- so, the chief was giving this safety demo with  
American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.

1 the -- with the gun. Was he pointing -- was he  
2 showing the people the gun and --

3 SH: Yeah. Yeah.

4 MO: -- features?

5 SH: Yeah.

6 MO: How about the -- the -- the role-playing officer?

7 Was he part of -- was -- how many people were -- was  
8 it just Mary and another person, or how many people  
9 were taking part in this particular scenario?

10 SH: I think it was the chief, I think it was Mary and I  
11 think, uh, another officer might have been involved.

12 MO: Was he the one that was all hooded up?

13 SH: No.

14 MO: Okay.

15 SH: No. I'm not --

16 MO: Was he in uniform?

17 SH: -- quite -- yes.

18 MO: Okay. Remember his name?

19 SH: Uh, I know, uh -- uh, Claschini was over --

20 MO: I'm sorry?

21 SH: Officer -- Captain -- I don't know how to say --

22 MO: Claschini.

23 SH: Claschini.

24 MO: I think, yes.

25 SH: He was over to the -- toward the front door -- or,

1 the back door.

2 MO: Okay.

3 SH: Uh, to my -- I was looking this way -- he -- he was  
4 to my right. And he was talking to Officer Grimm, I  
5 believe it is -- the lady.

6 MO: Okay. And --

7 SH: That's here -- it was -- I think they were over here  
8 talking. I remember that.

9 MO: Okay.

10 SH: And then I remember somebody else that was, like --  
11 the chief was here, Mary was here and then there was  
12 somebody else on the other side of Mary.

13 MO: Okay.

14 SH: But I couldn't tell you who that was.

15 MO: Were they part of the scenario?

16 SH: I think so, because they -- I think he was like part  
17 of -- you know, bringing the gun and the stuff out  
18 and handing it to her.

19 MO: Okay.

20 SH: And that the chief was explaining it. But I -- I --  
21 I'm sorry, I couldn't tell you who it was.

22 MO: Okay. How -- how far back were you from --

23 SH: I was within, like, 4 feet from her.

24 MO: Four feet of the scenario.

25 SH: Yes.

1 MO: Okay. So, was the chief -- Captain -- I hope I  
2 don't butcher his name -- Claschini --

3 SH: Yes.

4 MO: -- and Mary -- were they part of the role-playing in  
5 this exercise --

6 SH: No.

7 MO: -- or were they observers?

8 SH: Captain Claschini was over to the side.

9 MO: Okay.

10 SH: He was over talking to -- to the other officer.

11 MO: Okay. How about Chief --

12 SH: Within, like, maybe, like, 20 feet to --

13 MO: Okay.

14 SH: -- the other side of me.

15 MO: Was Chief Lewis involved in the role-playing?

16 SH: Yes. Chief --

17 MO: As --

18 SH: -- Lewis was right in front of me, and Mary was  
19 right in front of him.

20 MO: When -- when I ask if he was part of the role-  
21 playing, is he part of Mary's backup? Is he part of  
22 -- or, is he just watching?

23 SH: No. No. He was just explaining the --

24 MO: So, he was just --

25 SH: -- gun.

1 MO: -- explaining? Okay.

2 SH: And then a little bit about how it was going to  
3 happen.

4 MO: Okay. So, he wasn't an -- was he an actual role-  
5 player?

6 SH: No. No.

7 MO: Okay.

8 SH: No.

9 MO: So, it was Mary and then the gentleman that you said  
10 was suiting up with the --

11 SH: Yes.

12 MO: -- um, with the hat.

13 SH: With like a face mask --

14 MO: Face mask.

15 SH: -- thing and a -- and a hoodie.

16 MO: Okay. Was there any -- was -- was his weapon  
17 displayed in any way, explaining the safety features  
18 or the --

19 SH: No.

20 MO: -- or the ammunition?

21 SH: No.

22 MO: Nothing like that?

23 SH: Uh-uh.

24 MO: Okay. So, after -- after Mary gets her gun, did  
25 there come a time when the role playing actually

1 began?

2 SH: Yes.

3 MO: All right. Can you describe that to me?

4 SH: Okay. Um, the officer with the face mask was over  
5 behind the car. There was the -- like I said, the  
6 two cars there. He was behind the car on the left.

7 MO: Okay.

8 SH: Against the wall.

9 MO: Okay.

10 SH: And he came out between the two cars, and he put  
11 something on top of the roof of that car on the  
12 left.

13 MO: Okay.

14 SH: Something small, like a -- like a -- like a cell  
15 phone battery.

16 MO: Okay.

17 SH: Thin, kind of rectangular. It looked like metal.  
18 Dark color. Um, I didn't really see it really good.  
19 I just saw him put something on there, on top of the  
20 roof of the car. Then, he walked back around to the  
21 front of the car, to, like, the passenger front  
22 side. And then they said okay, and Mary started  
23 walking from my left side toward -- between the two  
24 cars. He starts coming around, and I hear pop. And  
25 I see the -- see it. I see the fire coming out of

1 the gun.

2 MO: Okay.

3 SH: And I see her stumble and go down.

4 MO: When you say pop, pop, did that come from the --

5 SH: From --

6 MO: -- alleged burglar?

7 SH: Yes.

8 MO: Okay. And so, how many --

9 SH: The --

10 MO: -- pops did you hear?

11 SH: Two. I saw them. I heard them.

12 MO: Okay.

13 SH: Like I said, I was right there in front. So --

14 MO: Okay.

15 SH: I got a good look at it.

16 MO: And you heard the pop, pop, and Mary went down. And

17 how -- did she --

18 SH: Everybody was -- gasped, because nobody realized

19 that he was going to shoot the gun.

20 MO: Right.

21 SH: And she was -- she stumbled. She started, um --

22 well, as they -- this thing started going on and she

23 was coming up to it before this all happened --

24 MO: Right.

25 SH: -- she started going -- puffing her arms up, like --



1           like trying to look intimidating, I thought.

2   MO:   Okay.

3   SH:   But maybe that's not what was going on.  I'm not  
4           sure.

5   MO:   Okay.

6   SH:   Because I could only see her from the back.  But,  
7           she did this --

8   MO:   This was before the gunshots?

9   SH:   Yes.

10  MO:   Okay.

11  SH:   So, her arms went up a little bit.  Like her chest  
12           puffed out a little bit, like --

13  MO:   Uh-huh.

14  SH:   -- you know -- and she was walking toward -- then he  
15           starts coming around the -- the front of the car  
16           into -- between the two cars, and I heard the pop,  
17           pop.  I see her.  She starts stumbling.  She -- I  
18           think she gasped.  I'm not sure.  Or screamed or  
19           moaned or something.  And she started going down on  
20           her knees, and then she just went facedown to the  
21           ground.

22  MO:   Okay.

23  SH:   And I saw blood on her arm.

24  MO:   Okay.  How far was the role-player from Mary,  
25           roughly, when the -- when you heard the pop, pop?

1 SH: Five, six feet.

2 MO: Five or six feet? Okay. When Mary went down, was  
3 she responsive?

4 SH: No.

5 MO: Okay. Did --

6 SH: I think everybody thought she was -- it was just  
7 part of the scenario at first.

8 MO: Okay.

9 SH: Everybody goes, "Oh, this is just part of the  
10 thing." I heard so many -- a couple -- a couple of  
11 people said that. And I go, "No, it's not. No.  
12 This is real."

13 MO: Okay.

14 SH: And then people started running toward her, and the  
15 officer came and then other people were coming with,  
16 like, medical equipment and stuff out to help her.

17 MO: Did the role-player make any statements?

18 SH: I don't -- somebody said, uh -- what was it --  
19 "Don't -- don't leave me now" or something. They  
20 were pumping her chest.

21 MO: Okay.

22 SH: And somebody said that. I'm not sure who it was.  
23 But, I think he ran to her immediately and a couple  
24 of other officers just convened on the thing.

25 MO: So --

1 SH: Maybe it --

2 MO: -- so, after the pop, pop he rendered aid?

3 SH: I -- I believe so. Yes.

4 MO: Okay. And how long were you at the -- at the scene,

5 when this --

6 SH: Well, the -- you know, all this commotion was going

7 on and stuff. And then Gloria started yelling at

8 everybody to get back into the --

9 MO: Okay.

10 SH: -- uh, the multipurpose room. And then I was

11 looking for Logan. So, I was looking around and

12 stuff. And then the chief came. And he goes,

13 "Okay. Everybody get in." And, you know, he -- he

14 started very sternly telling people to get back in.

15 And, uh, so I found Logan and we walked back in the

16 room.

17 MO: And Logan is your boyfriend?

18 SH: Yes.

19 MO: And that's Logan Davis?

20 SH: Logan Davis. Yes.

21 MO: Okay. So, after you -- after you went inside the

22 multipurpose room -- was it the multipurpose room or

23 the classroom?

24 SH: The classroom.

25 MO: The classroom. Any statements that stood out to



1 I have right now. Is there anything that you can  
2 think of that I may have not asked?

3 SH: I don't think so.

4 MO: Okay. So, about the time frame -- what are you  
5 thinking, about what time did this occur?

6 SH: Um, like 6:30ish.

7 MO: 6:30ish? Okay.

8 SH: Something like that.

9 MO: Was it still light out?

10 SH: Yes.

11 MO: Okay.

12 SH: Yes. And barely starting to sprinkle, just a little  
13 tiny bit. Not enough to push people back in the  
14 building, you know.

15 MO: Okay. Again, that's all the questions I have.

16 SH: All right.

17 MO: Is there anything that you want to add, change or  
18 delete from this statement that you just provided?

19 SH: Um, I don't think so.

20 MO: Okay. Has everything you've told me been the truth  
21 to the best of you knowledge and belief?

22 SH: Absolutely.

23 MO: Okay. That will conclude this evening's interview.  
24 Today's date is August 9th, 2016. The time is 10:42  
25 p.m. Thank you, Ms. Hunter.

1 SH: Thank you.

2 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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24 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF SUSAN MAHER, #2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 MO: Special Agent Michael Ortiz

6 SM: Susan Maher

7 MO: Good evening. I'm Special Agent Michael Ortiz with  
8 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Today's  
9 date is August the 9th, 2016. The time is 9:31 p.m.  
10 Be taking a sworn statement from white female Susan  
11 Maher. Last name is spelled M, as in Mary, A-H-E-R.  
12 Ms. Maher's date of birth is 8/1/1974. Her address  
13 is 4204 River Bank Way, in Punta Gorda, Florida,  
14 33980. Uh, cell phone number of 321-402-8303.  
15 Today's interview is taking place in the office of  
16 Gloria Sepanic, accreditation manager at the Punta  
17 Gorda Police Department, 1410 Tamiami Trail in Punta  
18 Gorda, Florida, 33950. Ms. Maher, can you please  
19 state your name and your date of birth?

20 SM: My name is Susan Maher. And I was born August 1st,  
21 '74.

22 MO: Okay. And Ms. Maher, do you know the meaning of  
23 perjury?

24 SM: Yes. I do.

25 MO: Okay. In your own words, can you tell me what  
26 perjury is?

1 SM: It's lying under oath.

2 MO: Yes, ma'am. At this time, will you allow me to  
3 swear you in for the purpose of taking a sworn  
4 statement?

5 SM: Yes.

6 MO: Please raise your right hand. Your right hand is  
7 raised. Do you, Susan Maher, solemnly swear to tell  
8 the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth  
9 in the matter we're about to discuss?

10 SM: Yes. I do.

11 MO: Okay. Directing your attention to this evening,  
12 you're here at the Punta Gorda Police Department.

13 SM: Yes.

14 MO: And what were you here for today?

15 SM: Uh, we were here for, uh -- it's a -- a citizen  
16 training.

17 MO: Citizens training?

18 SM: Uh-huh.

19 MO: So, like a Citizens' Police Academy? Is that what  
20 they call it?

21 SM: Yes. That's correct.

22 MO: Okay.

23 SM: Police academy.

24 MO: And what time did you get here today?

25 SM: Uh, we got here -- I got here at 5:30.



1 MO: 5:30 p.m.? Okay. And tell me a little bit about  
2 the police academy. What -- what -- what does that  
3 entail? What do you do?

4 SM: It was, um, explaining just what the police does --  
5 the force does. And they were taking us around to  
6 all the different rooms and explaining, um, what  
7 they do in -- in every different room.

8 MO: Okay. And how many classes have you had so far  
9 here?

10 SM: We've just had one.

11 MO: So, this was your first night?

12 SM: It was our -- my first night.

13 MO: Okay. And what was the topic tonight of -- what --  
14 tell me what you did at 5:30, when you first got  
15 here?

16 SM: When we first got in, Chief Tom Lewis just explained  
17 a bit about Punta Gorda and how it was the second  
18 safest place to live in Florida. And he was just  
19 going through the statistics of the -- the city.

20 MO: Okay.

21 SM: So -- uh-huh.

22 MO: Okay. And then after Chief Lewis left, what -- what  
23 transpired then?

24 SM: Uh, we just, um -- uh, followed the other chief  
25 round the different departments. And he explained

1           what they do.

2   MO:   Okay.   So, you went on a tour?

3   SM:   It was -- we went on a tour --

4   MO:   Okay.

5   SM:   -- of the facility.

6   MO:   All right.

7   SM:   Yes.

8   MO:   And what did you do after your tour?

9   SM:   Um, well, during the tour we were told to go

10           outside, because we were going to have, um -- it was

11           like a little -- I guess a little show or a --

12   MO:   A demonstration?

13   SM:   Demonstration.

14   MO:   Okay.

15   SM:   Outside.   And, um, so during the first half of our

16           -- there was, like, a card in our little booklet.

17           And it said who was going to do what --

18   MO:   Okay.

19   SM:   -- in the enactment.

20   MO:   Okay.   So, basically, paraphrasing you, everybody

21           was given a card.

22   SM:   Everyone was given a card.

23   MO:   And what your role was, in like a role-playing?

24   SM:   Yes.   Yes.

25   MO:   Okay.   And --

1 SM: Uh-huh.

2 MO: -- you got a card. Right?

3 SM: I -- I -- um --

4 MO: Did you get a card?

5 SM: No, I didn't get a card.

6 MO: You didn't get a card. Okay.

7 SM: It was only, um, a few --

8 MO: How many people got a card?

9 SM: I believe there was about, um -- uh, four people got  
10 a card.

11 MO: Okay. Okay. Four people got cards. And did you  
12 know who those people were?

13 SM: Uh, I believe -- I know who two were.

14 MO: Okay. Who were the two people that --

15 SM: Uh, one -- uh, one was Mary and one was, um, Debbie.

16 MO: Okay. Do you know Mary's last name?

17 SM: I don't know Mary's last name.

18 MO: Can you describe her to me?

19 SM: Yeah. Um, quite a tall older lady with, uh, gray  
20 hair.

21 MO: Okay. And the card that she received, do you know  
22 what role she was supposed to play?

23 SM: Um, she was the -- the, um -- she had the gun. So,  
24 she was -- decided -- the shooter, if she was going  
25 to be the shooter.

1 MO: Okay. So, Mary had the gun.

2 SM: Uh-huh.

3 MO: And she was going to be the -- so, for --

4 SM: So, the --

5 MO: -- I'm using quotes, the bad guy?

6 SM: -- the role -- yes.

7 MO: Or the police -- police person?

8 SM: Oh, she was going to be the police person.

9 MO: She was going to be the police person.

10 SM: Yeah. Yeah.

11 MO: Okay.

12 SM: Uh-huh.

13 MO: So, Mary was given a gun. What kind of gun was it?

14 Can you describe it to me?

15 SM: Oh, they didn't have the gun in the area with us.

16 MO: Oh, they didn't have the gun. Okay.

17 SM: No. It was --

18 MO: Now, did this scenario take place outside, or did

19 you wait until you got back in the classroom?

20 SM: Outside.

21 MO: So, you were outside?

22 SM: We were outside.

23 MO: Outside the building?

24 SM: Uh-huh.

25 MO: Okay.

1 SM: Outside the building.

2 MO: Okay. Now, when everybody got the -- when the four  
3 people got their cards, was it announced to the rest  
4 of the group --

5 SM: Yes. It was announced.

6 MO: -- what they were going to be?

7 SM: Yeah.

8 MO: Okay. So, Mary was going to be the police person.

9 SM: Uh-huh.

10 MO: And you mentioned the name Debbie.

11 SM: Uh, Debbie was going to also be the police person.

12 MO: Okay. And now, Debbie --

13 SM: And they would have --

14 MO: -- do you remember Debbie's last name?

15 SM: Debbie Malinowski.

16 MO: Debbie Malinowski?

17 SM: Uh-huh.

18 MO: Okay.

19 SM: And then, um, the other, uh, two were going to have  
20 a Taser. And I'm unsure --

21 MO: A Taser?

22 SM: -- of who that was.

23 MO: Okay. Were they male or female?

24 SM: Um, one of them was female but I -- I do not know  
25 who the other one was.

- 1 MO: Okay. So, the assignments were given outside.
- 2 SM: Uh-huh. No, the assignments were given inside.
- 3 MO: Oh, given inside.
- 4 SM: And then -- yeah. And then when we went outside,  
5 that's when, um, we were going to -- they were going  
6 to --
- 7 MO: Okay. What was the purpose --
- 8 SM: -- play the roles.
- 9 MO: Okay. So, you were inside when you got the roles.  
10 Right? Was that in a classroom?
- 11 SM: Yeah. It was in a classroom.
- 12 MO: It was in a classroom. Okay.
- 13 SM: So, we knew what was going to happen.
- 14 MO: Okay.
- 15 SM: We were all quite excited about the class.
- 16 MO: So, did the whole class go outside or --
- 17 SM: Yes.
- 18 MO: Okay. How --
- 19 SM: We went outside.
- 20 MO: How many people were in the class?
- 21 SM: About -- approximately 30, I think. I believe about  
22 30 people --
- 23 MO: Okay.
- 24 SM: -- were in the class.
- 25 MO: Okay. And before I go any further, were you -- did

- 1           you -- were you accompanied by anybody today?
- 2   SM:   Yes.
- 3   MO:   Okay.   Who did you come with?
- 4   SM:   Chief -- I can't remember his last -- oh, my --
- 5   MO:   He --
- 6   SM:   -- with -- no.
- 7   MO:   You came alone?
- 8   SM:   I -- I -- we were with the Chamber of Commerce.
- 9   MO:   Okay.   So, it was a group --
- 10  SM:   Yes.
- 11  MO:   -- that came in?
- 12  SM:   Yes.
- 13  MO:   Okay.   So, is everybody here tonight affiliated with
- 14       the --
- 15  SM:   We are all here.   Yes.
- 16  MO:   Was it the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce?
- 17  SM:   Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce?
- 18  MO:   Or Port Charlotte?
- 19  SM:   Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce.
- 20  MO:   Punta Gorda?   Okay.   And so, just paraphrasing, you
- 21       get the assignments in the classroom.   Correct?
- 22  SM:   Uh-huh.   Yes.
- 23  MO:   Four people.
- 24  SM:   Correct.
- 25  MO:   And all 30 people go out to the front.

1 SM: Yes. We --

2 MO: Was it the front where the flag is?

3 SM: No, it was out the back, actually.

4 MO: Out the back.

5 SM: And -- and --

6 MO: Okay.

7 SM: -- there was a police car there. So, we got to sit

8 inside the police car.

9 MO: Okay.

10 SM: We got to see the police bikes. So, we were all

11 standing there --

12 MO: Okay.

13 SM: -- and they were giving us, um -- they were telling

14 us all about, like, the police car and --

15 MO: Okay. Now, what was the reason for the -- for going

16 out from the classroom and going outside. Was that

17 just --

18 SM: Just to -- just, um, to see the police car,

19 basically.

20 MO: Okay.

21 SM: And just go over the roles of the different, um,

22 lieutenants and --

23 MO: Okay.

24 SM: Uh-huh.

25 MO: Okay. Did you have any conversations with anybody



1           about the scenario?

2   SM:  No.

3   MO:  Nothing?  Okay.

4   SM:  No.

5   MO:  Did there come a time when you went back into the

6           classroom?

7   SM:  No.  We stayed outside --

8   MO:  It's -- it's a --

9   SM:  -- and we followed, um, everyone to the, um, the

10          scene.  They were planning a -- they had a scene.

11  MO:  Okay.  And where was this scene?  Where was that

12          taken place?

13  SM:  Outside.

14  MO:  Outside?  In the back?

15  SM:  In the back, yeah.

16  MO:  Okay.  And what time was this about, still?

17  SM:  I'd say it was about 6:00.

18  MO:  Was it still light outside?

19  SM:  It was still light outside.

20  MO:  Was it raining?

21  SM:  Not yet, but --

22  MO:  Not yet?

23  SM:  -- we could hear thunder in the background.

24  MO:  You could hear thunder?

25  SM:  Yeah.

1 MO: Okay. Okay. So, the scenario takes place. And did  
2 it look like -- what -- tell me about this scenario.  
3 What did this scene look like?

4 SM: Well, there was, um, one -- a police car. There was  
5 a police car, and then there was just a random car  
6 in the corner. So, there was going to be, um -- I'd  
7 say, like, there was a pretend burglar that was  
8 looking into the car.

9 MO: Okay.

10 SM: So, Mary was going to approach and see how she would  
11 handle the situation.

12 MO: Mary was going to -- okay.

13 SM: Yeah.

14 MO: Was -- was Mary coached before on how to walk up?

15 SM: Yes. Yes. She was.

16 MO: Okay. So, she was coached. And who was the --

17 SM: She was coached.

18 MO: -- who was the facilitator? Who -- who was teaching  
19 the class at that time?

20 SM: Um, I believe it was, uh -- it could be Sergeant  
21 Woodard. I'm --

22 MO: Sergeant Woodard? Okay.

23 SM: -- uh, I think that was his name. But, yeah, he had  
24 -- he was showing her how -- um, with the gun, and  
25 then they were going through. And the bullets

1           weren't real bullets.

2   MO:   Okay.  So, Sergeant Woodard was showing the gun

3           before.

4   SM:   Yeah.  He was showing her.

5   MO:   Okay.  So, whose gun was he showing?

6   SM:   He was showing the -- the, um --

7   MO:   Mary's gun?

8   SM:   Mary's gun.

9   MO:   Mary's gun?  Okay.

10  SM:   Uh-huh.

11  MO:   And what kind of -- do you know anything about

12           firearms?

13  SM:   I don't know anything about firearms.

14  MO:   Okay.  All right.

15  SM:   I'm so sorry.

16  MO:   That's okay.  That's all right.  But, he was

17           explaining -- was he showing the -- were they

18           blanks?

19  SM:   Yes.  Blanks.  Yes.

20  MO:   Um, and he --

21  SM:   And they had liquid in them, like liquid detergent.

22           Or a --

23  MO:   Did he --

24  SM:   -- paint or something.

25  MO:   -- get -- did he mention a name for them?

1 SM: No. He didn't mention a name. And I have to point  
2 out, I was quite far back --

3 MO: Okay.

4 SM: -- in the group. So, I have to say that. I was  
5 quite -- I -- like four people back.

6 MO: Okay. Okay.

7 SM: From there.

8 MO: So, Sergeant Woodard was showing the -- the gun,  
9 that -- how safe it was --

10 SM: Yes.

11 MO: -- and something like that way?

12 SM: Yes.

13 MO: Uh, any other type of safety, uh -- safety aspects  
14 or safety pointers that he brought out or did he  
15 instruct?

16 SM: Um, no. You just shoot it and --

17 MO: Okay.

18 SM: -- just like --

19 MO: So, he showed the gun that Mary -- he did --

20 SM: Yes.

21 MO: -- eventually, did he hand the gun to Mary?

22 SM: He did. Yes.

23 MO: Okay. And how about any other firearms? Did you  
24 see any other firearms?

25 SM: I didn't see any other firearms.

1 MO: Okay. How about Debbie? She was supposed to be a  
2 police person too, right?

3 SM: She -- Debbie was inside.

4 MO: Debbie was inside?

5 SM: They kept Debbie Malinowski inside the building.

6 MO: Okay. Let -- all right. Let me -- let me back up.

7 SM: Uh-huh.

8 MO: So, were these supposed to be different scenarios?  
9 So, Mary was supposed to go first and then Debbie?  
10 Is that how it was supposed to go?

11 SM: Yeah. They were going to -- what they were, um,  
12 actually doing was Mary was going to go first --

13 MO: Okay.

14 SM: -- and see how she would handle the situation.

15 MO: Right.

16 SM: Okay. So, they kept them separate. Then they were  
17 going to take Mary back in the room, and then bring  
18 Debbie out and see how she would handle the  
19 situation --

20 MO: So, Debbie wasn't able to see --

21 SM: -- of a burglar. Debbie was not able to see.

22 MO: I see.

23 SM: So, it was just like --

24 MO: I see. So, Mary and Debbie. And then the two  
25 others with Tasers, was that going to be a separate

1 scenario?

2 SM: That was going to be a separate scenario.

3 MO: I got you.

4 SM: And we were going to actually go back into the

5 classroom and discuss the different scenarios.

6 MO: Oh, I got -- understand. So -- so, what I'm getting

7 at -- because I'm getting a word picture in my mind,

8 because I wasn't here --

9 SM: Uh-huh. Okay.

10 MO: -- is there were going to be four scenarios.

11 Correct?

12 SM: Yes.

13 MO: Two -- two separate scenarios involving firearms.

14 SM: Yes.

15 MO: And two separate scenarios involving Tasers.

16 SM: Tasers. Yes.

17 MO: Got you. So, was Mary the first one to --

18 SM: Mary was the first one to go out.

19 MO: Okay. And so prior to the exercise, just briefly --

20 rephrasing your words, uh, Sergeant Woodard gave a

21 safety demo, demonstrated the gun was --

22 SM: Yeah.

23 MO: -- a -- a -- a training weapon, perhaps.

24 SM: And I believe he -- he told her inside also, and

25 then he also showed her outside.

1 MO: Okay. Now, when Mary was going to -- did she have a  
2 gun belt on, like a police gun belt?

3 SM: Mary was quite far in front of me --

4 MO: A holster.

5 SM: -- and I didn't see.

6 MO: Okay.

7 SM: I believe -- I think that's what they put on her.  
8 But, I can't -- I didn't see, because I was quite --

9 MO: Okay.

10 SM: -- I was back from Mary.

11 MO: Any safety -- any safety goggles? Anything like  
12 that?

13 SM: I didn't see any safety --

14 MO: Okay. Any kind of padding or vests or --

15 SM: I believe she had a vest on.

16 MO: Was that her vest --

17 SM: But the --

18 MO: -- or was that one that was issued?

19 SM: It was one that was given -- issued to her. I  
20 believe she did. Yes.

21 MO: Okay. So, Mary is given a gun --

22 SM: Uh-huh.

23 MO: -- and just go over the scenario with me. What --  
24 what happened next?

25 SM: Yes. Mary was supposed to go over and then the

1           burglar was looking into the, um -- the car.

2   MO:   Okay.  Let me stop you there.  So, there was a

3           burglar --

4   SM:   Okay.

5   MO:   -- who was a role-player.  Right?

6   SM:   Role played burglar.

7   MO:   Okay.  And, now, was this role-player a police

8           person, or was that --

9   SM:   Yes.

10  MO:   -- somebody part of the group?

11  SM:   A police person.

12  MO:   Okay.

13  SM:   He was tall.  And he had a mask on.

14  MO:   Okay.

15  SM:   And a hoodie on.

16  MO:   Okay.  Any type of weapon that you saw from him?

17  SM:   I didn't see his weapon.

18  MO:   Okay.  And he was looking inside the car as part of

19           the scenario?

20  SM:   Yes.  As part of the scenario.  Yes.

21  MO:   Okay.  All right.  And then what happened?

22  SM:   And then Mary was getting closer to him.  I remember

23           -- I didn't have my glasses on, so I'm looking over.

24           And I believe he shouted, "Why are you pointing that

25           gun at me."



1 MO: Okay.

2 SM: That's what he said.

3 MO: Okay.

4 SM: That's what I heard. And I was kind of -- I heard

5 the thunder, and I looked behind me and next I heard

6 the -- the gunshot.

7 MO: Okay.

8 SM: And I actually screamed, and I jumped on the

9 gentleman to my left.

10 MO: Okay.

11 SM: Brad Gamblin.

12 MO: Okay.

13 SM: I jumped on him.

14 MO: What's his name?

15 SM: Because I heard -- Brad Gamblin.

16 MO: Gamblin. Okay.

17 SM: And, um, I heard a few shots. And I -- they were

18 loud. And, um --

19 MO: How many shots did you hear?

20 SM: Oh, let's see, um, I thought I heard five. It could

21 be three. It's three or five.

22 MO: Okay. I just know they were loud. And I know I

23 grabbed Brad. So, I was holding him.

24 MO: Okay.

25 SM: Uh-huh.

1 MO: Okay. And what -- what happened then?

2 SM: And then I remember we were all kind of joking and,  
3 "Oh, what a scenario." And -- and then I remember  
4 looking back over and I see Mary, uh, collapsed.  
5 And I thought it was part of the scene.

6 MO: Okay. All right. So, just backing up a little bit.

7 SM: Uh-huh.

8 MO: It was just two people involved in that scene. It  
9 was Mary and the --

10 SM: Two people.

11 MO: -- and the --

12 SM: The pretend burglar.

13 MO: -- and the pretend burglar. Okay.

14 SM: But I didn't see him shoot the gun. Because, like I  
15 say, I was looking the other direction --

16 MO: Towards the thunder.

17 SM: -- because of the rain -- towards the thunder.

18 MO: Okay.

19 SM: And then, of course, I was a little bit back. So, I  
20 was hiding kind of behind Brad.

21 MO: About how many feet back were you? Roughly.

22 SM: Oh, um, let me think. I was quite far back. I  
23 don't know.

24 MO: It's okay.

25 SM: Um, a hundred feet.

1 MO: A hundred feet back?

2 SM: Yeah.

3 MO: Okay. And when this scenario took place, was it at  
4 the marked police car --

5 SM: Yeah.

6 MO: -- or was it at the unmarked police -- or --

7 SM: It was at the unmarked police car.

8 MO: Unmarked. Was it an SUV type, or a sedan?

9 SM: It was a sedan.

10 MO: Okay. Were they on the driver's side or the  
11 passenger side?

12 SM: Let me think. I believe it was the passenger side.

13 MO: Towards the front or towards the back of the car?

14 SM: Towards the front of the car.

15 MO: Okay. So, you hear the three -- three to five  
16 gunshots.

17 SM: Uh-huh.

18 MO: And what happened after Mary --

19 SM: Collapsed.

20 MO: -- collapsed?

21 SM: Um, I get -- the pretend burglar, um -- I think we  
22 all thought it was part of the -- the scene. And  
23 then he realized that she was actually on the  
24 ground, because we thought she was acting. And he  
25 got down on the ground and, um, I remember a few of

1           the other, um, police ran over. And then we were  
2           told to leave the area.

3   MO: You were told to leave the area?

4   SM: I could see he was doing compressions on her chest.

5   MO: Okay. How long after She was collapsed were you  
6           told to leave? Or escorted out of the area?

7   SM: Um, about five minutes.

8   MO: About five minutes?

9   SM: Uh-huh.

10   MO: So, five minutes is kind of a long time. Did --

11   SM: It might have been two minutes.

12   MO: Two minutes? Okay.

13   SM: You know when you're standing there it --

14   MO: Sure.

15   SM: -- it's hard to --

16   MO: Absolutely.

17   SM: Yeah.

18   MO: Did Mary make any statements?

19   SM: She didn't.

20   MO: Okay. Was she responsive?

21   SM: I don't know.

22   MO: Okay. Um, you said the officers -- how many  
23           officers attempted resuscitation?

24   MO: I saw one on the ground, and then another was  
25           running over. And by that I just --

1 MO: Okay. And one was on the ground.

2 SM: -- looked away.

3 MO: Was one of them the pretend burglar?

4 SM: One of -- yes.

5 MO: And who was the other officer that came?

6 SM: I think -- I believe it was Tom Lewis that came

7 over.

8 MO: The chief?

9 SM: But I think -- I think the chief came over and

10 helped.

11 MO: All right.

12 SM: And then they yelled for more people and more --

13 MO: Okay.

14 SM: -- help.

15 MO: Okay. And there came a time -- were you -- was your

16 group -- were you as a group escorted back in the

17 building?

18 SM: Yes. Yes. We were.

19 MO: Were you escorted prior to -- did EMS arrive? Do

20 you know? The ambulance.

21 SM: Yes.

22 MO: Were you -- were you present when the ambulance

23 arrived, or were you already back in the --

24 SM: No. We were already walking slowly back inside.

25 MO: Okay. So, the ambulance was already there when you

1 walked inside? Or was on its way?

2 SM: It was on its way.

3 MO: You could hear it?

4 SM: Yes.

5 MO: See it?

6 SM: Oh, yeah. It was on its way, I believe. Well, the  
7 police --

8 MO: Okay.

9 SM: -- the fire engine was there, and --

10 MO: Okay. Because the fire engine is right next door.

11 SM: Yeah.

12 MO: So -- okay. Um, is there anything that you can  
13 think of that I haven't asked that I should know?

14 SM: Um, I just think they are a great group of guys and  
15 they've done this before, and I think they were just  
16 being --

17 MO: Uh-huh.

18 SM: -- kind to show us round and everything.

19 MO: Right.

20 SM: You know.

21 MO: Did, uh, the pretend -- I'm using quote. The -- the  
22 -- the actor who played the burglar --

23 SM: Uh-huh.

24 MO: -- did he make any statements?

25 SM: No.

1 MO: Okay.

2 SM: I think everyone was in shock, to be perfectly  
3 honest.

4 MO: Okay. And that's all the questions that I have. Is  
5 this a telephone number that we've listed --

6 SM: Yes.

7 MO: -- a number we can get back --

8 SM: Uh-huh. Yes.

9 MO: -- in touch with you? Okay. Again, that's all the  
10 questions I have. Is there anything that you want  
11 to add, change or delete from the statement that you  
12 provided?

13 SM: No. That's all the --

14 MO: Has everything been the truth to the best of your  
15 knowledge and belief?

16 SM: Yes.

17 MO: All right. That will conclude today's interview.

18 Today's date is the 9th of August, 2016. The time  
19 is 9:48 p.m. Thank you, Ms. Maher.

20 SM: Thank you.

21 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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25 Transcribed by: jwg/jwg/ms

1 (INTERVIEW OF SUZANNE PAQUIN, 2016-0108, 08/09/16)

2 (The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood  
3 words due to the recording quality.)

4

5 JO = Jennifer O'Connell

6 SP = Suzanne Paquin

7 JO: It is approximately 10:33 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

8 Myself, Special Agent Jennifer O'Connell with the

9 Florida Department of Law Enforcement is here with

10 Suzanne Paquin. If you could, please state and

11 spell your name for the record.

12 SP: Suzanne Paquin, S-U-Z-A-N-N-E, P-A-Q-U-I-N.

13 JO: If you could, please raise your right hand. Do you

14 solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing

15 but the truth, so help you God?

16 SP: I do.

17 JO: All right. So, um, can we start off with what

18 brought you to the Punta Gorda Police Department

19 tonight?

20 SP: I am a freelance photographer for the newspaper.

21 JO: Okay.

22 SP: And I was on assignment.

23 JO: Did you participate in the tour and classroom --

24 SP: Yes.

25 JO: And then -- can you tell me how the evening went?

26 SP: Oh, okay. Um, basically, I just followed the group

American High-Tech Transcription and Reporting, Inc.



1           so I could get some pictures of the tour, um, and  
2           then we all went outside to do the shoot or don't  
3           shoot scenario, um, and I was just trying to take  
4           pictures of that and it -- I heard -- you know, I  
5           watched them do it and I watched her be shown how to  
6           handle the gun and that it was little paint pellets  
7           and then the scenario came down. I heard maybe  
8           three or four shots. I'm not sure how many. Um, I  
9           couldn't see a whole view because I'm looking  
10          through the viewfinder of my camera --

11   JO: Uh-huh.

12   SP: -- so I did -- I do have a couple pictures of the --  
13          of, uh, I believe it was Lee, and then I do have a  
14          picture of her that it looks like she's falling.

15   JO: Okay.

16   SP: Uh, but those are, like, the only couple shots I got  
17          and I'm not even sure if they're too blurry or  
18          blurry or whatever, but --

19   JO: Can -- can you describe the scenario in a little  
20          more detail for me? How you remember it?

21   SP: Uh, just that they -- they were both -- he was  
22          supposed to be the bad guy. He was near the car.  
23          She walked over to him. They walked towards what I  
24          believe is the -- would have been the front of that  
25          car -- it was supposed to be, like, a parked car --

1       um, further away and then I was looking through the  
2       viewfinder so I didn't really see what happened, but  
3       I heard the shots.  When I looked back up, I saw him  
4       shooting, which I got a picture of, and then I saw  
5       her -- what I think -- she ran towards -- from the  
6       front of the car and then just buckled over and  
7       fell.

8   JO:  What angle were -- like, position, did you see the  
9       burglar shooting in?

10  SP:  Um, I was facing what would have been the front or  
11       the back of the car and I can't even remember, um,  
12       and they were directly in front of me.  He came in  
13       from the left.  I think they both did and walked  
14       around the right side of the car.

15  JO:  Okay.  And you -- you heard shots?

16  SP:  I heard what may have been three or four shots.

17  JO:  Okay.  And did you see the shots at the same time?

18  SP:  No.

19  JO:  Okay.

20  SP:  Um, it's possible that I do have a picture of it,  
21       but I'm not sure.

22  JO:  Okay.

23  SP:  Um, again, like I said, it could be blurry.

24  JO:  Did you see the burglar with a weapon?

25  SP:  He had the weapon.  Yes.

1 JO: Can you describe it for me?

2 SP: Um, uh, a pistol of some sort.

3 JO: Okay.

4 SP: I don't know what kind -- too far away.

5 JO: Do you know what color it was?

6 SP: I'm guessing black, but I'm not sure.

7 JO: Okay. And after you heard three to four shots --

8 SP: Uh-huh.

9 JO: -- what did you see next?

10 SP: Um, when I looked towards -- I saw her walking

11 towards the side of the car. At first, we thought

12 maybe she was acting in a way, but then she just --

13 she seemed to be holding her abdomen. There was

14 red. There was blood and she just fell over forward

15 and went down, hitting her head on the ground and I

16 think that's when everybody realized there was -- it

17 was not fake.

18 JO: And what did you see next?

19 SP: Uh, just all the police and everybody running

20 towards her and then I -- I backed away and the --

21 the group was then led back inside.

22 JO: Did you -- do you feel that the response was quick

23 by the police and --

24 SP: Absolutely.

25 JO: -- EMS?

1 SP: Absolutely. They were yelling for EMS. They were  
2 yelling 911. They were running, you know --

3 JO: Uh-huh.

4 SP: -- very, very quickly. Absolutely.

5 JO: When you were escorted to the classroom, did you  
6 ever come back out?

7 SP: After the -- after the shooting?

8 JO: Yes.

9 SP: No.

10 JO: Okay.

11 SP: No. I did go out to get my phone about --

12 JO: Okay.

13 SP: -- 40 minutes later, but --

14 JO: Did you know the participant in the -- in the  
15 scenario?

16 SP: No.

17 JO: Okay. Did you know the burglar in the scenario?

18 SP: Uh, I was told who it -- I kinda recognize his face.  
19 I was told who it was afterwards, um, because I've -  
20 - I have done pictures of him --

21 JO: Uh-huh.

22 SP: -- through the newspaper and that, so I knew who he  
23 was, but I didn't realize it was him at the time.  
24 He had the whole facial thing on and the mask and  
25 the goggles and everything.

- 1 JO: How -- who, um, notified you of who the burglar was?
- 2 SP: Um, one of the other gals in the room, Nan Leonard
- 3 [phonetic].
- 4 JO: Okay.
- 5 SP: Yeah, I guess she is a friend of his and she was
- 6 upset that it was him. So --
- 7 JO: And you took photographs being here for the
- 8 newspaper?
- 9 SP: Yeah.
- 10 JO: Did you take any videos?
- 11 SP: No.
- 12 JO: Do you know of anyone that did take videos?
- 13 SP: Not that I'm aware of.
- 14 JO: Okay.
- 15 SP: Then again, people were standing to the side and
- 16 behind me. So I was sort of towards the front, but
- 17 I didn't see anybody doing videos.
- 18 JO: Did you see any reactions, um, by the burglar, like
- 19 -- like after the shots?
- 20 SP: No -- no. I think everybody was just looking around
- 21 and I think my eyes went to her.
- 22 JO: Okay.
- 23 SP: And then everybody running towards her. I don't
- 24 even know where he went.
- 25 JO: Okay.

1 SP: (Unintelligible) -- he may have gone running towards  
2 her too. He was probably the closest.

3 JO: Okay.

4 SP: Like I said, everybody was running.

5 JO: Is there anything else that you can think of --

6 SP: No.

7 JO: -- that I haven't asked you?

8 SP: No, just that it's a horrible, horrible situation.

9 JO: Before you guys went outside, did they go over any  
10 type of safety precautions or procedures?

11 SP: For us as viewers? (Unintelligible) no. Um, they  
12 did go over and -- um, kept saying that, you know,  
13 how they -- um, her gun would have just the paint  
14 pellets --

15 JO: Okay.

16 SP: -- and -- and that and that his gun would have  
17 blanks.

18 JO: Okay. Did they show the -- the simulation rounds in  
19 her gun?

20 SP: Yes.

21 JO: Did they show the blanks in his gun?

22 SP: No.

23 JO: Okay. And so you did not see his gun until they  
24 were in the scenario?

25 SP: Right, and -- and then, you know, he was holding it

1 and he was out there, so I never saw it close up.

2 JO: Okay.

3 SP: Did you wanna see the pictures or --

4 JO: Yes. All of them. Um --

5 SP: Okay. I hope your eyes are better than my old eyes

6 'cause my eyes are terrible. Okay. Hold on a

7 minute. Let me get it out of this. Okay. Let me

8 go back a little -- couple more. I think this was

9 the woman's name, too.

10 JO: Okay.

11 SP: Yes. That was the woman 'cause I got a picture of

12 her --

13 JO: Uh-huh.

14 SP: -- being instructed with the gun.

15 JO: Okay.

16 SP: And again, being instructed with the gun.

17 JO: Uh-huh.

18 SP: And he was -- they showed her how to index --

19 JO: Uh-huh.

20 SP: -- the gun and hold it right. Um, that was -- I

21 don't think -- it could be --

22 JO: Okay.

23 SP: Whoops, wrong one. I'm pretty sure that's Lee, but

24 I'm not -- like I said, he's pretty well covered up.

25 I've got that one, that one, which is pretty much

1 the same angle, and that one when she fell.

2 JO: Okay. I'll need to get a copy of those from you.

3 SP: Can I bring it down tomorrow? Can I put them on a  
4 stick tomorrow or --

5 JO: Uh, well --

6 SP: You have somebody who can put them on stick now?

7 JO: We -- we'll figure that out in just a minute.

8 SP: Okay. Yeah, because I --

9 JO: Um --

10 SP: -- others that are out of (unintelligible).

11 JO: I understand. Um, so there's nothing else that you  
12 can think of for our interview?

13 SP: No. I don't think so.

14 JO: Okay. That'll conclude this interview at  
15 approximately 10:40 p.m. on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

16 (CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW)

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22 Transcribed by: dml/dml/ms