

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

APPEAL FROM HORRY COUNTY
FAMILY COURT

Appellate Case No. 2026-001137

Stuart M. Axelrod,

Petitioner,

v.

Carla Ericson,

Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT OF CHRISTOPHER J. WATKINS

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me Christopher J. Watkins, who, having been first duly sworn, deposes and states the following on personal knowledge:

1. My name is Christopher James Watkins. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit and am competent to testify about them.
2. I am a SLED Licensed Investigator, and I have an educational background in Computer Science, Information Technology, Computer Programming, and Systems Engineering for Hardware and Software. I am recognized as a Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (CFCE) and a Certified Mobile Device Examiner (CMDE) by the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS), which is, in turn, accredited by the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB). The FSAB is an independent organization established to accredit professional bodies that certify forensic scientists. I am also an associate member of the IACIS and a member of the American Society of Digital Forensics & eDiscovery.
3. Since 2010, I have worked as a Licensed Private Investigator in South Carolina. From 2010 to 2016, I worked as a South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) licensed investigator for Stillinger Investigations. In 2016, I founded Watkins Digital Forensic & Investigations, which I operated until December 2018. In January 2019, I founded Certified Computer Forensics, LLC, which I continue to own and operate. In these positions, I have completed hundreds of digital forensic investigations involving computer systems, computer networks, servers, and various cellular and digital devices. These investigations involved the disciplined use of specialized methods and techniques, adhering to the scientifically accepted standards and practices for recovery, authentication and analysis of electronically stored information, reconstruction of

digital device usage, examination of residual data, authentication of data by technical analysis, and explanation of technical features of data and device usage.

4. Since 2014, I have been qualified thirty-seven (37) times as an expert in matters of Digital Forensic Science in the South Carolina Family Court, General Sessions Court, and Court of Common Pleas, and in the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina.

5. On January 6, 2026, at approximately 1:18 PM, a small digital audio recording device that I am informed had been recovered from the bedroom of Mr. Axelrod was delivered to my office at 1416 Park Street, Columbia, South Carolina, by Pete Skidmore, Sr. The device was signed into custody at the time of receipt by Katie McClaran, an office assistant authorized to accept custody on my behalf. Following intake, the device was secured in a locked storage room within my office, where it remained continuously until January 12, 2026. On January 12, 2026, at approximately 10:56 AM, Ms. McClaran signed custody of the device over to me, and the device has remained in my exclusive custody since that time, secured in a locked storage container under my sole control. I assigned the device the evidence number 26-47281-D001-ADAR within case 26-47281-Axelrod.

6. The only marking visible on the exterior of the device is a small silver hologram sticker bearing the text "128GB." I identified the device as an Affetuni MC-01 magnetic voice recorder by reference to a screenshot of the device's product listing on Amazon.com, provided by Mr. Skidmore when he turned over the device, and a user manual for the Affetuni MC-01 obtained from publicly available online sources, the product photographs, dimensions, controls, and stated specifications of which match the device I received as evidence. The Affetuni MC-01 has no Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, or other wireless connectivity; its only data interface is a USB-C port.

7. On May 11, 2026, I created a forensic image of the device using AccessData FTK Imager version 4.7.1.2. The imaging process began at approximately 12:57 PM and completed at approximately 5:09 PM the same date, producing a verified bit-for-bit (physical) copy of the entirety of the device's internal storage. The integrity of the forensic image was confirmed by computing MD5 and SHA-1 cryptographic hashes during acquisition and recomputing those hashes against the completed image; the verification hashes matched the corresponding hashes computed during acquisition (MD5 fc68a64a45f77bb0fa93ee8e66541890; SHA-1 074f7925cffba06cf4b47da1d5099c3a5f23fd41). All findings stated below are the product of my examination of that verified forensic image.

8. On May 13, 2026, I executed an affidavit in Case No. 2025-DR-26-2774 describing the acquisition of the forensic image and the file system inventory of the device. That earlier affidavit expressly reserved any review of the audio content of the recordings. Since that date I have completed additional examination of the device's file system artifacts and have reviewed the audio content of recordings recovered from the device. This affidavit states the results of that additional examination.

9. User-recorded audio is stored on the device as Waveform Audio (.WAV) files within the directory \Root\RECORD\. Recording filenames embed a timestamp of the form YYYYMMDDhhmmss taken from the device's internal clock at the moment the recording begins. Filenames beginning "REC" denote manually initiated recordings, and filenames beginning "VOR" denote voice-activated recordings produced by the device's voice-operated recording feature. The file system Created and Modified timestamps of each recording are written by the device firmware from that same internal clock, with the Created timestamp corresponding to the start of the recording and the Modified timestamp corresponding to its finalization. Voice-operated (VOR) recordings pause automatically during periods without detected sound and resume when sound returns, and the recorded audio is written continuously into the file without any marker of the paused time. The elapsed time between a VOR file's Created and Modified timestamps therefore can exceed, sometimes substantially, the duration of audio contained in the file, and a sound at a given position within a VOR file can be placed in time only within the window between the file's Created and Modified timestamps, not at an exact clock time. Manually initiated (REC) recordings do not pause; their elapsed spans correspond to their audio durations.

10. Analysis of the file system identified one hundred and seventy-nine (179) unique audio recordings by filename. Seventy-one (71) are active recordings stored in \Root\RECORD\, and one hundred and eight (108) are deleted recordings, of which one hundred and seven (107) had been moved to the device's macOS trash directory at \Root\Trashes\501\ and one (1) exists only as a residual directory entry within \Root\RECORD\ with no recoverable content. File carving against unallocated space recovered ten (10) additional deleted audio files.

11. The earliest audio recording on the device is REC20250725154550.WAV, initiated July 25, 2025 at 3:45:50 PM. The last audio recording on the device is VOR20251010093346.WAV, initiated October 10, 2025 at 9:33:46 AM and finalized October 11, 2025 at 12:26:14 AM. No audio recordings exist on the device with timestamps after August 6, 2025 at 11:12:14 AM and before October 1, 2025 at 1:31:58 AM. Counting each unique recording once by the date embedded in its filename, recordings were initiated on the following dates. One additional short-

format directory entry, REC202~2.WAV, bears file system timestamps and a file size identical to REC20251001013859.WAV and is not separately counted in this table.

Date (filename timestamp)	Recordings initiated
July 25, 2025	1
July 27, 2025	2
July 28, 2025	3
July 29, 2025	7
July 30, 2025	8
July 31, 2025	4
August 1, 2025	3
August 2, 2025	8
August 4, 2025	22
August 5, 2025	30
August 6, 2025	8
October 1, 2025	30
October 2, 2025	28
October 3, 2025	21
October 9, 2025	2
October 10, 2025	1

12. The July and August 2025 voice-activated recordings form continuous chains in which the Modified (finalization) timestamp of each recording corresponds to the Created (initiation) timestamp of the recording that follows it, which is consistent with the device automatically rolling from one recording file into the next during extended periods of operation. The same chaining pattern is present in the October 2025 voice-activated recordings.

13. The earliest file system timestamps on the volume are a deleted directory entry recovered as “_ECORD” dated June 19, 2025 at 1:15:22 AM, and the current \Root\RECORD\ directory, created June 25, 2025 at 7:51:10 AM. These timestamps predate the earliest audio recording and are consistent with initial preparation of the device’s file system in June 2025.

14. The folder \Root\Time tool Settime\ was created on the volume on August 12, 2025 at 4:06:26 PM and contains two Microsoft Windows executable files, SetDigitRecorderTm.exe and Hardware.dll. SetDigitRecorderTm.exe is a manufacturer-supplied Windows utility used to set the internal clock of digital voice recorders of this type. The Created timestamps of both files correspond to the folder creation on August 12, 2025, while their Modified timestamps retain original values from December 2010, a pattern consistent with the files having been copied onto the device from a host computer on August 12, 2025.

15. The folder `\Root\System Volume Information\` and its two contained files, `IndexerVolumeGuid` and `WPSettings.dat`, were created on August 19, 2025 between 6:18:36 PM and 6:18:37 PM. Microsoft Windows automatically creates this folder and these files at the root of a removable volume when the volume is mounted. Their presence and creation timestamps establish that the device was connected to a Microsoft Windows computer, other than the examination workstation, on August 19, 2025 at approximately 6:18 PM. The volume was not reformatted on that date: the volume is a single FAT32 partition, and the July and August 2025 recordings, together with the June 2025 directory structures described above, remained intact on the volume after August 19, 2025.

16. A series of artifacts created automatically by Apple macOS establishes that the device was connected to a macOS computer on October 1, 2025. The Spotlight index directory `\Root\Spotlight-V100\` was created at 12:49:13 PM; the working directory `\Root\TemporaryItems\` was created at 1:04:24 PM; the trash directory `\Root\Trashes\501\` was created at 1:13:24 PM; and the file system events log directory `\Root\.fsevents\` was created at 3:07:26 PM. AppleDouble “.” companion files created by macOS are present throughout the volume. These artifacts are produced by macOS computers (desktop and laptop systems) and are not produced by Apple iOS devices such as iPhones or iPads, which do not build Spotlight indexes on attached external volumes, do not write file system event logs to external storage, and do not use the UID-based `\Trashes\501\` convention.

17. Artifacts within `\Root\TemporaryItems\` include a working folder named `NSIRD_TextEdit_9TUBPH` created October 1, 2025 at 1:12:14 PM, and two safe-save companion copies of the device settings file `MRECSSET.TXT` bearing timestamps between 1:00:19 PM and 1:11:34 PM. These artifacts are consistent with the device settings file having been opened with the macOS TextEdit application on October 1, 2025 between approximately 1:00 PM and 1:12 PM.

18. One hundred and seven (107) recordings were moved from `\Root\RECORD\` to `\Root\Trashes\501\`. Moving a file to the trash on macOS creates an AppleDouble companion entry at the time of the move. The AppleDouble companion files associated with the trashed recordings were created on October 1, 2025 between 12:56:19 PM and 2:09:38 PM. The deletions therefore occurred on October 1, 2025, within that approximate window, from the macOS computer described above. The recordings that were deleted bear recording timestamps ranging from July 25, 2025 through October 1, 2025; the dates the deleted recordings were made are distinct from the date on which they were deleted.

19. The Spotlight index directory created at 12:49:13 PM on October 1, 2025 is the search index that macOS builds automatically for a mounted volume, and its configuration file VolumeConfiguration.plist was last modified at 1:10:56 PM the same day. These artifacts establish that Spotlight indexing of the device's contents began upon the macOS mount on October 1, 2025. The presence of the index does not, by itself, record the text of any specific search query a user may have entered.

20. The physical storage locations of the files on the volume were analyzed against their timestamps. The device writes each audio recording into a fixed storage slot of 134,217,728 bytes (128 MiB) and allocates those slots in ascending physical order. The ninety-six (96) recordings initiated from July 25, 2025 through August 6, 2025 occupy an unbroken ascending sequence of slots whose physical order matches their timestamp order exactly, and the October 2025 recordings continue the same pattern. The folders and files created by the connected host computers described above occupy small areas of free space at low positions on the volume, and their physical placement follows the chronological order of their creation timestamps: the August 12, 2025 clock utility files, then the August 19, 2025 System Volume Information files, then the October 1, 2025 macOS artifacts in the order of their creation times. The physical arrangement of the volume is consistent with the file timestamps throughout, and no artifact of timestamp manipulation, insertion, or reordering was identified.

21. The ten (10) recordings recovered by file carving occupy storage slots within the ascending allocation sequence described in the preceding paragraph, and each sits within a gap in the otherwise continuous voice-activated recording chain whose duration corresponds to the number of carved recordings within it. On that basis, each carved recording was created no earlier than the finalization of the intact recording that precedes it on the storage and no later than the initiation of the intact recording that follows it. The inferred recording window of each carved recording is set forth in Exhibit D. All ten carved recordings were created between October 1, 2025 and October 10, 2025. These recordings were deleted by a method that did not use the macOS trash directory; the file system does not record when the deletions occurred.

22. The filename, recording timestamp, on-device location, and SHA-256 cryptographic hash value of each audio recording referenced by filename in this affidavit are set forth in Exhibit B. The hash values were computed from the recordings as exported from the verified forensic image.

23. Recording VOR20250728174333.WAV was initiated July 28, 2025 at 5:43:33 PM per its filename timestamp, is thirty (30) minutes in duration, and was among the recordings moved to

\Root\Trashes\501\ on October 1, 2025. Upon review of the audio content of this recording, a female voice is heard beginning at approximately one (1) minute into the recording, speaking in what is heard as one side of a telephone call or a voicemail message being left by the speaker. The speaker states in part “this is Carla”, references a voicemail she had received, and discusses scheduling matters. The same female voice is heard again later in the recording, also in what is heard as one side of a telephone conversation.

24. Recording VOR20251001013310.WAV was initiated October 1, 2025 at 1:33:10 AM per its filename timestamp and was among the recordings moved to \Root\Trashes\501\ on October 1, 2025. Upon review of the audio content of this recording, a female voice states “Hi, my name is Ruth LeMay and I’m 47 years old.” Substantially similar self-identification statements by a female voice stating the name Ruth LeMay are present in additional short recordings initiated October 1, 2025 between 1:32 AM and 1:41 AM and between 1:03 PM and 1:07 PM, including REC20251001013245.WAV, VOR20251001014129.WAV, VOR20251001130354.WAV, REC20251001130614.WAV, and VOR20251001130645.WAV.

25. Recording VOR20251001013204.WAV was initiated October 1, 2025 at 1:32:04 AM per its filename timestamp, during the same early morning session as the recordings described in the preceding paragraph, and was among the recordings moved to \Root\Trashes\501\ on October 1, 2025. Upon review of the audio content of this recording, approximately ten seconds of speech are heard between two female voices discussing the recorder’s voice activation feature. The voice of the primary speaker sounds consistent with the female voice that self identifies as Carla in VOR20250728174333.WAV; this observation is a perceptual comparison only. The second voice speaks only a few words, but sounds consistent with the female voice that self identifies as Ruth in VOR20251001013310.WAV.

26. I have listened to recordings recovered from the device, including each of the recordings identified in this paragraph. On July 12, 2026, I spoke with Stuart M. Axelrod and am familiar with the sound of his voice; the voice identifications stated in this paragraph are based on that familiarity. The voice of Mr. Axelrod is heard in the following seventeen (17) recordings: VOR20250804125526.WAV, VOR20250804133006.WAV, VOR20250804200827.WAV, VOR20250804222101.WAV, and VOR20250804234221.WAV, initiated August 4, 2025; VOR20250805002341.WAV, VOR20250805101102.WAV, and VOR20250805202102.WAV, initiated August 5, 2025; VOR20251002044130.WAV, VOR20251002051923.WAV, and VOR20251002175058.WAV, initiated October 2, 2025; VOR20251009025105.WAV and VOR20251009165059.WAV, initiated October 9, 2025; VOR20251010093346.WAV, initiated

October 10, 2025; and Carved_Wave_31620376.wav, Carved_Wave_40008984.wav, and Carved_Wave_44203288.wav, three audio fragments recovered by file carving from unallocated space, whose inferred recording windows are described above and set forth in Exhibit D.

27. Attached as Exhibit A is a photograph provided to me from the report of Skidmore & Associates, the private investigative firm whose principal delivered the device to my office as described above. The photograph was not taken by me and is included as it was provided. The photograph depicts a small dark rectangular device bearing a "128GB" sticker, consistent in appearance with the device I received as evidence, held in a gloved hand, and bears a printed overlay reading "Oct 11, 2025 at 1:50:39 PM, 9519 Carrington Dr, Myrtle Beach SC 29579, United States." The final recording on the device was finalized October 11, 2025 at 12:26:14 AM, prior to the date and time stated in the photograph's overlay, and no recording or file system activity attributable to device use exists after that time.

28. The recording timestamps stated in this affidavit are corroborated by multiple independent indicators. First, the voice-activated recordings form the continuous, internally consistent chains described above, without gaps or reversals within each recording session. Second, the device clock timestamps of the October 1, 2025 recordings align with the independent host-computer clock timestamps of the macOS artifacts created the same day. Third, the finalization of the last recording early on October 11, 2025 is consistent with the October 11, 2025 recovery photograph attached as Exhibit A. Fourth, the manufacturer clock-setting utility was placed on the device on August 12, 2025, and the System Volume Information artifacts independently date a Windows connection to August 19, 2025. Fifth, the physical storage arrangement of the volume, as described above, matches the chronological order of the file timestamps throughout. A chronological summary of the principal file system and recording events stated in this affidavit is set forth in Exhibit C.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.


Christopher J. Watkins, Affiant

SWORN to and subscribed before me
this 13th day of July, 2026.

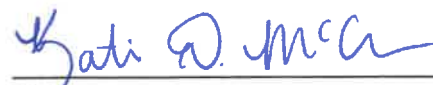

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: 10/16/2035
Katie D. McClaran

EXHIBIT A

Photograph provided from the report of Skidmore & Associates



EXHIBIT B

Audio recordings referenced in this affidavit

File	Recording timestamp	Location on device	SHA-256
REC20250725154550.WAV	2025-07-25 15:45:50	\Root\Trashes\501\	7ca55b646bfe82716fa376bce1b63837ca74ca855eb94f9e57f6b53a1638900e
VOR20250728174333.WAV	2025-07-28 17:43:33	\Root\Trashes\501\	289bf950c67b73aa7077cfb03ce155a6ba560fe9afccf4af4b531bb8ca242715
VOR20250804125526.WAV	2025-08-04 12:55:26	\Root\Trashes\501\	035d46e328995c5641cd80eed47f77b5ac310c81b4f29d71f899eb0d3d75bdbe
VOR20250804133006.WAV	2025-08-04 13:30:06	\Root\Trashes\501\	0f546b1ba967a7b7c7a2a61b13e1a395dfda8724e9975d96f8292399e246a299
VOR20250804200827.WAV	2025-08-04 20:08:27	\Root\Trashes\501\	ca7e6558c6bebcd425118da349a18ee1593a3f4dab5c75eb3f92665b323211af
VOR20250804222101.WAV	2025-08-04 22:21:01	\Root\Trashes\501\	55157ab284327e28e27a125e4819384a6645c4efb2d2ef4cfbc71202a64455d
VOR20250804234221.WAV	2025-08-04 23:42:21	\Root\Trashes\501\	90dbdd3546785419fc094a7e58ac398b8e3cc1443c6c48b6201428fa7af89e61
VOR20250805002341.WAV	2025-08-05 00:23:41	\Root\Trashes\501\	9f8670cd530c4d904380c20558b07b1ac8a04cf07a38bbb1f7fc806cbef4a5b
VOR20250805101102.WAV	2025-08-05 10:11:02	\Root\Trashes\501\	e2898385561f17ea3953ba358496cfc55f3fc3c5f2534cc5148f54e8507a810d
VOR20250805202102.WAV	2025-08-05 20:21:02	\Root\Trashes\501\	2b757e17129aaec944d25d8b1589a19d1030f75d358d72d7b3fa1a63a294650
VOR20251001013204.WAV	2025-10-01 01:32:04	\Root\Trashes\501\	5d9e60e15c380c214e897e37c50e842f4aa6ef46d0a63aa8073dbd5edcfef40f
REC20251001013245.WAV	2025-10-01 01:32:45	\Root\Trashes\501\	1d2f262d4b84cb229335136bfbb25f2b7a4c9c8b346cf228ec63091f348a6c6b
VOR20251001013310.WAV	2025-10-01 01:33:10	\Root\Trashes\501\	9e8bcb061e0758105e943b776df86386bd819a63b08b3a25ccc39c727a420cd5
REC202~2.WAV	2025-10-01 01:39:00	\Root\RECORD\	d889c24fb71f34a67b1fcb6124036816af476829d9bf86e038f88bee39450d98
VOR20251001014129.WAV	2025-10-01 01:41:29	\Root\RECORD\	d8071d8346c67edab79715db1f86da046d260ff245131718a63ba49995a0f30
VOR20251001130354.WAV	2025-10-01 13:03:54	\Root\Trashes\501\	95aec1316d89e73e768d3512e9c32f8155ec59948a2da64593f0bcb84c7f288
REC20251001130614.WAV	2025-10-01 13:06:14	\Root\Trashes\501\	08024afd0437454e3894bc5517613fe4df050a2333cabb0e2c2d45720d6fa5d0
VOR20251001130645.WAV	2025-10-01 13:06:45	\Root\Trashes\501\	2136ed967f31756ac01b441397697beec767a7589fc8627ab6c824aaa3029d4a
VOR20251002044130.WAV	2025-10-02 04:41:30	\Root\RECORD\	fbe29bd34c6fab9bce0fb7cd0c3bc4fa8521f3d916e199d21c0566903b0a21f
VOR20251002051923.WAV	2025-10-02 05:19:23	\Root\RECORD\	ddfb475870f3944694fe559225f54747fbc84e806b30a3b5778ded26520d1952
VOR20251002175058.WAV	2025-10-02 17:50:58	\Root\RECORD\	8e7f40c5e79ef01ff78d2f8ed55e08d16e3ed31ab5c7d914841f59456cab8242
VOR20251009025105.WAV	2025-10-09 02:51:05	\Root\RECORD\	359b81f1f285c91b6f66c2dbf5c8cc5cd04617df342a528864f27452d88cd359
VOR20251009165059.WAV	2025-10-09 16:50:59	\Root\RECORD\	ce6ecf480c6e1620fc76497980314eb3476a501a80a7d3871ccae1628be4988d
VOR20251010093346.WAV	2025-10-10 09:33:46	\Root\RECORD\	873b0cf2ab0cd0f9e63dc6af832e51df3191f4cfe2ec3457328b460be619f8f1
Carved_Wave_31620376.wav	n/a (carved)	Unallocated space	7bf029e6432ee4e31026afab0103e253737e1d5dd245be05dfdcab42a6cd44ea
Carved_Wave_40008984.wav	n/a (carved)	Unallocated space	921dae25db3bfff900e5b66638afbbdb2f41bd1d7baac10ae4b307ae76563cb
Carved_Wave_44203288.wav	n/a (carved)	Unallocated space	bb6e9365c7c20a8bd8346b65af8230ae8e7c8a511c2d6ae5707fc6d133c7c931

REC202~2.WAV is a short-format directory entry whose timestamps and file size match the directory entry REC20251001013859.WAV; the recoverable audio content of that recording was exported under the name REC202~2.WAV, and the exported file named REC20251001013859.WAV contains no data. All hash values were computed from the recordings as exported from the verified forensic image. The three Carved_Wave files are audio fragments recovered by file carving from unallocated space; they existed as deleted data with no surviving file system records and therefore bear no filenames, timestamps, or locations of their own. The names shown were assigned by the forensic software at recovery, from the sector offset at which each fragment was found.

EXHIBIT C

Chronological summary of principal file system and recording events

Date and time	Event	Par.
June 19, 2025, 1:15:22 AM	Earliest file system timestamp on the volume: deleted directory entry recovered as “_ECORD”	12
June 25, 2025, 7:51:10 AM	\Root\RECORD\ directory created	12
July 25, 2025, 3:45:50 PM	Earliest audio recording initiated (REC20250725154550.WAV)	11
July 28, 2025, 5:43:33 PM	VOR20250728174333.WAV initiated; contains a female voice stating in part “this is Carla”	23
July 25 through August 6, 2025	Audio recordings initiated on eleven dates; final recording of this period finalized August 6, 2025 at 11:12:14 AM	11
August 4 and 5, 2025	Voice of Stuart M. Axelrod identified in eight recordings initiated on these dates	26
August 12, 2025, 4:06:26 PM	\Root\Time tool Settime\ created; manufacturer clock-setting utility copied onto the device from a host computer	14
August 19, 2025, 6:18:36 PM	System Volume Information created; earliest evidenced connection to a Microsoft Windows computer	15
October 1, 2025, 1:31:58 AM	Audio recordings resume (REC20251001013159.WAV initiated)	11
October 1, 2025, 1:32:04 AM	VOR20251001013204.WAV initiated; contains two female voices, consistent with Carla and Ruth, discussing the recorder’s voice-activation feature	25
October 1, 2025, 1:33:10 AM	VOR20251001013310.WAV initiated; female voice states “Hi, my name is Ruth LeMay and I’m 47 years old.”	24
October 1, 2025, 12:49:13 PM	\Root\Spotlight-V100\ created; connection to a macOS computer; Spotlight indexing begins	16, 19
October 1, 2025, 12:56 PM to 2:10 PM	One hundred and seven (107) recordings moved to \Root\Trashes\501\ from the macOS computer (deletion window)	18
October 1, 2025, approx. 1:00 to 1:12 PM	Device settings file MRECSSET.TXT opened with the macOS TextEdit application	17
October 1, 2025, 1:13:24 PM	\Root\Trashes\501\ directory created	16
October 1, 2025, 3:07:26 PM	\Root\.fsevents\ created	16
October 1 through October 10, 2025	Audio recordings initiated on five dates; voice of Stuart M. Axelrod identified in recordings initiated October 2, 9, and 10	11, 26
October 10, 2025, 9:33:46 AM	Final audio recording initiated (VOR20251010093346.WAV)	11
October 11, 2025, 12:26:14 AM	Final audio recording finalized; no later file system activity attributable to device use	11, 27
October 11, 2025, 1:50:39 PM	Device photographed at recovery, per the overlay on the photograph attached as Exhibit A	27
January 6, 2026, approx. 1:18 PM	Device delivered to the examiner’s office by Pete Skidmore, Sr. and signed into custody	5
January 12, 2026, approx. 10:56 AM	Custody of the device transferred to the examiner	5
May 11, 2026	Forensic image acquired with FTK Imager 4.7.1.2; MD5 and SHA-1 verification hashes matched	7

EXHIBIT D

Inferred recording windows of recordings recovered by file carving

Carved recording	Preceding intact recording (finalized)	Following intact recording (initiated)	Inferred recording window
Carved_Wave_27426072.wav	VOR20251001205231.WAV 2025-10-01 21:23:32	VOR20251001215431.WAV 2025-10-01 21:54:30	October 1, 2025, 9:23 PM to 9:54 PM
Carved_Wave_29261080.wav	VOR20251002005146.WAV 2025-10-02 01:25:58	VOR20251002023056.WAV 2025-10-02 02:30:56	October 2, 2025, 1:25 AM to 2:30 AM
Carved_Wave_29523224.wav	VOR20251002005146.WAV 2025-10-02 01:25:58	VOR20251002023056.WAV 2025-10-02 02:30:56	October 2, 2025, 1:25 AM to 2:30 AM
Carved_Wave_31620376.wav	VOR20251002055416.WAV 2025-10-02 06:33:00	VOR20251002070624.WAV 2025-10-02 07:06:24	October 2, 2025, 6:33 AM to 7:06 AM
Carved_Wave_35290392.wav	VOR20251002185151.WAV 2025-10-02 19:22:04	VOR20251002205235.WAV 2025-10-02 20:52:36	October 2, 2025, 7:22 PM to 8:52 PM
Carved_Wave_35552536.wav	VOR20251002185151.WAV 2025-10-02 19:22:04	VOR20251002205235.WAV 2025-10-02 20:52:36	October 2, 2025, 7:22 PM to 8:52 PM
Carved_Wave_35814680.wav	VOR20251002185151.WAV 2025-10-02 19:22:04	VOR20251002205235.WAV 2025-10-02 20:52:36	October 2, 2025, 7:22 PM to 8:52 PM
Carved_Wave_40008984.wav	VOR20251003044327.WAV 2025-10-03 05:15:08	VOR20251003054905.WAV 2025-10-03 05:49:06	October 3, 2025, 5:15 AM to 5:49 AM
Carved_Wave_41581848.wav	VOR20251003075737.WAV 2025-10-03 08:31:24	VOR20251003091140.WAV 2025-10-03 09:11:40	October 3, 2025, 8:31 AM to 9:11 AM
Carved_Wave_44203288.wav	VOR20251009165059.WAV 2025-10-10 01:19:34	VOR20251010093346.WAV 2025-10-10 09:33:46	October 10, 2025, 1:19 AM to 9:33 AM