

RECEIVED

SEP 29 2017

S.C. SUPREME COURT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

Appeal from Richland County  
Robert E. Hood, Circuit Court Judge

---

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

COURTNEY SHANTE THOMPSON,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2014-001198

Consolidated Case For Record On Appeal:

State v. Robert Guinyard, Sr.,  
Appellate Case No.: 2012-001203

---

**RECORD ON APPEAL**  
**Volume II of III Volumes**

---

Matthew G. Gerrald, S.C. Bar No. 72236  
Barnes, Alford, Stork & Johnson, LLP  
1613 Main Street (29201)  
Post Office Box 8448  
Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 799-1111  
[matt@basjlaw.com](mailto:matt@basjlaw.com)  
*Attorney for Appellant*  
*Robert Antonio Guinyard*

Robert M. Dudek  
South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense  
1330 Lady Street- Suite 401 (29201)  
P.O. Box 11589  
Columbia, SC 29211  
(803) 734-1330  
[rdudek@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:rdudek@sccid.sc.gov)  
*Attorney for Appellants*

Mitzi Campbell Williams  
Post Office Box 84171  
Lexington, SC 29073  
(803) 629-0041  
[mitziwilliamslaw@outlook.com](mailto:mitziwilliamslaw@outlook.com)  
*Attorney for Appellant*  
*Courtney Shante Thompson*

Amie L. Clifford  
Education Coordinator  
South Carolina Commission on Prosecution  
Coordination  
Wade Hampton Building, Suite B-03  
1200 Senate Street  
Post Office Box 11561  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1561  
(803) 832-8275  
[acclifford@cpc.sc.gov](mailto:acclifford@cpc.sc.gov)  
*Attorney for Respondent*  
*State of South Carolina*

## INDEX

| <b>Trial Transcript</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Page(s)</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <u>Attorneys for the State</u><br/> Luck Campbell<br/> Joanna McDuffie<br/> Meghan Walker </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> Attorneys for Defendant<br/> <u>Robert A. Guinyard, Sr.</u><br/> Victor Li<br/> Jessica Eisenhower </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> Attorneys for Defendant<br/> <u>Courtney Thompson</u><br/> Tracey Pinnock<br/> Adam Ruffin<br/> Eric Staggs </div> </div> |                |
| <u>Transcript- Cover Page</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | R. 1           |
| <u>Pretrial Charge</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 2           |
| <u>Opening Statements:</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                |
| Ms. Walker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | R. 12          |
| Mr. Li                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 22          |
| Mr. Staggs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | R. 32          |
| <u>Witnesses:</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                |
| <u>Esther Curran</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
| Direct by Ms. Campbell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 39          |
| Cross by Mr. Li                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | R. 50          |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | R. 51          |
| <u>Peter Biviano</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 53          |
| Cross by Mr. Li                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | R. 58          |
| Cross by Mr. Ruffin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | R. 59          |
| <u>Stan Richards</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
| Direct by Ms. Campbell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 60          |
| Cross by Ms. Eisenhower                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | R. 92          |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | R. 94          |
| <u>Chris Lindler</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | R. 95          |
| Cross by Mr. Li                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | R. 106         |
| Cross by Mr. Staggs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | R. 106         |
| <i>(Bench Conference Without Presence of Jury)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | R. 108         |

Crystal Thompson

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 109 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 130 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock   | R. 147 |

Dr. Monica McCutcheon

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie   | R. 169 |
| Cross by Mr. Li          | R. 179 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock     | R. 180 |
| Redirect by Ms. McDuffie | R. 183 |
| Recross by Mr. Li        | R. 183 |
| Recross by Ms. Pinnock   | R. 184 |

Trobathian Johnson

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie  | R. 184 |
| Cross by Ms. Eisenhower | R. 193 |
| Cross by Mr. Ruffin     | R. 194 |

Jimmy Wilder

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker                 | R. 197 |
| Cross by Mr. Li ( <i>Proffered</i> ) | R. 204 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock                 | R. 218 |

Eric Shaw

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 219 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 230 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock   | R. 231 |

Deputy Albert McClendon

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie | R. 234 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 239 |
| Cross by Mr. Ruffin    | R. 240 |

Marie Nicole Thompson

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 241 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 252 |

Natalie Thompson

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker   | R. 257 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 277 |
| Cross by Mr. Staggs    | R. 282 |
| Redirect by Ms. Walker | R. 288 |
| Recross by Mr. Li      | R. 290 |

In Camera

R. 291

Dr. Kiersten Lofton

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 307 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock   | R. 316 |

Investigator Shawn Schroder

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 317 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 323 |

Gladys Thompson

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker   | R. 326 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 333 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock   | R. 336 |
| Redirect by Ms. Walker | R. 337 |

Captain Lancy Melton

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 338 |
| Cross by Mr. Staggs    | R. 344 |

Investigator Robert Oates

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie | R. 346 |
|------------------------|--------|

Deputy Coroner Jane Powell

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker | R. 380 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock | R. 389 |

Investigator Timothy Lee

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell | R. 395 |
| Cross by Mr. Ruffin    | R. 408 |



Investigator Kristen Polis

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 409

Cross by Mr. Li R. 428

Adjourn & Next Day In Camera R. 429

Investigator Yvonne Woods

Direct by Ms. Walker R. 444

Dr. Olga Rosa

Direct by Ms. Campbell R. 448

Cross by Ms. Eisenhower R. 499

Redirect by Ms. Campbell R. 501

Investigator Holly Wagner

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 501

Cross by Mr. Li R. 530

Cross by Mr. Staggs R. 534

Investigator Michael Laurita

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 539

Cross by Mr. Li R. 542

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 552

Kimberly Gooden

Direct by Ms. Walker R. 554

Cross by Mr. Li R. 557

Redirect by Ms. Walker R. 558

In Camera R. 558

Ms. Denise Jones

Direct by Ms. Walker R. 569

Cross by Mr. Li R. 574

Ms. Princess Hodges

Direct by Ms. Walker R. 574

Ms. Angela Metze

Direct by Ms. Campbell R. 585

Cross by Mr. Li R. 604

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 608

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Redirect by Ms. Campbell | R. 609 |
| Recross by Mr. Li        | R. 610 |

Investigator Brian Metz

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie | R. 611 |
| Cross by Mr. Li        | R. 617 |

Rachel Grant

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell   | R. 635 |
| Cross by Mr. Li          | R. 669 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock     | R. 669 |
| Redirect by Ms. Campbell | R. 671 |
| Recross by Mr. Li        | R. 671 |

LaToya Anderson

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker    | R. 672 |
| Cross by Ms. Eisenhower | R. 675 |
| Cross by Mr. Staggs     | R. 675 |
| Redirect by Ms. Walker  | R. 676 |

In Camera R. 676

Dr. Amy Durso (Proffered) R. 687

Dr. Amy Durso

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. McDuffie   | R. 704 |
| <i>In Camera</i>         | R. 751 |
| Cross by Mr. Li          | R. 755 |
| Cross by Ms. Pinnock     | R. 768 |
| Redirect by Ms. McDuffie | R. 774 |

Karen Tucker

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Walker | R. 776 |
| Cross by Mr. Ruffin  | R. 777 |

Stephen English

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Direct by Ms. Campbell   | R. 779 |
| Cross by Mr. Staggs      | R. 783 |
| Redirect by Ms. Campbell | R. 784 |

Coroner Gary Watts

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 788

Cross by Mr. Li R. 792

Investigator Travis Holdorf

Direct by Ms. Campbell R. 793

Cross by Mr. Li R. 891

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 897

Redirect by Ms. Campbell R. 913

Recross by Ms. Pinnock R. 915

*Bench Conference-* R. 916

*Proffered Testimony- Patricia Guinyard* R. 925

Angela Metze

Direct by Ms. Walker R. 926

THE STATE RESTS R. 928

Directed Verdict Motions R. 928

GUINYARD DEFENSE R. 943

Mr. Charles Robinson

Direct by Mr. Li R. 943

Cross by Ms. Walker R. 964

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 973

Redirect by Mr. Li R. 975

Ms. Gladys Thompson

Direct by Mr. Li R. 976

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 997

Defendant Mr. Antonio Guinyard

Direct by Mr. Li R. 1000

Cross by Ms. Walker R. 1052

Cross by Ms. Pinnock R. 1073

GUINYARD DEFENSE RESTS

THOMPSON DEFENSE

Ms. Jacqueline Richburg

Direct by Ms. Pinnock R. 1088

Defendant Ms. Courtney Thompson

Direct by Ms. Pinnock R. 1090

Cross by Ms. Campbell R. 1113

Cross by Ms. Eisenhower R. 1143

THOMPSON DEFENSE RESTS

REPLY TESTIMONY BY THE STATE

Deputy Coroner Jane Powell

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 1147

Investigator Travis Holdorf

Direct by Ms. McDuffie R. 1150

Cross by Mr. Li R. 1162

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY ENDS

State's Closing Statement- Ms. Campbell R. 1164

Guinyard Defense' Closing Statement- Mr. Li R. 1181

Thompson Defense' Closing Statement- Ms. Pinnock R. 1190

State Closing Statement- Ms. Campbell R. 1204

Jury Charge R. 1241

Jury Verdict R. 1267

Sentencing R. 1282

*End of Trial Transcript*

State's Exhibits

2A Redacted Statement (Thompson) R. 1285

4 Statement (Guinyard) R. 1288

5 Advice of Rights (Thompson) R. 1291

6A Redacted Statement (Thompson) R. 1292

|      |                                      |         |
|------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 250A | Redacted Data Report (phone records) | R. 1296 |
| 257  | Taxi Cab Phone Records               | R. 1312 |
| 260  | Statement (Thompson) 7/1/13          | R. 1313 |

Court's Exhibits

|   |                                    |         |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|
| 6 | Motion by Defense (exclude photos) | R. 1316 |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|

Arrest Warrants

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Courtney Shante Thompson | R. 1327 |
| Robert A. Guinyard, Sr.  | R. 1331 |

Indictments

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Courtney Shante Thompson | R. 1335 |
| Robert A. Guinyard, Sr.  | R. 1339 |

Sentencing Sheets

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Courtney Shante Thompson | R. 1343 |
| Robert A. Guinyard, Sr.  | R. 1345 |

Certificate of Counsel

R. 1347

**THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITS ARE ON FILE WITH THIS COURT:**

STATE'S EXHIBITS-

|    |       |  |
|----|-------|--|
| 8  | Photo |  |
| 9  | Photo |  |
| 10 | Photo |  |
| 11 | Photo |  |
| 12 | Photo |  |
| 13 | Photo |  |
| 14 | Photo |  |
| 15 | Photo |  |
| 16 | Photo |  |

|    |       |  |
|----|-------|--|
| 17 | Photo |  |
| 18 | Photo |  |
| 19 | Photo |  |
| 20 | Photo |  |
| 21 | Photo |  |
| 22 | Photo |  |
| 23 | Photo |  |
| 24 | Photo |  |
| 25 | Photo |  |
| 26 | Photo |  |
| 27 | Photo |  |
| 28 | Photo |  |
| 29 | Photo |  |
| 30 | Photo |  |
| 31 | Photo |  |
| 32 | Photo |  |
| 33 | Photo |  |
| 34 | Photo |  |
| 35 | Photo |  |
| 36 | Photo |  |
| 37 | Photo |  |
| 38 | Photo |  |
| 39 | Photo |  |
| 40 | Photo |  |
| 41 | Photo |  |
| 42 | Photo |  |
| 43 | Photo |  |
| 44 | Photo |  |
| 45 | Photo |  |
| 46 | Photo |  |

|    |       |  |
|----|-------|--|
| 47 | Photo |  |
| 48 | Photo |  |
| 49 | Photo |  |
| 50 | Photo |  |
| 51 | Photo |  |
| 52 | Photo |  |
| 53 | Photo |  |
| 54 | Photo |  |
| 55 | Photo |  |
| 56 | Photo |  |
| 57 | Photo |  |
| 58 | Photo |  |
| 59 | Photo |  |
| 60 | Photo |  |
| 61 | Photo |  |
| 62 | Photo |  |
| 63 | Photo |  |
| 64 | Photo |  |
| 65 | Photo |  |
| 66 | Photo |  |
| 67 | Photo |  |
| 68 | Photo |  |
| 69 | Photo |  |
| 70 | Photo |  |
| 71 | Photo |  |
| 72 | Photo |  |
| 73 | Photo |  |
| 74 | Photo |  |
| 75 | Photo |  |
| 76 | Photo |  |

|     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| 77  | Photo |  |
| 78  | Photo |  |
| 79  | Photo |  |
| 80  | Photo |  |
| 81  | Photo |  |
| 82  | Photo |  |
| 83  | Photo |  |
| 84  | Photo |  |
| 85  | Photo |  |
| 86  | Photo |  |
| 87  | Photo |  |
| 88  | Photo |  |
| 89  | Photo |  |
| 90  | Photo |  |
| 91  | Photo |  |
| 92  | Photo |  |
| 93  | Photo |  |
| 94  | Photo |  |
| 95  | Photo |  |
| 96  | Photo |  |
| 97  | Photo |  |
| 98  | Photo |  |
| 99  | Photo |  |
| 100 | Photo |  |
| 101 | Photo |  |
| 102 | Swab  |  |
|     |       |  |
| 106 | Photo |  |
| 107 | Photo |  |
| 108 | Photo |  |



|     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| 109 | Photo |  |
| 110 | Photo |  |
| 111 | Photo |  |
| 112 | Photo |  |
| 113 | Photo |  |
| 114 | Photo |  |
| 115 | Photo |  |
| 116 | Photo |  |
| 117 | Photo |  |
| 118 | Photo |  |
| 119 | Photo |  |
| 120 | Photo |  |
| 121 | Photo |  |
| 122 | Photo |  |
| 123 | Photo |  |
| 124 | Photo |  |
| 125 | Photo |  |
| 126 | Photo |  |
| 127 | Photo |  |
| 128 | Photo |  |
| 129 | Photo |  |
| 130 | Photo |  |
| 131 | Photo |  |
| 132 | Photo |  |
| 133 | Photo |  |
| 134 | Photo |  |
| 135 | Photo |  |
| 136 | Photo |  |
| 137 | Photo |  |
| 138 | Photo |  |

|     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| 139 | Photo |  |
| 140 | Photo |  |
| 141 | Photo |  |
| 142 | Photo |  |
| 143 | Photo |  |
| 144 | Photo |  |
| 145 | Photo |  |
| 146 | Photo |  |
| 147 | Photo |  |
| 148 | Photo |  |
| 149 | Photo |  |
| 150 | Photo |  |
|     |       |  |
| 152 | Photo |  |
| 153 | Photo |  |
| 154 | Photo |  |
| 155 | Photo |  |
| 156 | Photo |  |
| 157 | Photo |  |
| 158 | Photo |  |
| 159 | Photo |  |
| 160 | Photo |  |
| 161 | Photo |  |
| 162 | Photo |  |
| 163 | Photo |  |
| 164 | Photo |  |
| 165 | Photo |  |
| 166 | Photo |  |
| 167 | Photo |  |
| 168 | Photo |  |

|     |                                       |  |
|-----|---------------------------------------|--|
| 169 | Photo                                 |  |
|     |                                       |  |
| 172 | Photo                                 |  |
| 173 | Photo                                 |  |
| 174 | Photo                                 |  |
| 175 | Photo                                 |  |
| 176 | Photo                                 |  |
| 177 | Photo                                 |  |
| 178 | Photo                                 |  |
| 179 | Photo                                 |  |
| 180 | Photo                                 |  |
| 181 | Photo                                 |  |
| 182 | Photo                                 |  |
| 183 | Photo                                 |  |
| 184 | Photo                                 |  |
| 185 | Photo                                 |  |
| 186 | Photo                                 |  |
| 187 | Photo                                 |  |
| 188 | Photo                                 |  |
| 189 | Photo                                 |  |
| 190 | Photo                                 |  |
| 191 | Photo                                 |  |
| 192 | Photo                                 |  |
| 193 | Photo                                 |  |
| 194 | Photo                                 |  |
| 195 | Photo                                 |  |
| 196 | Photo                                 |  |
| 197 | Photo                                 |  |
| 198 | Photo                                 |  |
| 199 | Photo- withdrawn (Transcript p. 1806) |  |

|     |                                   |  |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|
| 200 | Photo                             |  |
|     |                                   |  |
| 215 | Photo                             |  |
| 216 | Photo                             |  |
| 217 | Photo                             |  |
| 218 | Photo                             |  |
| 219 | Photo                             |  |
| 220 | Photo                             |  |
| 221 | Photo                             |  |
| 222 | Photo                             |  |
| 223 | 911 call CD (but photo of Victim) |  |
| 224 | Photo                             |  |
| 225 | Photo                             |  |
| 226 | Photo                             |  |
| 227 | Photo                             |  |
| 228 | Photo                             |  |
| 229 | Photo                             |  |
| 230 | Photo                             |  |
| 231 | Photo                             |  |
| 232 | Photo                             |  |
| 233 | Photo                             |  |
| 234 | Photo                             |  |
| 235 | Photo                             |  |
| 236 | Photo                             |  |
| 237 | Photo                             |  |
| 238 | Photo                             |  |
| 239 | Photo                             |  |
| 240 | Photo                             |  |
| 241 | Photo                             |  |
| 242 | Photo                             |  |

|     |                                |  |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| 243 | Photo                          |  |
| 244 | Photo                          |  |
| 245 | Photo                          |  |
| 246 | Photo                          |  |
| 247 | Photo                          |  |
| 248 | Photo                          |  |
| 249 | Photo                          |  |
|     |                                |  |
| 251 | Photo                          |  |
| 254 | Disk- Jail phone call          |  |
| 255 | Diagram                        |  |
| 256 | Diagram                        |  |
| 258 | Coroner Video - (re-enactment) |  |
| 259 | Photo Facebook                 |  |

#### DEFENSE EXHIBITS

1      911 Call

1     sorry, I didn't mean to cut you off if I did.

2             MS. CAMPBELL:   Just one question.

3                             REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

4     BY MS. CAMPBELL:

5     Q     Doctor, if the child had been taken to the doctor  
6     in the several days before his death, you would have  
7     been consulted on it?

8     A     Definitely.

9     Q     Could he have been saved?

10    A     Yes, ma'am.

11             MS. CAMPBELL:   Thank you?

12             THE COURT:   Recross?

13             MS. EISENHOWER:  No.

14             THE COURT:   Okay.  Thank you, Doctor.  You may  
15    step down.

16             Call your next witness.  Who is next?

17             MS. McDUFFIE:   Judge, may we approach?

18             THE COURT:   Sure.

19             (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
20    presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

21             MS. McDUFFIE:   May it please the Court.  The  
22    State calls Investigator Holly Wagner.

23                             HOLLY WAGNER,

24    after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

25             THE CLERK:   Please have a seat.  State your full

1 name for the record.

2 THE WITNESS: Holly Wagner.

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

4 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

5 Q Investigator Wagner, where are you currently  
6 employed?

7 A Richland County Sheriff's Department.

8 Q And what are your duties with the sheriff's  
9 department?

10 A I'm a special units investigator.

11 Q Please describe for the jury what you do as a  
12 special victim's or special units investigator?

13 A We --- I'm part of the unit, and we typically get  
14 all of the cases that deal with child abuse, sex  
15 abuse, elder abuse, those kind of cases.

16 Q And as a major crimes investigator, please  
17 describe for the jury a little bit about your  
18 background, training and experience in law  
19 enforcement?

20 A I've been employed with the Richland County  
21 Sheriff's Department since May of 2003 and we go to  
22 routine --- we go to routine training every year.  
23 I've also had a couple of classes in sexual assault,  
24 aggravated assault, many different things we get  
25 trained in.

1 Q How long have you been an investigator with the  
2 sheriff's department?

3 A For eight years.

4 Q And on --- this incident occurred on July 1<sup>st</sup> of  
5 2013?

6 A Correct.

7 Q But you actually didn't get involved in it until  
8 when?

9 A July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the next day.

10 Q And your role in this investigation was to act as  
11 a co-investigator with the Investigator Holdorf and  
12 assist him in the investigation?

13 A Yes, it was.

14 Q And on July 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2013, please tell the jury  
15 what you did?

16 A I got a call sometime in the middle of the day  
17 from Investigator Holdorf to meet him at headquarters,  
18 and I went to headquarters and met him. He gave me a  
19 short briefing on where we were with the case, and  
20 then him and I went out to 104 Beaverbrook and waited  
21 on Ms. Thompson to get there, just were there watching  
22 while the coroner did the reenactment.

23 Q So you observed while Ms. Thompson did the  
24 reenactment with Jane Powell?

25 A I did.



1 Q And after --- well, let me back up a little bit.  
2 When you got there, was the crime scene secured?

3 A It was.

4 Q A deputy was there monitoring it?

5 A It was and Investigator Holdorf and I both signed  
6 into the crime scene, and then Investigator Holdorf  
7 released that deputy.

8 When Courtney got there, the house was released  
9 to her.

10 Q To her?

11 A To her, yes.

12 Q Okay. Once the house was released to her, did  
13 law enforcement have any control or custody over that  
14 house?

15 A No, ma'am.

16 Q And Ms. Thompson had complete control and custody  
17 over the house?

18 A She did.

19 Q After Ms. Thompson did the reenactment with Jane  
20 Powell, what happened after that?

21 A We had asked her to meet us at headquarters so  
22 that the coroner could review the coroner's report  
23 with her and discuss some arrangements for **Victim**,  
24 so I went with Investigator Holdorf. We went to  
25 Richland County headquarters. Shortly after we got

1 there Ms. Thompson got there, and we were in Major  
2 Stan Smith's office and Investigator Holdorf advised  
3 her of her rights while we were waiting on Jane Powell  
4 to get there.

5 Once Jane Powell got there, she started going  
6 over the autopsy with her.

7 Q You said Investigator Holdorf advised her of her  
8 rights?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And you were present for that?

11 A I was.

12 Q Did Investigator Holdorf --- the rights you're  
13 talking about, those are the Miranda warnings?

14 A They are and we have a standardized form. He  
15 asked her all the questions on the form. She said she  
16 understood them. Him and I both signed the form.

17 Q Those questions, you have the right to remain  
18 silent?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Anything you say can and will be used against  
21 you?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And she was advised of her rights?

24 A She was.

25 Q Did she appear to understand her rights as they

1 were being read to her?

2 A She did.

3 Q Did she ask any questions or say she didn't  
4 understand anything or give you any indication she  
5 didn't understand anything?

6 A She did not.

7 Q Did she agree to waive those rights and speak  
8 with you on July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

9 A She did.

10 Q You said that Jane Powell, the deputy coroner  
11 then arrived at headquarters?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
14 what happened once Ms. Powell explained the results of  
15 autopsy to Ms. Thompson?

16 A She kind of looked like she didn't understand  
17 what had just been said, and she immediately went  
18 into, "I didn't kill my child. I could not have  
19 killed my child."

20 She kind of acted like she wanted to cry, but  
21 there were no tears coming out. She just said, "I  
22 don't understand. I didn't kill my child."

23 Q After Deputy Coroner Powell explained the autopsy  
24 findings and that it was basically consistent for  
25 abuse that caused the death of this child ---

1 A Yes.

2 Q --- did Mr. Antonio Guinyard show up at the  
3 sheriff's department?

4 A He did. Right after we started talking to  
5 Courtney, Mr. Guinyard showed up downstairs, so  
6 Investigator Holdorf went and spoke with him and Jane  
7 Powell and I continue to talk to Courtney.

8 Q Do you know how Mr. Guinyard got to the sheriff's  
9 department that day?

10 A I do not.

11 Q And so you and Ms. Powell, Deputy Coroner Powell  
12 kept talking with Courtney?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
15 what Ms. Thompson told you on July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

16 A She said she was in the shower. She heard a  
17 thud. She ran and got the child in the back room.  
18 Brought him into the front room and called 911.

19 Q And after she gave you that version of events,  
20 again, what, if anything, did you or Investigator  
21 Powell say?

22 A Explained to her that --- well, she did say  
23 something about it could have been --- that she had  
24 heard a thud. So we explained to her that the trauma  
25 from the autopsy was so extensive that there was

1 multiple blunt force trauma to this child. It could  
2 not have been caused by a singular event or fall.

3 She just kept repeating the same thing over and  
4 over again. "I did not do this to my child. I could  
5 not have done to this my child. I was in the shower  
6 and I heard a thud." She continued to repeat that.

7 Q Did Courtney tell you'll how they would  
8 discipline **Victim**?

9 A She did. She said that --- she actually  
10 described it. She said, "Well, I maybe would pop him  
11 on the butt like that." And then she would hit her  
12 hand with her palm, but not hard or she would just  
13 make him sit in a chair. I'll refer to my notes. I'm  
14 pretty sure that's what she said.

15 (Pause.)

16 "Put him in time out. Make him sit with his  
17 hands up or put a little spank on the bottom," but she  
18 said she would never hit him hard.

19 Q And as you continued to talk with Courtney, did  
20 she eventually tell you that she would tell you the  
21 truth?

22 A She did. Captain Melton showed up, and right  
23 after Captain Melton got there and was speaking with  
24 her, Jane Powell left and Captain Melton was there.

25 Captain Melton again explained to her from the

1 autopsy findings this is not a singular event and that  
2 we need to find out what happened to **Victim**. She  
3 started to get a little emotional. She said, "I will  
4 tell you the truth if you will let me talk to  
5 Antonio." I told her that was not my decision, I was  
6 not the lead on this and that, you know, we tried to  
7 talk to her a little bit longer.

8 Then I went and spoke to Investigator Holdorf to  
9 let him know that she has continued to say she was in  
10 the shower, that she heard a thud. Now, she was  
11 saying she would tell us the truth about what  
12 happened, but that she needed to talk to Antonio  
13 first.

14 Q And prior to her speaking to Antonio, did she  
15 make any other statements to you?

16 (Pause.)

17 A Oh, yes, she wanted to know if it was possible  
18 that Antonio could have --- I mean, if **Victim**  
19 could have already been dying when she got home from  
20 the hospital with the other child.

21 She says, "Is it possible he could have already  
22 been dying when I came home from the hospital."  
23 Captain Melton said that anything is possible. It  
24 could be possible, and I think at that point, she  
25 said --- I'm not sure if she said, if it was at that

1 point, but she said he was acting funny when she got  
2 home or whether it was after she spoke to Antonio. I  
3 think it was after she spoke to Antonio. She just  
4 asked, "Could he have already been dying when I came  
5 home from the hospital."

6 Q If I could get you to --- would it help you  
7 refresh your memory to refer to your notes --- when  
8 did she tell you that he started acting funny?

9 (Pause.)

10 A I don't have that in my notes.

11 Q Investigator Wagner ---

12 A Unless you point it out to me.

13 Q Did you prepare a written report or investigative  
14 notes?

15 A I did.

16 Q You made those notes contemporaneous to, or back  
17 in, July of 2013?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Do you recall saying that Courtney started  
20 talking about how **Victim** was not acting right when she  
21 got home?

22 A Yes.

23 Q She didn't want to give you anymore detail after  
24 that?

25 A Right, exactly.

1 Q She kept saying she wanted to talk to Antonio?

2 A Yes, correct, I'm sorry.

3 Q Antonio would be Robert Antonio Guinyard, Sr.?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Ultimately, was the that done and she was allowed  
6 to speak with him?

7 A Yes, she was.

8 Q They were put in a conference room alone at the  
9 sheriff's department?

10 A They were.

11 Q When you are talking with Courtney and  
12 questioning her, where is this taking place?

13 A We were in Major Smith's office.

14 Q Does --- we've all seen TV and crime shows. Does  
15 the Richland County Sheriff's Department have, you  
16 know, interrogation rooms?

17 A We do not.

18 Q Where do you interview suspects or victims or  
19 anyone who has information about a crime at the  
20 sheriff's department?

21 A We interview a lot of people just in our personal  
22 cubical space, but when we're dealing with these kind  
23 of cases, a lot of times we'll go to one of the  
24 supervisor's office because they have an office that's  
25 more private. We were in our Major's office.



1 Q When you're talking about your Major's office, is  
2 this a normal office, filing cabinet, desk, computer.  
3 I mean, this is where he works every day?

4 A Yes.

5 Q At any point in time was Courtney --- did she  
6 ever tell you she wanted to leave?

7 A No.

8 Q Did she ever tell you she didn't want to speak to  
9 you anymore?

10 A No.

11 Q Was she denied food, drink, bathroom, creature  
12 comforts, anything?

13 A No.

14 Q Were any promises made to her or any threats?

15 A No.

16 Q After Courtney and Antonio were allowed to speak  
17 with each other for awhile, did you then do speak with  
18 Antonio?

19 A I did.

20 Q And you were --- were you aware of whether or not  
21 his rights had --- he had been advised of his rights?

22 A He had been.

23 Q And how did you become aware of that?

24 A Investigator Holdorf told me.

25 Q And were you aware of whether or not he wished to

1 speak with you and waive those rights?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And Antonio, what did he tell you that evening on  
4 July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

5 A When I went and spoke with him, he said that he  
6 was in the kitchen cooking and he didn't know anything  
7 about what happened.

8 Q And did you confront him about statements  
9 Courtney had made that she had not seen anyone in the  
10 kitchen when she heard the thud?

11 A I did.

12 MR. LI: Objection, Your Honor. I renew my  
13 objection.

14 THE COURT: Understood, overruled.

15 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

16 Q Go ahead.

17 A I explained to him what Courtney's story was  
18 about she was in the shower. She heard a thud. She  
19 went in the kitchen. Nobody was there. She went and  
20 called, asked him to explain that. How come his story  
21 was different than hers. He said, "I was in the  
22 kitchen cooking. I'm not going to change my story,  
23 and I don't have anything else to say."

24 Q Prior to that, did he tell you about the day  
25 while Courtney was in the hospital, the day before the

1 child's death?

2 A He did. I asked him initially to just kind of  
3 tell me how the day was before, you know, while he was  
4 babysitting, what did you all do the day before.

5 He told me that the day before Courtney came home  
6 that him and **Victim** stayed up until 4:00 a.m.  
7 watching TV. Then he got up around ten o'clock. He  
8 realized Courtney was coming home, and he needed to  
9 have some money, so he walked to the store to get some  
10 money.

11 I asked him did you take **Victim** with you. He  
12 told me no, that the boy was asleep in his room; that  
13 he had peed on himself, and he was asleep in the room  
14 lying in his pee. He just left him there and went to  
15 the store.

16 I asked him did he ever clean up that urine  
17 before Courtney came home. He said no, that he had  
18 not.

19 Q After you've spoke with Antonio and after other  
20 investigators spoke with Courtney, were they then  
21 waiting for the transport van or waiting in the break  
22 room?

23 A They were.

24 Q There at the sheriff's department?

25 A They were allowed to sit together in the break

1 room and wait on the transport van.

2 Q And please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the  
3 jury what you observed.

4 A I came in. There was some money on the table. I  
5 think they had already taken it out and counted it  
6 back and forth. I didn't hear a lot of that. The  
7 part I heard was right when they stood up and they  
8 were getting ready to leave. Antonio --- they hugged  
9 each other, and Antonio just kept repeating to  
10 Courtney, "Free me, free me."

11 Q After July 2<sup>nd</sup>, or in the days following that,  
12 did you continue to investigate the case and continue  
13 to talk to witnesses who may have information  
14 involving the case?

15 A I did.

16 Q And on July 4<sup>th</sup> of 2013, did you and Investigator  
17 Holdorf obtain a search warrant again for the  
18 residence at 104 Beaverbrook?

19 A We did.

20 Q And specifically, what were you're going to the  
21 home to search for? What had your investigation  
22 developed as possible evidence in this case?

23 A We went there --- we were going to look for a  
24 Time Warner Cable box and some sort of white pole or  
25 object, maybe a broom handle or something, a pole type

1 object, a white stick type object.

2 Q And when you arrived at the home on Beaverbrook,  
3 you had obtained a lawful search warrant?

4 A We had.

5 Q And Investigator Kristen Polis with the sheriff's  
6 department crime scene unit accompanied you?

7 A She did.

8 Q Were you able to locate the Time Warner Cable  
9 recorder video cable box on July 4<sup>th</sup>?

10 A We were not.

11 Q Why was that relevant in your investigation?  
12 What were you searching for?

13 A The Time Warner box, we just wanted to see if  
14 there was any evidence on it. We had, through  
15 investigation, heard that --- or felt that it may have  
16 recorded something.

17 We had been told that the box was a live feed,  
18 like a security live feed, but felt like there may be  
19 something else besides a live feed. It would be worth  
20 trying to get that.

21 Q Okay. These because you learned there were  
22 cameras in the home?

23 A We learned there may be cameras in the home.

24 Q So you were trying to see if there were any  
25 recording that may exist in the investigation?

1 A Yes.

2 Q But again, that cable box or that box ---

3 (There was an equipment failure.)

4 THE COURT: All right. Let's take a little break.

5 I think that's the easiest thing to do. It's 11:21  
6 and we will start back up about 11:30. Do not discuss  
7 the case, keep an open mind.

8 Please remain seated while the jury leaves the  
9 courtroom.

10 Investigator Wagner, you are free to move from  
11 that area, but you are not allowed to discuss your  
12 testimony with anybody.

13 THE WITNESS: I'm good.

14 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
15 11:24 a.m.)

16 THE COURT: All right. Bring the jury back in.  
17 Before --- oh, we need Mr. Guinyard. What about  
18 Ms. Thompson? I can't see her.

19 MR. STAGGS: She is here.

20 (Pause.)

21 THE COURT: Investigator Wagner, you can come on  
22 back up now.

23 THE WITNESS: I'm here.

24 THE COURT: I'm sorry. My bad. Thank you.

25 MS. WALKER: Judge, there is one issue we can

1 take up while we are waiting --- or about another  
2 witness that we have. There is a witness, Your Honor,  
3 that we have that has one of the other children. Her  
4 concern is that with the cameras in the courtroom, if  
5 she is on the news, people will be able to see her and  
6 then associate that child with this situation.

7 She, out of an abundance of caution in protecting  
8 the child that she has, would ask that she not be  
9 televised.

10 MR. LI: No objection.

11 MR. STAGGS: We don't have any objection to that.

12 THE COURT: What is her name?

13 MS. WALKER: Kimberly Gooden.

14 THE COURT: Spell it.

15 (Pause.)

16 MS. McDUFFIE: G-O-O ---

17 MS. WALKER: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't hear you,  
18 Your Honor, G-O-O-D-E-N.

19 THE COURT: Is she the next witness?

20 MS. WALKER: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Do you want to take a position  
22 on that? What's your position, Clark?

23 TV NEWS: My understanding is they're identified  
24 through the child has being in foster care and could  
25 identify the mother at that time.

1 THE COURT: Are you okay with not videotaping  
2 that one witness?

3 TV NEWS: Yes, sir. I can take the cameras down  
4 and turn them off.

5 THE COURT: Are you okay with that, Mr. Kuenzie?

6 TV NEWS: Yes. Can I stay in the courtroom for  
7 that?

8 THE COURT: Yes, you can stay in the courtroom  
9 and take notes and all that stuff. We don't want her  
10 --- I believe she just doesn't want her face on the  
11 news.

12 MR. LI: Your Honor, this is the first time I've  
13 heard any information on Ms. Gooden. They have no  
14 statements. We haven't ---

15 THE COURT: That's a different issue.

16 MR. LI: I'm sorry, on this issue I have nothing,  
17 Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: We'll just take this one at a time.

19 WLTX is okay with that?

20 TV NEWS: Okay.

21 THE COURT: WIS is okay with that?

22 TV NEWS: Yes, we are fine with that.

23 THE COURT: I appreciate that, gentlemen. Thank  
24 you very much.

25 MS. WALKER: Thank you, Your Honor.



1       On the legal argument, let's wait until your  
2 client gets in here.

3       (Pause.)

4       THE COURT: Welcome back, Mr. Guinyard.

5       Okay. Now, what's the issue with Ms. Gooden?

6       MR. LI: Your Honor, we have no statement, no  
7 prior written statement from her, no information,  
8 nothing was turned over from the State about anything  
9 Ms. Gooden is going to testify to.

10       THE COURT: Do you agree with what he just said?

11       MR. STAGGS: I do agree with it. We move to  
12 exclude her testimony based on that.

13       THE COURT: Okay.

14       MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, the information that  
15 Ms. Kimberly Gooden will be testifying about, she has ,  
16 already testified to. They have already  
17 cross-examined her on family court matters. It's all  
18 in the(records in family court. Mr. Li and I came in  
19 chambers and talked about the transcripts. I believe  
20 you approved funding for him to get the transcripts.  
21 Ms. Pinnock and I discussed that. It's also in the  
22 guardian ad litem's reports, which are all on file in  
23 the clerk's office which we informed them that the  
24 clerk's office said they had to go get it themselves.  
25 I don't know how else I can turn anything else over to

1 them.

2 MR. LI: If it's in the transcript, we have it.

3 MR. STAGGS: I agree.

4 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Bring in the jury.

5 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
6 11:41 a.m.)

7 THE BAILIFF: All jurors have been accounted for,  
8 Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much,  
10 ladies and gentlemen.

11 Ms. McDuffie, please continue.

12 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

13 Q Investigator Wagner, I want to make sure we back  
14 up a little. You went to the home pursuant to a  
15 search warrant on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013?

16 A Correct.

17 Q That was to look for specifically a Time Warner  
18 Cable or a video recording box and also white poles or  
19 sticks?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And the information you had about why the Time  
22 Warner Cable video box was relevant, was what?

23 A Was that there were some cameras in the house.  
24 We thought there might be some recording or some sort  
25 of record of evidence, video evidence, to show us what

1 had gone on in the house. We went to retrieve that  
2 box.

3 Q When you went to retrieve it, was the box in the  
4 house any longer?

5 A It was not.

6 Q You also said you were looking for white poles or  
7 sticks or rods?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did you and Investigator Holdorf yourself  
10 actually participate in the search for these items?

11 A We did.

12 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
13 what you observed or what you found?

14 A I was right outside of the kitchen. There was a  
15 closet, and I opened that closet door. On the middle  
16 shelf, there was a white pole, just like a wooden  
17 dowel pole that had been broken that was laying there.  
18 I found that, called Investigator Polis over and she  
19 photographed it. There was also a white broom, wooden  
20 broom that was leaning kind of against the frame.

21 Q And she photographed and collected these items of  
22 evidence?

23 A She did.

24 Q Did you touch them, tamper with them, change  
25 their condition prior to collection?

1 A I did not.

2 Q Those are the items contained in State's  
3 Exhibit 150?

4 A Yes.

5 Q After you found those items, did you and  
6 Investigator Holdorf search any other rooms in the  
7 home?

8 A Yes, I was in the back right bedroom where the  
9 carpet had been pulled up and Investigator Holdorf was  
10 in the other room. He called me in there. When he  
11 did, he had picked up the --- kind of moved the  
12 mattress and box springs and pointed down and told me  
13 to look. Laying there between the wall and the  
14 mattress was a white rod that had bent places on it  
15 that had been struck against --- just dents in it. It  
16 was jagged on one end, and there were reddish brown  
17 stains on it. We called Investigator Polis in to  
18 photograph and collect that stick.

19 Q And prior to Investigator Polis collecting it,  
20 did you or Investigator Holdorf move it, touch it,  
21 tamper with it in anyway?

22 A We did not.

23 Q Investigator Wagner, after these items of  
24 evidence were found and properly collected, did you  
25 then leave the residence?

1 A We did.

2 Q The next day on July 5<sup>th</sup>, did you and  
3 Investigator Holdorf, were you requested to return to  
4 the home?

5 A We were. We had been asked by Antonio's mother,  
6 Mrs. Guinyard, to go back to the house with her. She  
7 wanted to get some of Antonio's clothes and she also  
8 wanted to get some of the clothes that were there for  
9 the newborn, so we assisted her going back to the  
10 house.

11 Q She just didn't want to go in the house alone?

12 A She didn't want to be in the house by herself.

13 Q When you accompanied her to the home on that day,  
14 that was at her request?

15 A It was.

16 Q She entered the home and allowed you access to  
17 the home?

18 A She did.

19 Q And Antonio's mother, when she was in the home,  
20 where did she go?

21 A She was in that same room where the bed was and  
22 the white rod was found. There was a closet, and she  
23 was pulling things out of that closet.

24 Q And were you and Investigator Holdorf  
25 participating or helping or doing anything in anyway?

1 A We were not. We were just there.

2 Q And where were you?

3 A I think I was just kind of standing in the door  
4 and Investigator Holdorf was standing in the room and  
5 her --- she was getting stuff out of the closet.

6 Q While she was getting things out of the closet,  
7 please describe for the jury what you observed or what  
8 happened?

9 A I wasn't really watching her too close. All of  
10 the sudden I just kind of noticed something was amiss.  
11 I looked, and she had like become overcome with  
12 emotion. I looked and she turned around and handed a  
13 shirt to Investigator Holdorf, and it was a little  
14 gray and white or blue and white striped shirt that  
15 had reddish brown stains all over it. She had found  
16 it as she was going through those clothes. It had  
17 been down inside of all those clothes.

18 Q And she began to cry?

19 A She began to cry.

20 Q Where did she go after that?

21 A She left the room for a minute and, you know, we  
22 took the shirt. Investigator Holdorf took the shirt.  
23 She handed it to him, and he took it. She regained  
24 her composure after a few minutes and got the clothing  
25 that she wanted and left.

1 Q I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
2 State's 247, 248 and 249 and ask if you recognize  
3 these pictures and the fact they are pictures you took  
4 on July 5<sup>th</sup>?

5 A I do.

6 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
7 offer State's 247, 248 and 249 into evidence.

8 MR. LI: No objection.

9 MR. STAGGS: No objection.

10 THE COURT: State's 247, 248, and 249 admitted  
11 without objection.

12 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Numbers 247, 248 and  
13 249 were admitted into evidence.)

14 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

15 Q State's Exhibit 247, can you tell the ladies and  
16 gentlemen of the jury what that is a picture of?

17 A That is a picture of the closet. Like I was  
18 standing back looking at the closet. I took a picture  
19 of that to kind of show all the pile of clothing that  
20 was in the floor of that closet where she had taken  
21 the shirt out of.

22 Q And this is where Antonio's mother found the  
23 shirt that she gave to Investigator Holdorf?

24 A Yes.

25 Q State's 248 and 249, can you please tell the jury

1 what is depicted in these photos?

2 A That is a shirt.

3 Q Is that a child's shirt or an adult's shirt?

4 A That's a child's shirt.

5 Q That was collected by Investigator Holdorf that  
6 day?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And then turned over to crime scene investigators  
9 at the sheriff's department?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And after you accompanied Mrs. Guinyard,  
12 Antonio's mother, to the residence on that day, did  
13 she then --- after she finished collecting the items,  
14 she then secured the residence and you left?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Pursuant to your investigation, did you also get  
17 a search warrant for Courtney Thompson's cell phone,  
18 the actual cell phone?

19 A I did.

20 Q Did you collect that phone pursuant to your  
21 investigation?

22 A I did.

23 Q I'm showing you what's marked as State's 210. Is  
24 this Courtney Thompson's cell phone that you  
25 collected?



1 A Yes, it is.

2 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
3 offer State's 210?

4 MR. STAGGS: No objection.

5 MR. LI: No objection.

6 THE COURT: 210 without objection.

7 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 210 was  
8 admitted into evidence.)

9 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

10 Q Did you or your office, the sheriff's department,  
11 try to --- or did you get a search warrant to download  
12 the contents of that phone?

13 A We did.

14 Q In July of 2013, was the sheriff's department or  
15 the equipment, were you able to retrieve anything from  
16 that phone?

17 A We were not. The equipment we had --- I don't do  
18 that stuff, so I don't know. I don't know if there  
19 was a password on or something, but any way, the  
20 equipment that we had could not get anything out of  
21 that phone in July.

22 Q Recently did the sheriff's department acquire new  
23 equipment?

24 A They did.

25 Q Did you obtain a new search warrant to download

1 the contents of that phone?

2 A I did.

3 Q Were investigators with the sheriff's department  
4 able to download the contents of that phone at a later  
5 date?

6 A They were.

7 Q And that was pursuant to a second search warrant?

8 A It was.

9 Q Investigator Wagner, the individual that you  
10 spoke to on the evening of July 2, 2013, who told you  
11 that **Victim** wasn't acting right and she would tell you  
12 the truth after she talked to Antonio, who was that?

13 A That was Courtney Thompson.

14 Q Do you see her in the courtroom today?

15 A I do. She is the defendant sitting there in  
16 black.

17 Q And the individual who told you that he left  
18 **Victim** lying in a pool of urine while he  
19 left to go to the store to get money and beer, who was  
20 that?

21 A Antonio Guinyard, there in the blue shirt.

22 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, let the record reflect  
23 she has identified the defendants. We have no further  
24 questions of this witness.

25 THE COURT: Cross?

1 MR. LI: Yes, sir, may it please the court.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

3 BY MR. LI:

4 Q Good morning.

5 A Good morning.

6 Q You started on this case on July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

7 A Correct.

8 Q And at that point were you aware that Courtney  
9 Thompson had already made a statement on July 1<sup>st</sup>?

10 A I was not.

11 Q And on July 2<sup>nd</sup> --- let's take you back. Let's  
12 go chronologically here. You said that you spoke with  
13 Courtney at headquarters?

14 A Yes.

15 Q After the reenactment?

16 A Yes.

17 Q All right. And you informed her that --- you  
18 informed her that the autopsy that had been previously  
19 done that morning didn't a match with her story?

20 A Correct.

21 Q Implying there was already a story, there was  
22 already a version, correct?

23 A Right, what she had said during the reenactment.

24 Q What she had said during the reenactment?

25 A Yes.

1 Q During the reenactment, she didn't know anything  
2 about the results of the autopsy?

3 A No.

4 Q So after you informed her of the results of the  
5 autopsy, she makes another statement?

6 A Yes.

7 Q That's the one where it says that he was acting  
8 weak?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And weary. In this second statement, you asked  
11 her the question, "Have you ever hit **Victim** before,"  
12 correct?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And her response was?

15 A "Smacked him like that, yeah."

16 Q Do you remember taking a statement from  
17 Ms. Thompson on July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

18 A I spoke with her, but I was not there during  
19 the --- when Investigator Holdorf took her written  
20 statement.

21 Q Because you had left the room?

22 A I had left the room, yes.

23 Q I got you, I got you. And you were there when  
24 Antonio and Courtney got a chance to speak to each  
25 other?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And you were there when you heard Antonio say,  
3 from what you remember is, "Free me, free me,"  
4 correct?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And you remember Courtney saying, "He didn't do  
7 nothing. I did it. He didn't have nothing to do with  
8 it."?

9 A Yes, she said that after he was saying, "Free me,  
10 free me," as they were walking out.

11 Q That's right. So she said that?

12 A She did say that.

13 Q And on September --- I mean, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, you  
14 went and talked to some family members, correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q You talked to Gladys?

17 A Yes.

18 Q You talked with --- you spoke with Natalie?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And that was on the 3<sup>rd</sup>?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And the following --- I guess, later on in the  
23 afternoon, you interviewed Ms. Gladys?

24 A Yes.

25 Q When did you talk Ms. Guinyard, Patricia

1 Guinyard?

2 A Me, when did I talk to Patricia Guinyard?

3 Q Right. Antonio's mother.

4 (Pause.)

5 A I spoke to Ms. Guinyard on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

6 Q Okay. Did you take a statement from her?

7 (Pause.)

8 A It was on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

9 Q It's okay. It doesn't matter.

10 A Okay.

11 Q On July 8<sup>th</sup>. On July 8<sup>th</sup>, that's when you spoke  
12 with Crystal Thompson, correct?

13 A Yes.

14 Q On July 8<sup>th</sup>, you said she provided you with a  
15 statement?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And she said that she thought she ---

18 MR. STAGGS: Objection, Your Honor. This is  
19 hearsay.

20 MR. LI: It's used to impeach, impeach Crystal's  
21 testimony.

22 THE COURT: Approach.

23 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
24 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

25 THE COURT: Sustained.

1 MR. STAGGS: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 BY MR. LI:

3 Q And the last words you remembered coming from  
4 Courtney were that she did it?

5 A Yes.

6 Q He didn't do nothing?

7 A Correct.

8 Q He didn't have anything to do with it?

9 A Correct.

10 MR. LI: Beg the Court's indulgence.

11 (Pause.)

12 MR. LI: No further questions.

13 THE COURT: Cross?

14 MR. STAGGS: Thank you, Your Honor. May it  
15 please the Court.

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

18 BY MR. STAGGS:

19 Q I just have a very few questions for you,  
20 Investigator Wagner.

21 You've told the jury a little bit about your  
22 involvement in this case. You weren't on the scene?

23 A I was not.

24 Q On July 1<sup>st</sup>, right?

25 A I was not, no.

1 Q So your first involvement was on the 2<sup>nd</sup>?

2 A Yes.

3 Q You got a briefing from Investigator Holdorf?

4 A Correct.

5 Q And he told you at that time at that first  
6 briefing --- you were aware of the cause of death,  
7 right? You were aware of the findings of the autopsy?

8 A I didn't know the exact findings, but I knew  
9 there was some question that, yes, there were multiple  
10 blunt force trauma to the child according to the  
11 autopsy.

12 Q And you knew that was inconsistent with what  
13 investigators had learned the night before?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Do you remember about what time you met with  
16 Investigator Holdorf?

17 A Somewhere around noon.

18 Q Around noon?

19 A Uh-huh.

20 Q All right. Now, after you met with Investigator  
21 Holdorf, you went to 104 Beaverbrook?

22 A We did.

23 Q And you met Ms. Thompson there?

24 A Yes.

25 Q When you met with Ms. Thompson at that time, did



1 you advise her of her rights?

2 A I didn't speak to her at all.

3 Q You didn't speak to her at all?

4 A No. We were there --- the coroner's office was  
5 there conducting --- we were just there.

6 Q And then after that you traveled back to  
7 headquarters, right?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Do you know how Ms. Thompson got there?

10 A I do not.

11 Q You don't? Okay. When you got there, was  
12 Ms. Thompson already there?

13 A I don't believe so.

14 Q Courtney hadn't arrived yet?

15 A No.

16 Q All right. Eventually she does arrive?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And you told us earlier you were present  
19 when Investigator Holdorf advised Courtney of her  
20 rights ---

21 A Yes.

22 Q --- on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. And you told us also at some  
23 point in time Mr. Guinyard arrived at some point  
24 subsequent to that?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And at that time, Investigator Holdorf left?

2 A He did.

3 Q And you continued talking with Courtney, with  
4 Jane Powell from the coroner's office?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And Captain Melton, right?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And at time Courtney told you that she didn't do  
9 anything to her son. I believe you told the jury a  
10 minute ago she looked confused when she was told the  
11 cause of death?

12 A She did.

13 Q And then at some point she asked to speak to  
14 Mr. Guinyard?

15 A She did.

16 Q And you and Investigator Holdorf talked about it  
17 and you made arrangements for that to happen?

18 A Yes.

19 Q After that, Investigator Wagner, you didn't talk  
20 to Courtney anymore?

21 A I did not.

22 Q All right. You, in fact, went to talk to  
23 Mr. Guinyard, right?

24 A I did.

25 Q I'd like to talk to you about that a little bit

1 more in a second, but you also told us that on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
2 you went out and executed the search warrant, right?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And you found the dowel rod ---

5 A Yes.

6 Q --- in the closet, and Investigator Holdorf found  
7 the pole stuck behind the mattress?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Okay. There was something I wanted to ask you  
10 about. Did you ever look for Mr. Guinyard's phone?

11 A I did.

12 Q You did. Did you ever find it?

13 A No.

14 Q So you don't know where it is?

15 A I don't know where it is, no, sir.

16 Q All right. The last couple things, you went and  
17 spoke with Mr. Guinyard on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, right?

18 A I did.

19 Q All right. And he told you that he hadn't fed  
20 his son all day on the 1<sup>st</sup>, right?

21 A He did.

22 Q And that was because his son was sleeping?

23 A Yes.

24 Q In a puddle of urine?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And he had left at some point in time in that  
2 morning to go buy beer and cigarettes?

3 A Yes, well, he told me went to go get money.

4 Q Get money?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q Okay.

7 Q Did he ever tell you he called 911?

8 A No.

9 Q Did he ever tell you that he did CPR?

10 A No.

11 Q Did he ever tell you he did anything to help his  
12 son when he learned he was in trouble?

13 A No.

14 MR. STAGGS: Thank you, Investigator Wagner.  
15 That's all I have.

16 THE COURT: Redirect?

17 MS. McDUFFIE: No, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am. You  
19 may step down. Call your next witness.

20 MS. McDUFFIE: If it pleases the court. The  
21 State calls Investigator Laurita.

22 MICHAEL LAURITA,  
23 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

24 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
25 name for the record.

1 THE WITNESS: Michael Laurita.

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

3 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

4 Q Investigator Laurita, where are you employed?

5 A Richland County Sheriff's Department.

6 Q And what are your duties with the Richland County  
7 Sheriff's Department?

8 A Currently I'm in the narcotics unit. During this  
9 incident, I was part of the property crimes unit  
10 working on burglaries.

11 Q So you're typically --- at this time, you're  
12 typically a burglary investigator and now, you're a  
13 narcotics investigator?

14 A Yes.

15 Q How long have you been in law enforcement and at  
16 the sheriff's department?

17 A Seven years.

18 Q In reference to this case that happened on  
19 July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013, were you an investigator assigned to  
20 or working this case at all that day?

21 A I was on call that night. We rotate on calls  
22 every seven weeks, so I was at the sheriff's  
23 department when they brought --- or when Mr. Guinyard  
24 and Ms. Thompson came to the sheriff's department, and  
25 I was asked to take a statement from Mr. Guinyard.

1 Q Prior to taking a statement from Mr. Guinyard,  
2 had you been out to the scene or did you have a  
3 background about the allegations or the information  
4 that was involved in this case?

5 A I just was told that it involved a suspicious  
6 death.

7 Q And so what was your primary purpose that evening  
8 on July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013?

9 A Just to find the facts about what happened as far  
10 as it concerns Mr. Guinyard.

11 Q Whatever he was willing to tell you, you were  
12 willing to write down?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And prior to you speaking with him, was he  
15 advised of his rights?

16 A Yes.

17 Q By whom?

18 A Investigator Holdorf.

19 Q And was that done pursuant to a sheriff's  
20 department advice and Miranda rights form?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Did Mr. Guinyard waive his rights and agree to  
23 talk to you that evening?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Prior to talking to you, he had spoken with

1 Investigator Holdorf?

2 A I'm not sure what the extent of their  
3 conversation was.

4 Q The only part you were present for, you and he  
5 were alone taking a statement?

6 A Yes.

7 Q At the sheriff's department, how do you take a  
8 statement from an individual?

9 A The way we do it, it's question and answer form.  
10 We do it on the computer. What I would do is I would  
11 ask him a question. He would tell me his answer. I  
12 write down his answer word for word, the way he told  
13 me. Once we're done, I take a statement. I print it  
14 out, let him look over it, make sure everything is the  
15 way he said and if he didn't add anything, then they  
16 sign it.

17 Q After you had completed typing the statement,  
18 when you give it to him, could he make changes, or  
19 corrections, additions, deletions?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Whose words are those on the statement, on the  
22 piece of paper, that you obtained?

23 A Mr. Guinyard's.

24 Q I show you what's been marked as State's  
25 Exhibit 4. Do you recognize this?

1 A Yes, that's the statement I took that night.

2 Q And whose signature appears on this statement  
3 that it is their statement?

4 A Mr. Guinyard.

5 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
6 offer State's Exhibit 4 into evidence.

7 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

8 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

9 THE COURT: All right. Admitted without  
10 objection.

11 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 4 was admitted  
12 into evidence.)

13 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

14 Q So on July 1, 2013, you met with Mr. Guinyard?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Was he under arrest?

17 A No.

18 Q But he had been read his rights, out of an  
19 abundance of caution and he waived those rights and  
20 agreed to speak with you?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Where did you --- or where did this statement,  
23 where did you take this statement itself?

24 A In my cubicle.

25 Q At the sheriff's department?



1 A At the sheriff's department, yes.

2 Q Is your cubicle in the criminal investigative  
3 division of the sheriff's department?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Describe the layout of that for the ladies and  
6 gentlemen of the jury?

7 A Essentially it's a big open room with three rows  
8 of cubicles going all the way back. They're all open  
9 so there's nothing that's closed off or anything like  
10 that.

11 Q So you would be sitting in your cubicle?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And you were actually typing what he told you?

14 A Yes.

15 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, permission for the  
16 witness to publish this statement.

17 THE COURT: Granted.

18 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

19 Q Investigator Laurita, can you please tell the  
20 ladies and gentlemen of the jury how the statement  
21 started or what happened first?

22 A First, I asked him the question:

23 Question: "Tell me what happened July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
24 at 104 Beaverbrook Road."

25 Q And what was his response?

1 A Answer: "I went to the store and pulled some  
2 money off the card. I got some beer and  
3 cigarettes and walked back to my house. I drank  
4 the beer and fell asleep in the bed. My baby  
5 mama," who is Ms. Thompson, "told me she was on  
6 her way home from the hospital. My mom called  
7 and asked is my baby mama home yet. I told her  
8 no. She was at the hospital waiting on a cab.  
9 When my baby mama came home, I gave her the  
10 money. She brought the baby in, and I went to  
11 the car and got the bags." Should be bags out of  
12 the car.

13 "I went and laid down with my baby, played with  
14 him, kissed him and hugged him. I started to  
15 cook dinner, cut up onions and cooking the  
16 steaks. I had music on my phone, and I think the  
17 water was running when I heard a boom."

18 Q Let me stop you right there. So his statement to  
19 you is that that day he woke up in the morning, went  
20 to the store, got money and beer and cigarettes and  
21 came home, and then Ms. Thompson arrived home, and he  
22 played with the new baby and then started to cook  
23 dinner?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Does he make any mention of his son **Victim**

1 [REDACTED] at this point to you?

2 A No.

3 Q Please proceed.

4 A Question: "It took me about four to five minutes  
5 to go back to see what the boom was. My baby  
6 mama came from the hallway into the front room  
7 with my four-year-old son **Victim**. She was  
8 saying, 'look baby, look baby.' I was in shock.  
9 It took me a minute to realize what was  
10 happening. He was breathing, but he was in and  
11 out. His eyes were open. She called the  
12 ambulance, and they told he to breathe into his  
13 mouth and press on his stomach. Ambulance came  
14 and tried to revive **Victim**."

15 Q He doesn't, again, tell you anything that  
16 happened at all with his son **Victim** that day, just  
17 that he heard a boom?

18 A Not at that time, no.

19 Q Does he tell you he did anything to assist his  
20 child?

21 A No.

22 Q Please proceed.

23 A Question: "I then asked him where was **Victim**  
24 when you heard the boom?"

25 Answer: He said, "In the back room playing."

1 Q And the next question?

2 A Question: "Did you see --- " I'm sorry. "Did it  
3 seem like something was wrong with **Victim** earlier  
4 in the day?"

5 Answer: He said, "No, sir."

6 Question: "Does **Victim** have any medical  
7 conditions?"

8 Answer: He says, "He is kind of autistic,  
9 nothing else that I know of."

10 Question: "Where was Courtney when you heard the  
11 boom?"

12 Answer: He said, "I believe in the bathroom.  
13 She was getting ready to take a shower."

14 Question, "Did you see what caused the boom?"

15 Answer: "No."

16 Question: "What did it sound like?"

17 Answer: "It sounded like something hitting the  
18 ground."

19 Then I asked him,

20 Question: "Why did it --- why did you wait four  
21 to five minutes before you went to see what the  
22 boom was?"

23 Answer: His answer was, "I was not sure what was  
24 wrong. I had to turn the stove and radio off.

25 By that time --- by the time I did, Courtney was

1 coming out of the hallway with **Victim** .

2 Question: "What did you do when the police  
3 showed up at the house?"

4 Answer: "I did not know what to do, so I got my  
5 newborn baby and went into the closet to protect  
6 him, because I did not want them to take him ---  
7 take her away," sorry.

8 Q And so he tells you that in his version of events  
9 that while his son is going in and out of  
10 conscientious and barely breathing, he goes and hides  
11 in the closet?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Please proceed.

14 A Question: "Why did you think that they were  
15 going to take your baby away?"

16 Answer: "Because when there are accidents like  
17 this, they usually take babies away."

18 Question: "How many beers did you have earlier  
19 in the day?"

20 Answer: "Just one 24 ounce beer around eight or  
21 nine in the morning."

22 Question: "Was anybody in the room with **Victim**?"

23 Answer: "I don't know."

24 Question: "What was **Victim** doing earlier in the  
25 day?"

1 Answer: "He got up, and we watched TV. He was  
2 in his room playing, and I went and played with  
3 him, too. About an hour before the boom, he came  
4 out and asked for a glass of water, and I gave it  
5 to him."

6 Question: "Where was **Victim** when you went to the  
7 store?"

8 Answer: "He was asleep at the house."

9 Question: "What did Courtney do when she came  
10 home?"

11 Answer: "She came in the house, said she was  
12 hurting. She sat down, and we talked about her  
13 giving birth. She was walking around,  
14 straightening up, and cleaning up a mess **Victim**  
15 made in the back room where he peed on the floor,  
16 while I played with the baby. I went into the  
17 kitchen, and she told me she was going to take a  
18 shower."

19 Question: "When the ambulance came, was **Victim**  
20 still breathing?"

21 Answer: "I don't know because I was in the  
22 closet with my baby by then."

23 Q So he tells you he was in the closet prior to the  
24 ambulance getting there?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Please proceed.

2 A Question: "Did you and Courtney get into any  
3 arguments today?"

4 Answer: "Earlier around nine o'clock she got mad  
5 at me over the phone about buying beer, but when  
6 she came home everything was cool."

7 Question: "Did **Victim** do anything to make you or  
8 Courtney mad?"

9 Answer: "His mom got mad at him for peeing on  
10 the floor, but she was not too mad. She did not  
11 want to put the new baby in the room with it  
12 smelling like that."

13 Question: "Did **Victim** and the new baby get  
14 along?"

15 Answer: "Yes, he liked the new baby."

16 Q And that's the end of the statement that he gave  
17 you on July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q And then after that, it says, "I make this  
20 statement of my own free will and accord without  
21 reward or intimidation. I do swear and affirm that  
22 the above statements are the truth, the whole truth  
23 and nothing but the truth," and then he signed his  
24 name?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q Did you force him, promise him anything to force  
2 him to make this statement?

3 A No.

4 Q Did you withhold creature comforts in any way?

5 A No.

6 Q Food, restroom, bathroom?

7 A No.

8 Q The individual that told you that he heard a  
9 boom, wait three or four minutes and then hid in a  
10 closet, do you see him in the courtroom?

11 A Yes, he is sitting over there in a blue shirt.

12 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, let the record reflect  
13 he has identified the defendant.

14 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

15 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

16 Q After you obtained this statement from Robert  
17 Antonio Guinyard, did you have any further involvement  
18 in the investigation of this case?

19 A No.

20 MS. McDUFFIE: Thank you. Nothing further for  
21 this witness at this time.

22 THE COURT: Cross?

23 MR. LI: Briefly, Your Honor.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

25 BY MR. LI:



1 Q Investigator Laurita, when was this statement  
2 given?

3 A It was given on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July around  
4 20:50 hours, which is 8:50.

5 Q About after two hours after his child has just  
6 been pronounced dead?

7 A I'm not sure when the child was pronounced dead.

8 Q And you said --- in one of the statements, he  
9 said he was in shock, correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q "I was in shock, and it took me a minute to  
12 realize what was happening."

13 A Yes.

14 Q Do you remember his demeanor while he was giving  
15 this statement?

16 A He was upset at times. I saw him. Looked like  
17 he was crying. I never saw any tears though.

18 MR. LI: Thank you. No further questions.

19 THE COURT: Cross?

20 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court?

21 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

23 BY MS. PINNOCK:

24 Q I just have a couple of questions for you,  
25 Investigator. You asked Mr. Guinyard why did he wait

1 four or five minutes before going to see what the  
2 noise was?

3 A Yes.

4 Q His answer was that he was not sure what was  
5 going on, that he had to turn off the stove and the  
6 radio?

7 A Yes.

8 Q He said he waited four or five minutes to do  
9 that?

10 A That's what his statement says.

11 Q Okay. And then when EMS showed up, he was  
12 already in the closet, according to him?

13 A According to him, yes.

14 Q And he couldn't tell you if **Victim** was still  
15 breathing?

16 A Not at that time.

17 Q Because he was hiding in the closet?

18 A Yes.

19 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Redirect?

21 MS. McDUFFIE: No, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Thank you, Investigator, you may step  
23 down.

24 THE COURT: How long is your next witness?

25 MS. WALKER: Should be very brief, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Call your next witness.

2 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, the State calls  
3 Ms. Kimberly Gooden.

4 KIMBERLY GOODEN,  
5 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

6 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
7 name.

8 THE WITNESS: My name is Kimberly Kennedy Gooden.

9 MS. WALKER: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

12 BY MS. WALKER:

13 Q Good afternoon, Ms. Gooden.

14 A Good afternoon.

15 Q Where do you currently live?

16 A (There was no response.)

17 Q You don't have to tell me the address.

18 A Oh, okay.

19 Q Just ---

20 A Columbia, South Carolina.

21 Q How long have you been living here in Columbia?

22 A All my life, 34 years.

23 Q Do you work?

24 A I'm retired.

25 Q What did you do before you retired?

1 A I'm a former child and family psychologist,  
2 social worker for the State of South Carolina.

3 Q And do you know the defendants in this case?

4 A I do.

5 Q And do you know especially well one of their  
6 children?

7 A I do.

8 Q Which child is that?

9 A [REDACTED] Girl Z [REDACTED].

10 Q Does she go by Girl Z?

11 A She goes by Girl Z.

12 Q How old is Girl Z?

13 A She is two years old.

14 Q And did you know about the birth of their last  
15 child, Baby A?

16 A I did.

17 Q And when Baby A was born, was there anything  
18 that his parents asked you to do? While Ms. Thompson  
19 was in labor, was there anything his parents asked you  
20 to do?

21 A Watch after Girl Z.

22 Q And when you say watch after Girl Z, what did  
23 that entail?

24 A Her staying with me.

25 Q And how did you come to have Girl Z in your

1 custody at that time?

2 A **Girl Z** had been with me --- she has been with me  
3 in the past, and on that weekend before Ms. Thompson  
4 went into labor, that Friday she asked to visit with  
5 **Girl Z**. She said she might be --- she was having some  
6 contractions so I took **Girl Z** to see them late Friday.

7 Q And when did you, I guess, receive a phone call  
8 that Ms. Thompson was actually going into labor?

9 A Maybe about seven o'clock that Saturday morning.

10 Q And where was **Girl Z** at that point?

11 A She was with her parents.

12 Q Okay. What did you do once you found out that  
13 she was going into labor?

14 A Well, later on that day, Ms. Thompson called me  
15 and asked me if I could go and pick **Girl Z** back up so  
16 that Mr. Guinyard could come to the hospital.

17 Q Did you go pick up **Girl Z**?

18 A I did.

19 Q And where did you pick hïm up her --- her up, I'm  
20 sorry.

21 A From their home.

22 Q Okay. And do you know --- did you know where  
23 Ms. Thompson was when she was calling you?

24 A She was at the hospital.

25 Q And when you got to their home to pick up **Girl Z**,

1 did you see Mr. Guinyard?

2 A I saw him.

3 Q Did you see **Victim** that day?

4 A I didn't see **Victim**.

5 MS. WALKER: I don't have any further questions.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Li?

7 MR. LI: Briefly.

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

9 BY MR. LI:

10 Q Hey, Ms. Gooden.

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q You went and picked up **Girl Z** the Friday before  
13 Ms. Thompson gave birth?

14 A I dropped her off that Friday. She was with me  
15 prior to that week with --- she was with me, and  
16 Ms. Thompson asked to spend time with her because she  
17 thought she might have been going into labor, so I  
18 took her to see her parents that Friday.

19 Q Just to see them? But did she come back with  
20 you?

21 A She came back with me that next day, on Saturday.

22 Q But it was the Friday right before Ms. Thompson  
23 gave birth?

24 A It was.

25 Q You drove by, stopped by to let **Girl Z** visit with

1 her mom?

2 A I did, yes.

3 MR. LI: That's it.

4 THE COURT: Anything?

5 MS. PINNOCK: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MS. WALKER: Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Did you want to ask a follow up to  
9 that in.

10 MS. WALKER: Yes, Your Honor, briefly, I'm sorry.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

13 BY MS. WALKER:

14 Q That Friday night, going into Saturday morning,  
15 where was **Girl Z**?

16 A Friday night going into Saturday morning, she was  
17 with her parents.

18 MS. WALKER: All right. Thank you.

19 THE COURT: Recross?

20 MR. LI: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am. You  
22 may step down.

23 Is the next one short? Okay. All right.

24 Here is what we're going to do, ladies and  
25 gentlemen. We're going to go ahead and break for

1 lunch. It is about 12:20.

2 I have a --- as I told you at the beginning of  
3 the trial, I have duties and responsibilities as the  
4 Chief Administrative Judge. One of those duties and  
5 responsibilities are at 1:30 today actually in this  
6 courtroom, completely and totally, has nothing to do  
7 with this case in any way, shape, or form, so why  
8 don't we --- we are going to start back at  
9 two o'clock. I should be done with my 1:30 hearing  
10 then. We'll be ready to go, ready to work all  
11 afternoon. Do not discuss the case. Keep an open  
12 mind. Make sure you turn in your pads. Enjoy your  
13 lunch. We'll see you back at two o'clock ready to go.  
14 Thank you very much.

15 Everyone remain seated while the jury is excused.

16 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
17 12:22 p.m.)

18 THE COURT: Anything further before we break?

19 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, we have one witness this  
20 afternoon who is Judge Hill's court reporter, so we  
21 just may need a few minutes to coordinate with her.

22 THE COURT: Oh, Ms. Helms?

23 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MS. McDUFFIE: And then we also intend to



1 introduce the records from the phone, and I believe  
2 Mr. Li has said that he has a motion to --- I still  
3 haven't been informed of what it is, but...

4 MR. LI: Authentication issue is what they're  
5 calling them for. They plan on going into the context  
6 of the texts, the context of the text messages. I'm  
7 not sure what they're going to use it for. That's why  
8 I have an objection. There's a possible  
9 authentication issue. I know they have a motion, as  
10 well.

11 MR. STAGGS: We would object to them being  
12 admitted into evidence. It is our position that is a  
13 report --- it's a police or law enforcement generated  
14 report. It's not the original records from the phone.  
15 This was done on proprietary, to my understanding, law  
16 enforcement software. It's not the original record.  
17 We attempted to get an understandable --- or even  
18 decipherable original record from Clear Talk from the  
19 solicitor's office. They weren't able to open one.  
20 We weren't able to open one. We don't have an issue  
21 with the investigator talking about the contents of  
22 these findings, but admitting it into evidence, it's a  
23 law enforcement report, and it's hearsay.

24 THE COURT: I don't even know what it is, so  
25 somebody tell me what it is.

1 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, Ms. Thompson's phone  
2 was already in evidence --- is already in evidence  
3 without objection. This is the information that is  
4 stored on the internal memory of that phone.

5 THE COURT: Okay. And how did it come off the  
6 phone?

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Law enforcement has a machine,  
8 Your Honor, that ---

9 THE COURT: Did they have a search warrant?

10 MS. McDUFFIE: Two search warrants.

11 THE COURT: That's the search warrant that  
12 Investigator Wagner was talking about where they did  
13 one and they couldn't find anything. Then they got  
14 some new equipment, did a second one and found  
15 something.

16 MS. McDUFFIE: They attempted the first time, but  
17 their machine wasn't compatible with the phone. They  
18 got a new machine, which was compatible with the  
19 phone. We figured out that it may work, so we got a  
20 second search warrant and then this is the contents of  
21 the internal memory of the phone, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Okay. And who took the contents off  
23 the phone?

24 MS. McDUFFIE: Brian Metz.

25 THE COURT: Who?

1 MS. McDUFFIE: Brian Metz, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Investigator Metz. Okay. So what do  
3 you want to introduce besides his testimony?

4 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, his testimony would be  
5 that his job at the sheriff's department is to do this  
6 type of analysis and retrieval of data from phones.  
7 He can tell us about how many courses and the  
8 background and whatever is necessary, Your Honor, but  
9 basically, he hooks the phone up to the machine. The  
10 machine's internal software is designed to access the  
11 information stored in the phone but not tamper, change  
12 it or delete it in anyway and extract it into a  
13 printable version, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Okay. I'm sorry. Tell me what you  
15 want to introduce besides the testimony.

16 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, we intend not through  
17 Investigator Metz, but through Investigator Holdorf  
18 who actually examined and went through the records,  
19 certain text messages, timing of phone calls, things  
20 of that nature, Your Honor, so I don't --- I was  
21 trying to be complete and thorough. We are happy just  
22 introducing --- it's probably 15 pages of actual stuff  
23 that we would want rather than the 1200 page internal  
24 contents of the phone.

25 Your Honor, we can limit to it those 15 pages

1 that we intended to use. We have no issue with that.

2 THE COURT: Okay. So what you're telling me is  
3 Investigator Metz, and I'm using my own words, took it  
4 off the phone and that's over 1,000 pages worth of  
5 information. Then Investigator Holdorf went through  
6 it and pulled out what he thought was relevant.

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Okay, and you want --- you are  
9 intending to introduce some form of report that states  
10 what Investigator Holdorf --- I'm sorry, sir, came up  
11 with?

12 MS. McDUFFIE: We intend to introduce a summary,  
13 Your Honor, and I think that's permissible under  
14 Rule ---

15 THE COURT: There's some 1,000 and something  
16 rule.

17 MS. McDUFFIE: 1006, so we intend to introduce a  
18 summary of the voluminous contents of these phone  
19 records. And the summary will contain incoming and  
20 outgoing calls, text messages and web searches.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MS. McDUFFIE: The summary is all dated from that  
23 1,200 page document.

24 THE COURT: Now, explain to me what the objection  
25 is.

1 MR. STAGGS: Your Honor ---

2 MR. LI: You go first.

3 THE COURT: Whoever wants to talk.

4 MR. STAGGS: All right, I will.

5 Your Honor, as I was saying, Your Honor, it's  
6 Ms. Thompson's position and our position that this is  
7 a law enforcement generated report. We understand  
8 that we cannot stop Investigator Holdorf from talking  
9 about what he reviewed and his work on the case or  
10 Investigator Metz from talking about what he did in  
11 relation to the search warrant.

12 However, we do object to these things being  
13 admitted into evidence, and we would ask the court to  
14 not allow that.

15 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Li?

16 MR. LI: Your Honor, my objection is to specific  
17 text messages. They cannot authenticate the number.  
18 We think there is an authentication issue. Not from  
19 the phone, from outgoing messages. I believe Metz, or  
20 whoever extracted the data can authenticate, but the  
21 receiving party, we'd ask that they properly  
22 authenticate it.

23 THE COURT: They're going to have to authenticate  
24 and lay a foundation and all that stuff before I let  
25 anything into evidence.

1       Okay. All right. You all object when it comes  
2 up.

3       Okay. Two o'clock.

4       MR. STAGGS: And, Your Honor, we'd like to see  
5 any summary that the State has prepared.

6       THE COURT: Whatever summary you plan on  
7 introducing.

8       MS. McDUFFIE: We haven't made it yet, Your  
9 Honor, but as soon as we get it in complete form,  
10 we'll be sure ---

11       THE COURT: Very good.

12       MR. STAGGS: Thank you, Your Honor.

13       (WHEREUPON, a lunch break was taken.)

14       THE COURT: Okay, anything before we bring in the  
15 jury?

16       MS. CAMPBELL: May it please the Court, Your  
17 Honor?

18       One of our upcoming witnesses is Ms. Angela  
19 Metze. She gave a statement to police and testified  
20 in some hearings and things of that nature. Your  
21 Honor, there are parts of her testimony that I have  
22 advised her that might be put on the record there are  
23 --- that should not come in to be in compliance with  
24 your rulings.

25       Basically in her statement she talks about how

1 she --- well, first of all she, **Girl M**, one of the  
2 younger siblings, is the child she had the most  
3 contact with. Her son was supposed to be the father  
4 of **Girl M**. She kept **Girl M** off and on during this  
5 period of time we're talking about. **Girl M** would go  
6 visit her parents, but she would stay the majority of  
7 the time with Ms. Metze.

8 During that period of time, however, Your Honor,  
9 there was a falling out. I have advised her not get  
10 into that with Ms. Thompson. At that point,  
11 Ms. Thompson became mad at her because her son had  
12 claimed his child on his tax return and they usually  
13 would use their children and let other people claim  
14 them claim them so they could get a kickback on tax  
15 returns. I told her not to mention anything about  
16 that.

17 In addition to that, she also refers to the time  
18 period where she first came in contact with **Girl M**.  
19 There was a time period when Courtney went to jail. I  
20 made sure that she does not mention the word jail or  
21 mention Courtney being in jail.

22 In addition to that, also, Your Honor, when she  
23 would get **Girl M** back from the extended stay at her  
24 parent's house, that **Girl M** would exhibit extremely  
25 bad behavior and upon return on one occasion, that

1     **Girl M** actually would take her doll and beat it with  
2     a shoe and yell something to the effect of don't pee  
3     on yourself. I told her not to go into any of that.

4             THE COURT: Okay.

5             MS. CAMPBELL: Also, **Girl Mi** came into her care  
6     when Ms. Thompson went into the hospital to have the  
7     final child **Baby A**. She stayed with her for a  
8     period of time. Then at some point **Girl Mi** tried to  
9     suffocate **Girl M**. I told her not to mention that  
10    either.

11            THE COURT: Okay.

12            MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, I just need to put my  
13    objection to Dr. Rosa's testimony on the record.

14            THE COURT: Okay.

15            MS. PINNOCK: I had objected during the testimony  
16    that Dr. Rosa was going into areas where I didn't  
17    think her qualification as a child abuse pediatrician  
18    allowed her to. Specifically, the findings of the  
19    autopsy, the radiology report, and ultimately it went  
20    to cause of death. Your Honor had already overruled  
21    my objection by then. My objection was that she was  
22    testifying outside the scope of her qualifications.

23            THE COURT: Okay. All right. Your objection is  
24    overruled based upon the rules concerning expert  
25    witnesses and the information they're allowed to



1 review and base their opinion off of, and Dr. Rosa's  
2 extensive experience, that being 14 years plus as a  
3 board certified child abuse pediatrician specialty, I  
4 deemed that was appropriate within her scope of  
5 expertise.

6 THE COURT: You have them all now?

7 THE BAILIFF: Have them all, sir.

8 THE COURT: Is it the first witness that doesn't  
9 want to be on?

10 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, that witness has already  
11 testified. Oh, there's another one, oh, I'm sorry,  
12 Your Honor.

13 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor, it's the first  
14 one.

15 THE COURT: The first lady that's going to  
16 testify is another foster parent to current --- to  
17 other children? Do you all have an objection to not  
18 filming her? I think --- is this the last one?

19 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, this one and  
20 Ms. Metze, as well.

21 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Do you have a  
22 problem with not filming this first witness who is a  
23 foster parent of current children?

24 TV NEWS: No.

25 TV NEWS: No.

1 THE COURT: All right. Great. Thank you very  
2 much. Appreciate that. Okay. Everybody ready?

3 MR. LI: Yes, Your Honor.

4 MR. STAGGS: Yes, Your Honor.

5 MR. LI: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Let's bring them in.

7 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
8 2:07 p.m.)

9 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen,  
10 welcome back. Thank you very much. I hope you  
11 enjoyed your lunch.

12 You may call your next witness.

13 MS. WALKER: Thank you, Your Honor. The State  
14 calls Ms. Denise Jones.

15 THE COURT: Ms. Jones, please come forward and be  
16 sworn.

17 DENISE JONES,  
18 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

19 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
20 name for the record.

21 THE WITNESS: My name is Denise Lucille Jones.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

23 BY MS. WALKER:

24 Q Good afternoon, Ms. Jones. Can you tell me where  
25 you live, what city you live in?

1 A I live in Hopkins, South Carolina.

2 Q How long have you lived in Hopkins?

3 A A little over twenty years.

4 Q What is it that you do for a living?

5 A Right now I'm a foster parent.

6 Q How long have you been a foster parent?

7 A Oh, boy. Probably close to maybe 25 years.

8 Q Can you recall roughly how many children you've  
9 had in your care over those 25 years?

10 A Probably 100, maybe a little over.

11 Q Was [REDACTED] Victim one of those children?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q Do you remember when you came to care for [REDACTED] Victim?

14 A I believe it was in August of 2008, maybe '08 or  
15 '09, but I believe it was 2008.

16 Q It was August, though?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q Do you remember how old he was?

19 A About 15 months.

20 Q And can you describe how he was when he was  
21 around you? Was he an active child?

22 A Well, in the beginning when he came to me, he  
23 wasn't --- he wasn't doing much crawling or moving  
24 around, but once I started working with him, he  
25 started crawling, he start walking, so he got more

1 active, yes, ma'am.

2 Q And did you take him to doctor's appointments and  
3 things of that nature?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q Was there a treatment plan for **Victim** to help him  
6 become more mobile?

7 A Yes, ma'am, he was doing physical therapy. He  
8 was going to Richland One Medical Park for speech  
9 therapy, as well.

10 Q Can y'all hear in?

11 THE JUROR: No.

12 BY MS. WALKER:

13 Q If you can speak up louder. Pull up that  
14 microphone just a little.

15 THE COURT: Pull it a little bit closer to you,  
16 Ms. Jones.

17 THE WITNESS: Okay.

18 BY MS. WALKER:

19 Q Thank you. So he was going through physical  
20 therapy?

21 A Yes, ma'am. He was doing both at the Richland  
22 One Medical Park.

23 Q What about his speech? How was that?

24 A That was going very well, and his speech was  
25 improving real well.

1 Q Was he seeing a speech therapist?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q Do you remember whether or not while he was in  
4 your care, if his parents would visit with him?

5 A Yes, they had visits. Well, I know his mother  
6 did. I wasn't sure about the father. They had visits  
7 at DSS.

8 Q I want to show you what's been marked as State's  
9 Exhibit 251, and ask you if you recognize this?

10 A Can yes, ma'am. This is a picture I gave them  
11 that I had of him.

12 Q And this is how he looked when he was with you?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, at this point the State  
15 seeks to admit 251 into evidence.

16 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

17 MR. STAGGS: No objection.

18 THE COURT: 251 without objection.

19 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 251 was  
20 admitted into evidence.)

21 BY MS. WALKER:

22 Q And he --- was **Victim** potty trained when you got  
23 him?

24 A No, ma'am.

25 Q Did he become potty trained when you were caring

1 for him?

2 A Yes, ma'am, he was potty trained before he left.

3 Q You said he left. At some point, he left your  
4 home?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Where did he go?

7 A At that point he went with his mother.

8 Q And did you have later contact with his mother  
9 after he left your home?

10 A After he left, it might have been a couple days  
11 after that, I talked with her on the phone pertaining  
12 to him.

13 Q What did she say to you?

14 A She basically asked me about the fact of his  
15 potty training, because he wasn't using the bathroom  
16 when he got home. I told her that, you know, he was  
17 potty trained. He was going when he was there. I  
18 didn't understand why he was not going.

19 Q Not going at all?

20 A She just said that he won't use the bathroom.

21 Q When he was with you, though, he was using the  
22 bathroom on a regular basis?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q And he was potty trained?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q Did you counsel her as to what to do about that?

2 A That's when I asked her if there was anything  
3 that I could help her with just to let me know, but I  
4 haven't heard from her any more after that.

5 MS. WALKER: Thank you, ma'am. I don't have any  
6 further questions.

7 THE COURT: Cross?

8 MR. LI: Very briefly.

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

10 BY MR. LI:

11 Q And when you gave **Victim** back, were you ordered  
12 to?

13 A His caseworker came and picked him up, yes, sir.

14 Q And you gave him back to his mom, right?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q His mother?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 MR. LI: No further questions.

19 MR. STAGGS: We have no questions, Judge.

20 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You may step down.  
21 Have a nice day.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

23 Call your next witness.

24 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, the State calls Princess  
25 Hodges.

1                    PRINCESS HODGES,  
2 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

3            THE WITNESS: My name is Princess Faith Henryhand  
4 Hodges.

5                    DIRECT EXAMINATION:

6 BY MS. WALKER:

7 Q     Ms. Hodges, where do you live?

8 A     I live here in Columbia.

9 Q     Okay. What is it that you do for a living?

10 A     I'm an attorney for the State.

11 Q     At some point, were you working specifically with  
12 DSS?

13 A     Yes.

14 Q     And when was that?

15 A     A total of ten years. The last time was  
16 from 2002 until 2012 --- 2004 to 2012.

17 Q     2004 to 2012?

18 A     Yes.

19 Q     And as --- in your role as an attorney, did you  
20 ever come into contact with either Ms. Thompson or  
21 Mr. Guinyard?

22 A     Yes.

23 Q     And Princess, at one point, did you see them in a  
24 courthouse with little **Victim**?

25 A     Yes.



1 Q Do you remember how old he would have been at  
2 that point in time?

3 A An infant, someone who would have the weight to  
4 be in one of those car carriers that you have in the  
5 crutch of your arms.

6 Q Did you observe either of one of his parents have  
7 him in one of those car carriers?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Which parent was that?

10 A His mother.

11 Q Describe what you saw happen with **Victim** and that  
12 car carrier?

13 A His mother was upset.

14 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, may we approach?

15 THE COURT: Sure.

16 (WHEREUPON, there was a bench conference in the  
17 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

18 BY MS. WALKER:

19 Q Tell us what you saw that day.

20 A His mother was upset when she began to exit the  
21 room she was in. The baby was in the crutch of her  
22 arm inside of that infant car seat. When she pushed  
23 open the door with force to leave the room and she was  
24 upset, the carrier toggled a little, it toggled. When  
25 it did that, the baby also rose up on the inside of

1 the carrier, as if the straps were not tight enough or  
2 they were not buckled at all.

3 MS. WALKER: Beg the Court's indulgence, Your  
4 Honor.

5 (Pause.)

6 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, we have a matter of law.

7 THE COURT: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, if  
8 you'll return to your jury room, do not discuss the  
9 case. Keep an open mind. I'll be back with you in  
10 just a few moments.

11 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
12 2:20 p.m.)

13 MS. WALKER: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Out of an  
14 abundance of caution, I want to make sure the  
15 testimony that was about to be elicited was going to  
16 be proper.

17 (There was a disturbance.)

18 MR. STAGGS: I apologize.

19 THE COURT: Are you okay, Mr. Staggs?

20 MR. STAGGS: I'm doing fine.

21 MS. WALKER: I wasn't going to violate anything.

22 (The following was heard outside the presence of  
23 the jury.)

24 BY MS. WALKER:

25 Q At the point in time when you saw the baby, I

1 guess, toggle up, what did you do?

2 A If I recall correctly, it was the shock of, oh  
3 my, is the baby going to come out of the carrier.  
4 Then there was some other communication with the  
5 people that I was with.

6 Q At that point, was the baby taken into DSS  
7 custody?

8 A Yes.

9 MS. WALKER: And I'll limit it to that, Your  
10 Honor. Is that a violation of your ruling?

11 THE COURT: Why was the baby taken into DSS  
12 custody then, because as a result of the hearing or  
13 the result of the car carrier, which one?

14 THE WITNESS: As a result of the car carrier.

15 THE COURT: So, whatever ---, and I don't want you  
16 to say that there was a hearing in front of the jury.

17 THE WITNESS: We were not in a hearing..

18 THE COURT: So what were you up here for? And  
19 this is just for me, not for the jury, but what were  
20 you up here for?

21 THE WITNESS: We were here for a hearing, but at  
22 that time we were using one of the courtrooms as a  
23 negotiation room and that's where we were.

24 THE COURT: So you were in a --- in another room  
25 trying to resolve some kind of issue and this is when

1 she gets upset and leaves the door and you see the  
2 issue with the baby?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Now, what caused the baby to go into  
5 DSS custody? Tell me technically how that happens or  
6 what exactly happened.

7 THE WITNESS: It would have been law enforcement  
8 in the hallway, so a discussion would have been had  
9 with law enforcement, and as a result of that  
10 conversation, the child was taken into custody.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Not as a result of any family  
12 court hearing or family court judge's order or was  
13 there a judge's order?

14 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge ---

15 THE COURT: Or Ms. McDuffie.

16 THE WITNESS: I mean, if I recall correctly now,  
17 let me --- because this has been a long time ago, we  
18 could not --- DSS could not. --- at the time DSS could  
19 not just take a child into custody. It has to be by  
20 an order or law enforcement. I said law enforcement.  
21 But if I'm not mistaken, there had to have been an ex  
22 parte complaint filed and then the child was taken  
23 into custody as a result of that ex parte complaint---

24 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge ---

25 THE WITNESS: --- signed by a judge's order.

1 MS. McDUFFIE: They were there for a hearing on  
2 the other two children. It's my understanding from  
3 the records, that the judge witnessed some of this, as  
4 well, and law enforcement was instructed to E.P.C. the  
5 child, and the next day the judge signed the order for  
6 removal, Your Honor, as a result of what was observed  
7 with the way he was carried in the carrier and  
8 treated.

9 THE COURT: And when was this?

10 MS. McDUFFIE: On June 19<sup>th</sup>. The incident  
11 happened June 18<sup>th</sup> and the judge signed the order for  
12 removal on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

13 THE COURT: Okay, well, let's back this up. The  
14 jury already knows, without objection from anybody,  
15 that the child was born in April of 2009, and that the  
16 child went into custody on June 19<sup>th</sup> --- June something  
17 of 2011.

18 MS. McDUFFIE: He was taken into custody on the  
19 18<sup>th</sup> and the official order was signed on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

20 THE COURT: Why do we need to elicit this from  
21 this witness is my question?

22 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, it --- I think the  
23 purpose of this witness is that she observed that, and  
24 then the child was taken into custody and the child  
25 was later --- the plan for the court was reunification

1 with both parents per the court order, Your Honor, and  
2 that was done --- the order was signed in February  
3 of '12 and reunification was completed, April 6, 2012.  
4 That's the extent of the testimony.

5 THE COURT: What's your opinion on that, Mr. Li?

6 MR. LI: Your Honor, I don't really see the  
7 purpose of it. This --- I'm not trying to make their  
8 argument for them, but I don't see the purpose of this  
9 witness, this witness.

10 THE COURT: And Ms. Hodges testified to the  
11 reunification plan?

12 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I think she was the  
13 attorney. I think her name is on the court order, as  
14 well. We were trying to cut down on witnesses. We're  
15 happy to call, Judge Allen if we need to, but...

16 THE COURT: What's your position on that,  
17 Ms. Pinnock, or whoever is talking.

18 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, I don't think that  
19 testimony is necessary. There's been testimony that,  
20 you know, **Victim** was removed from the house. He was  
21 obviously put back in the house at some point.

22 THE COURT: Why don't we all just stipulate to  
23 that, is my question.

24 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I don't think we can  
25 stipulate to that because Mr. Li, in every single

1 thing he has said, has said that Courtney had custody,  
2 Courtney had custody, Courtney had custody and the  
3 order said reunification said was to both parents.

4 THE COURT: Well, that's what I'm saying, if it's  
5 a court order, why can't we just stipulate that in  
6 June 2009, the child was taken into DSS custody. The  
7 child was returned to the parents on whatever date it  
8 was in April of 2000 and whatever and there was a  
9 reunification plan with both parents. I mean, if  
10 that's what happened, that's what happened --- I don't  
11 know how anybody is prejudiced by that.

12 MS. McDUFFIE: We're fine with that.

13 THE COURT: I mean, the jury basically --- any  
14 juror paying attention essentially knows everything I  
15 just said except for the word reunification plan.

16 MS. McDUFFIE: We're fine with that, Your Honor.

17 MR. LI: What was your suggestion, Your Honor?

18 THE COURT: My suggestion is --- why don't we  
19 just let's stipulate that --- I don't know the  
20 specific dates. Someone would have to help me that,  
21 but June of 2009 the child goes into DSS custody. In  
22 April of 2012, the child is returned to whoever the  
23 order says the order is returned to and there was a  
24 DSS reunification plan complied with or whatever they  
25 did to get him back.

1 MR. LI: I think --- can we get the order?

2 MS. WALKER: Sure.

3 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, the order said in  
4 February that reunification is with both parents and  
5 he is supposed to be reunited with both parents  
6 gradually over the next two months and at the end of  
7 the two months, there is an order that the  
8 reunification was fine and that he is --- DSS no  
9 longer has an open case.

10 MS. PINNOCK: I have no problem with that.

11 (Pause.)

12 MS. CAMPBELL: If I may approach with the dates,  
13 Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Oh, yes, ma'am, that's fine.

15 MR. STAGGS: Your Honor.

16 MR. LI: Your Honor, I'll stipulate to the  
17 reunification plan.

18 THE COURT: So, I'm going to say that the parties  
19 have stipulated that [REDACTED] Victim was  
20 taken into custody June 18th, 2009. He was returned  
21 to both parents on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, pursuant to a DSS  
22 reunification plan.

23 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, sir.



1 THE COURT: Did you hear what I said?

2 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: And you're okay with that?

4 MS. PINNOCK: Yes.

5 THE COURT: I'm just going to say pursuant to a  
6 reunification plan. .

7 MR. LI: We have no problem that.

8 MS. WALKER: When the jury comes back in, should  
9 I just say no further questions?

10 THE COURT: That's fine. Okay.

11 THE COURT: If we just start using words like  
12 EPC, we start creating all these issues, I think. I'm  
13 not saying they didn't happen. I'm just saying we  
14 create issues that we can potentially avoid. Okay.  
15 Let's bring them back in here.

16 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
17 2:30 p.m.)

18 THE BAILIFF: The jurors are present.

19 THE COURT: Thank you very much, sir.

20 Ms. Walker.

21 MS. WALKER: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION: (Continued)

23 BY MS. WALKER:

24 Q The incident you just described was June 18<sup>th</sup>,  
25 2009?

1 A Yes.

2 MS. WALKER: No further questions.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Li.

4 MR. LI: No questions.

5 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock.

6 MS. PINNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Hodges. You may step  
8 down.

9 Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, one thing I need to  
10 tell you as we continue on, the parties, and that is  
11 all three parties, have entered into a stipulation. A  
12 stipulation is nothing more than a fact that is agreed  
13 to in this case by all three sides and no other proof  
14 is necessary for these facts. I'm giving this to you  
15 as a stipulation of fact agreed upon by all parties.

16 On June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, [REDACTED] Victim  
17 was taken into DSS custody. He remained in DSS  
18 custody until he was returned to both parents on  
19 April 6, 2012, pursuant to a DSS reunification plan.

20 You may call your next witness.

21 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Your Honor. The State  
22 would call Angela Metze. I'm sorry, Your Honor, she's  
23 sequestered.

24 (Pause.)

25 ANGELA METZE,

1 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

2 THE WITNESS: Angela Rae Metze.

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

4 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

5 Q Ms. Metze, do you live here in the Columbia area?

6 A Yes, I do.

7 Q How long have you been living in the Columbia  
8 area?

9 A All my life just about.

10 Q Do you have a son?

11 A Yes, I do.

12 Q What's your son's name?

13 A His name is Tyrone Strothers.

14 Q Tyrone Strothers?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q Do you know Courtney Thompson?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q How do you know Courtney Thompson?

19 A She is the mother of **Girl M**.

20 Q And at some point after **Girl M** was born --- and  
21 what is **Girl M**'s relationship of her? How is she  
22 related to **Victim** the baby?

23 A That's --- that's his sister.

24 Q Is she older or younger than little **Victim**,  
25 excuse me, not Richard?

1 A She is younger.

2 Q When did you actually come into **Girl M** 's life?

3 A She was about six months old.

4 Q And what information was given to you that  
5 brought you into **Girl M** 's life?

6 A That she was my first grandchild.

7 Q And that would be through your son?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And that was also Ms. Thompson's child, as well?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Once you found out that information over the next  
12 couple of years, did you have a lot of contact with  
13 **Girl M** ?

14 A Oh, yes.

15 Q At times would **Girl M** stay with you?

16 A Yes, she did.

17 Q Did she also stay with her other parents,  
18 Courtney and Antonio?

19 A Occasionally she would go spend the night or  
20 weekend.

21 Q With them?

22 A Yes.

23 Q But most of the time she stayed with you?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did you have a good relationship with

1 Ms. Thompson?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q Did you have a good relationship with  
4 Mr. Guinyard?

5 A Yes, I did.

6 Q And during the period of time when **Girl M** was in  
7 your care, did you pretty much take her for her  
8 pediatric appointments, things of that nature?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q Did you provide clothes for her?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And food?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q On occasion would you see the children?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q Were you aware that during a period of time in  
17 little **Victim**'s life that he was in foster care?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q Were you also aware in April of 2012 that he was  
20 returned to Mr. Guinyard and Ms. Thompson?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And at that time when he first came back into  
23 their home, do you remember what he looked like?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Describe to this jury how he appeared.

1 A To me, he appeared to be a happy, healthy young  
2 boy. He was just --- whatever, he was just a happy  
3 little kid, just wanted to play and talk and he wanted  
4 to drive a truck. He was just a happy child.

5 Q Did he appear to be well nourished?

6 A Oh, yeah.

7 Q Did you continue to observe little **Victim** over  
8 the next several months as he stayed in his parents'  
9 care?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q I want to turn your attention specifically to the  
12 Spring of 2013. Did **Victim**'s appearance change?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q How did it change?

15 A He had lost a significant amount of weight. He  
16 was like not active. He wasn't --- he wouldn't talk  
17 to you as he was told to. He was just withdrawn.

18 Q At some point did you become aware of some  
19 photographs that were provided to you that caused you  
20 concern?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And what photographs were those?

23 A Photographs that I received in February of 2013  
24 showing bruises, beatings, bruises and stuff, scars on  
25 his back.

1 Q Did you do anything to try to help little **Victim** ?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q And what did you do?

4 A I went to DSS several times. I went to Richland  
5 County numerous times. I even took the pictures to a  
6 pediatrician and she also --- after she saw the  
7 pictures, she also called DSS while in my presence.

8 Q And what pediatrician was that, do you remember  
9 her name?

10 A Dr. Lofton.

11 Q Did you ever observe **Victim** eating food?

12 A There's been times when we dropped **Girl M** off or  
13 picked **Girl M** up that we brought food, you know, to  
14 the other kids, and other than that I haven't.

15 Q Did you ever see whether or not **Victim** was going  
16 to eat when he was around Courtney?

17 A I'm sorry, I didn't hear your question.

18 Q Would he eat food when Courtney was around?

19 A I never seen him.

20 Q I want to turn your attention to May or June on a  
21 phone call you had with Courtney. Do you remember  
22 that phone call?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q What was she upset about, about her life?

25 A She was overwhelmed with --- she had moved into

1 her house. She was overwhelmed about the bills and  
2 life wasn't treating her fair and **Victim** defecating on  
3 himself.

4 You know, I talked with her and tried to get her  
5 to take --- if it was --- if dealing with **Victim** was  
6 too much on her to try to get him some counseling or  
7 if push came to shove and it got that bad, take him  
8 back to DSS.

9 Q In fact, what did you advise her to do? Where  
10 did you advise her to take him?

11 A I told her to call, like I said, to call DSS.

12 Q And did she indicate to you what she was going to  
13 do with **Victim** at that time in May or June?

14 A Well, in later conversation, she told me that she  
15 did take him to the doctor.

16 Q She told you she took him to the doctor?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q Did she ever say she was going to take him back  
19 to DSS because she couldn't handle him anymore?

20 A No.

21 Q Do you remember giving a statement to police  
22 officers when this happened?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q And I believe you gave it to Investigator  
25 Holdorf, I believe, with the sheriff's department



1 maybe?

2 A Yeah, the one off of Pineview Road.

3 Q The one on the lower side?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And you gave that back on July 15<sup>th</sup> of 2013?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q Were things a little clearer in your mind at that  
8 point?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q Okay. I just want to show you one line in your  
11 statement about what she said to you when you had the  
12 conversation about DSS.

13 Does that refresh you're memory?

14 (Pause.)

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q What did she tell you she was going to do with  
17 **Victim** when she was complaining about how life didn't  
18 treat her fairly?

19 A She said that she was going to get Antonio's  
20 mother to take him and that Antonio's mother had took  
21 him to get help.

22 Q To get help? And did you later find out if that  
23 was true or not?

24 A It wasn't.

25 Q Were you aware that summer that she was pregnant?

- 1 A Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q With what ended up being little **Baby A** ?
- 3 A Yes, ma'am.
- 4 Q In fact, even though you made reports to DSS, did  
5 you continue to remain, or try to remain friends with  
6 her?
- 7 A Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q Did you continue to try to help **Victim** ?
- 9 A Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q That summer at some point, did she contact you  
11 about one of her other children, **Girl Mi** ?
- 12 A She did.
- 13 Q When was that?
- 14 A When she was in the hospital having **Baby A** .
- 15 Q What was she asking you to do that day when she  
16 contacted you about **Girl Mi** ?
- 17 A She asked me could I come get her because Antonio  
18 wanted to come to the hospital, and I told her, yes, I  
19 would.
- 20 Q Did she ask you to get **Victim** ?
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q Did you have **Girl M** at that point?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q Did you know where **Girl Z** was at that point?
- 25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q Who had **Girl Z** ?

2 A Ms. Kimberly Gooden.

3 Q Ms. Gooden?

4 A Uh-huh.

5 Q But she just asked you to take **Girl Mi** ?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q At that point, did you agree?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Do you remember what day of the week this was?

10 A It was the 29<sup>th</sup> when she called me and I went to  
11 pick **Girl Mi** up.

12 Q And where did you go to pick up **Girl Mi** ?

13 A To her house, to Courtney's house, on  
14 Beaverbrook.

15 Q On Beaverbrook. Had you been there before?

16 A Uh-huh.

17 Q And once you got to Beaverbrook, tell the jury  
18 what you observed?

19 A Antonio was waiting on me.

20 Q When you say Antonio, I'm sorry, is this Antonio?  
21 (indicating)

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Please continue, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to  
24 interrupt.

25 A He was waiting on me to pick her up. I didn't

1 even have --- all I did was just open the door for her  
2 because he had already had her outside.

3 Q Did he know exactly what time you were coming?

4 A Uh, unless ---

5 Q Had you spoken to him?

6 A No, I hadn't spoken to him.

7 Q But he was outside with **Girl Mi** ?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Did you see **Victim** that day?

10 A No, I didn't.

11 Q When was the last time you had ever laid eyes on  
12 **Victim**, you yourself?

13 A It was towards the end of maybe --- in 2012.

14 Q Before Easter?

15 A Before Easter, yes.

16 Q Before Easter of that same year?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q So it's would have been at least a couple months  
19 before that?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q That's the last time you ever laid eyes on  
22 **Victim** ?

23 A Yes.

24 Q That day when you went over there, did you even  
25 know **Victim** was still in the house?

1 A Oh, no.

2 Q But she never asked you or Antonio never asked  
3 you to take him, too?

4 A No.

5 Q How long were you planning on keeping **Girl Mi**,  
6 as well as **Girl M** at your house?

7 A Well, just until Courtney came home with the  
8 baby, and the plan was to take her back when she came  
9 home.

10 Q And you were going to keep **Girl M** ?

11 A Uh-huh.

12 Q Over the course of the next couple of days ---

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q --- did you become aware that she had given birth  
15 to **Baby A** ?

16 A Yes, I did.

17 Q Did you actually have contact with her over the  
18 next couple of days?

19 A Yes, I had spoken with her.

20 Q Did you know exactly when she was coming home  
21 from the hospital?

22 A Yes, ma'am. It was on --- on the 1<sup>st</sup> --- it was  
23 a Monday.

24 Q On the first?

25 A Uh-huh.

1 Q And you were going to keep **Girl Mi** at least  
2 until the next day?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And why was that?

5 A So she could slowly get settled in with the new  
6 baby. I told her I would just keep **Girl Mi** with me  
7 for another night so she could get settled in, you  
8 know, with her just coming home from the hospital with  
9 the new baby.

10 Q When was the next time you remember finding out  
11 anything about Courtney, Antonio, or little **Victim**?

12 A My nephew called me one night, that night, and  
13 said that little **Victim** was dead. I didn't really  
14 believe him. I just thought he was just acting silly  
15 or playing. I didn't believe it. I start calling  
16 Courtney's phone. I texted Courtney's phone, and I  
17 never got a response back from Courtney.

18 Q Did you talk to any other family members?

19 A Yes, ma'am, her sister, Melissa, called me and  
20 she said ---

21 MR. LI: Objection, hearsay.

22 MS. CAMPBELL: Not offered for the truth of the  
23 matter asserted.

24 THE COURT: I'll allow it.

25 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

1 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

2 Q You can say what she said.

3 A She said, "Ms. Angela, he's gone, he's gone."

4 Q And that was on the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup>?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q The next day, did you have contact with either  
7 Courtney or Antonio?

8 A Courtney called me early that morning and asked  
9 me could I come pick her and Antonio up because they  
10 were at her mother's house.

11 Q Where did her mother live?

12 A Allen Benedict Court.

13 Q Did Courtney tell you why she wanted you to come  
14 pick her up that morning?

15 A She said that she couldn't deal with all the  
16 crying and everybody was so upset.

17 Q What did you agree to do?

18 A I told her that I would be there --- when she  
19 called, it was early morning like three something was  
20 early morning. I told her I would come about eight  
21 and I went to go get her.

22 Q Where did you pick her up?

23 A I picked it up from her sister Melissa's house,  
24 which was Allen Benedict Court, as well.

25 Q Which sister was that?

1 A Crystal.

2 Q When you got there when you picked her up, was  
3 she alone?

4 A No.

5 Q Who was with her?

6 A Her and Antonio was the other one.

7 Q And at that point did she indicate where she  
8 wanted to go?

9 A She just got in the car. When she got in the  
10 car, we just drove and we parked because she was so  
11 flustered, and I took her to get something to eat, and  
12 the investigator called and told me that she needed to  
13 come back to Beaverbrook.

14 Q That was that afternoon?

15 A Yes.

16 Q But that was later that afternoon?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q So that morning you just went and took them to  
19 get something to eat?

20 A Uh-huh.

21 Q And then you all just stayed in the car?

22 A Uh-huh, yes, ma'am.

23 Q Was anybody else with you?

24 A It was me, my mother, and my daughter-in-law.

25 Q During the time period, did you ever ask her what



1 had happened?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q Did she respond?

4 A No, ma'am.

5 Q Did either of them respond?

6 A No, ma'am.

7 Q Once she got the phone call from the sheriff's  
8 deputy, did she ask you to take her somewhere else?

9 A She asked me to take her to Beaverbrook.

10 Q Beaverbrook?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And that's where she lived?

13 A That's where she lived, yes, ma'am.

14 Q What did you do?

15 A We went to Beaverbrook and once we got there, the  
16 officers and the investigators was already there at  
17 the house, and we parked and she got out.

18 Q What did Antonio do?

19 A Went to the --- she told him to go to the store  
20 down the street. That's where I took him to, the  
21 store down the street.

22 Q That's the store right there on Fairfield Road?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Once he got to the store down the street, did he  
25 get out?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q As far as you know, where did you see him go?

3 A He was just going towards the store like he was  
4 going to any store.

5 Q Where did you go at that point?

6 A I went back to Beaverbrook.

7 Q What were you waiting on there?

8 A Waiting on Courtney to finish with the  
9 investigators.

10 Q Okay, and after a little bit of time, did she  
11 come out?

12 A After a little bit of time, she came out. She  
13 got in the car in one of the vehicles of one of the  
14 investigators. She called me and told me that they  
15 were taking her to the sheriff's department to discuss  
16 the autopsy report to her --- with her, and could I  
17 come pick her up in about two hours or so.

18 Q Did you agree to do that?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q At this point, you're helping her?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And where were the children? They weren't with  
23 you, were they?

24 A No.

25 Q They were back at the house?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q And someone else was taking care of them?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q Did she then leave this scene with one of the  
5 investigators or did you take her to the sheriff's  
6 department?

7 A No, ma'am, she left the scene with one of the  
8 investigators.

9 Q Once she left the scene where did you go?

10 A I went back to the store where I had dropped  
11 Antonio off to. He got back in the car, and we left  
12 from over --- from the store.

13 Q Uh-huh.

14 A And in the process of doing that, Courtney called  
15 and asked me was he still with me, and I told her yes.  
16 She asked me could I bring him to the sheriff's  
17 department because they needed him to come sign some  
18 papers, as well, so I took him to the sheriff's  
19 department.

20 Q Once you took him to the sheriff's department ---  
21 and is that the one on Two Notch?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Did he get out?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Where did you go?

1 A I left and went back home.

2 Q And was the plan for you to pick up anybody later  
3 or were you just allowed to go home?

4 A Well, Courtney had asked me to pick her up when  
5 she left Beaverbrook with the officer, the  
6 investigator. She asked me could I come in about two  
7 hours or so because it shouldn't take that long to  
8 pick them up. I picked her up. I was like yes, I  
9 would, just call me.

10 Q But they never called?

11 A But they never called.

12 Q Is that the last time you had any direct contact  
13 with Courtney?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q Or Antonio?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q At any point when **Victim** was alive, did you offer  
18 to help out with him?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q Would she let you? Would either of them let you?

21 A No. And he never went --- as far as my  
22 knowledge, with anyone. He was always with Courtney.

23 Q And were you aware that Antonio lived with  
24 Courtney, too?

25 A Uh-huh.

1 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Your Honor. I don't  
2 have anything further.

3 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please  
4 the Court.

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

7 BY MR. LI:

8 Q Good afternoon, Ms. Metze.

9 A Good afternoon.

10 Q Thank you for being here.

11 A You're welcome.

12 Q I guess that I'm going to start off with the  
13 statement that was referenced earlier. You gave a  
14 statement to Investigator Holdorf back on July 15<sup>th</sup>  
15 of 2013, correct?

16 A Uh-huh.

17 Q And when you spoke with them, you were calm?  
18 Were you pretty calm, in the right state of mind?

19 A Yes, sir.

20 Q And you swore to tell the truth?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q And you would answer questions as best you could,  
23 right?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q And you do know Courtney Thompson, correct?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q You know her well?

3 A Uh-huh.

4 Q And you know Antonio?

5 A Yes, ma'am --- yes, sir.

6 Q That's okay. When Investigator Holdorf asked you  
7 the question, most of the stuff that you testified to  
8 on direct earlier, it made it seem like you were  
9 referring to both parents, right?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q But when Investigator Holdorf asked you the  
12 question, and he said, "Have you seen Courtney or  
13 Antonio mistreat any of the kids?" do you remember him  
14 asking you that?

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q And you responded that she would cuss them out,  
17 especially **Victim**, correct?

18 A Uh-huh.

19 Q In fact, your entire statement referenced  
20 Courtney, correct? Would looking at your statement  
21 help refresh you're memory?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 (Pause.)

24 Q And so the answer to the question --- do you  
25 remember your answers now?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Were they in reference to Courtney?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And you never mentioned Antonio?

5 A No, sir. He asked me about when I would go to  
6 the residence, would I see him. I told him yes, that  
7 he would be there. He would speak.

8 Q He would speak?

9 A Yeah.

10 Q You've never seen Antonio beat **Victim** before,  
11 right?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q In fact, you actually never seen Courtney beat  
14 **Victim** before?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q But you have heard Courtney cuss at Antonio  
17 before?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q You've seen her verbally abuse him?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q You've never heard Antonio?

22 A No, sir.

23 Q And through your relationship with them, you  
24 would know when --- you would talk to Courtney quite  
25 often?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q And you would know what's going on in her  
3 personal life?

4 A To a certain degree.

5 Q To a certain degree. You would know that her and  
6 Antonio aren't always together?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q That they would have breakups?

9 A Right.

10 Q A lot of breakups?

11 A I wouldn't say a lot of breakups, but they would  
12 have breakups.

13 Q Breakups, okay. And there were times --- were  
14 there times when you would know when Courtney was  
15 seeing other people?

16 A When ---

17 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Judge. Relevance.

18 MR. LI: It's going to go towards whether or not  
19 Antonio was in the house continuously in 2012.

20 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, if we could approach  
21 instead of speaking?

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference held in the  
24 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

25 THE COURT: Objection overruled.



1 BY MR. LI:

2 Q Have you known Courtney to be dating other  
3 people?

4 A As far as ---

5 Q After Antonio? If you don't, it's okay.

6 A I don't know; I can't really say for sure.

7 Q Sure. I want to talk to you about this text  
8 message on the day of July 1<sup>st</sup>. It was nighttime when  
9 you got that text message?

10 A When ---

11 Q When you sent the text message?

12 A When I sent the text message.

13 Q It was dark?

14 A It was dark.

15 MR. LI: No further questions.

16 THE COURT: Cross?

17 MS. PINNOCK: Very briefly, Your Honor.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

19 BY MS. PINNOCK:

20 Q Ms. Metze, when you met with Investigator  
21 Holdorf, you provided him your contact information so  
22 he could get back with you, right?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Just in case he had any other questions that you  
25 could help him out with?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q And when you went to you pick up --- who did you  
3 go to pick up, **Girl M** or --- you picked up **Girl Mi**?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q On June 29<sup>th</sup>?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q Courtney was already in the hospital?

8 A She was already in the hospital, yes.

9 Q Robert Guinyard met you outside?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q So you never went inside the house?

12 A No, ma'am.

13 Q You didn't go inside on June 30<sup>th</sup>?

14 A No, ma'am.

15 Q And you weren't there July 1<sup>st</sup>?

16 A No, ma'am.

17 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Ms. Campbell?

19 MS. CAMPBELL: Just briefly, Your Honor.

20 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

21 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

22 Q Just to be clear, Antonio was at the house when  
23 you went and picked up **Girl Mi**?

24 A He was at the house, yes, ma'am.

25 Q And that's the house on Beaverbrook?

1 A Yes, on Beaverbrook.

2 Q And that's where you picked up **Girl Mi** ?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And defense counsel for Mr. Guinyard asked if you  
5 had any information or had told the police about  
6 Antonio beating the child or anything about him?

7 A Uh-huh.

8 Q In fact, you did give them information that you  
9 had that was not admissible before about Antonio and  
10 the child; is that correct?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And specifically --- you can't go into specifics,  
13 but is that about how Antonio beat the child?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Thank you.

16 THE COURT: Recross?

17 RECROSS-EXAMINATION:

18 BY MR. LI:

19 Q Have you ever seen Antonio beat this child?

20 A Have I ever seen it?

21 Q Yes.

22 A No.

23 MR. LI: No.

24 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock.

25 MS. PINNOCK: Nothing further, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am. You  
2 may step down.

3 Call your next witness.

4 MS. McDUFFIE: If it pleases the court, the State  
5 calls Investigator Brian Metz.

6 THE COURT: All right, sir. Please come forward  
7 and be sworn.

8 BRIAN METZ,  
9 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

10 THE WITNESS: Brian Metz, M-E-T-Z.

11 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

12 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

13 Q Investigator Metz, where are you employed?

14 A I'm employed with the Richland County Sheriff's  
15 Department.

16 Q What are your duties with the Richland County  
17 Sheriff's Department?

18 A I'm currently assigned to the technical services  
19 unit of the criminal investigative division.

20 Q How long have you been with the sheriff's  
21 department?

22 A Next months will be 32 years.

23 Q As an investigator with the technical services  
24 unit, please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
25 what you do every day.

1       There are several different things that we do.  
2 Most of these are done at the request of either  
3 investigators or a uniform officer that's having a  
4 problem at some type of crime scene. We'll install  
5 security systems, cameras. We'll go to incident  
6 location occasions and pull video from a store,  
7 convenience stores, or location. We also will make  
8 the media release clips that you see on WIS or  
9 anywhere, those usually come from our division.

10       In addition to that, we do both computer  
11 forensics and cell phone forensics.

12 Q     And specifically in this case, were you asked to  
13 do cell phone forensics pursuant to a search warrant  
14 back in July of 2013?

15 A     I was.

16 Q     And please describe for the jury, when you  
17 receive a phone or a computer, but specifically in  
18 this case a phone, what do you do to it or with it in  
19 order to gain information?

20 A     In both incidents, we use a device by a company  
21 called Cellebrite. The device is called a UFED. It's  
22 a forensic extraction device. There's two ways of  
23 extracting phone data. The simple method is that the  
24 device extraction inputs it into a report itself.  
25 When you do that, you're usually getting the basic

1 data and all off the phone.

2 You can also use the UFED to do a full physical  
3 download of every bit of information on the phone.  
4 What you're doing there is basically acquiring all  
5 that. Once you have all that, you would put it into a  
6 computer system that's Windows based, using software  
7 by Cellebrite, which is called Physical Analyzer. It  
8 would then take that data file off and create a  
9 report.

10 Q So when you say you extract the data, do you do  
11 anything to manipulate it, change it, delete, add,  
12 doctor it in any way?

13 A We do nothing to the data.

14 Q The information or the data you get is contained  
15 from what source?

16 A From the phone itself. There is either a memory  
17 chip and sometimes there's also a removable SD card,  
18 the small chip that you will see that will be in the  
19 phone and with the Cellebrite, some phones can get  
20 both information.

21 Q So depending upon what type of phone it is and  
22 whether or not your software is compatible is whether  
23 or not you can extract the information or get the  
24 data?

25 A That's correct.

1 Q When you extract the data, does it modify the  
2 data or change it in anyway?

3 A It does not change the data.

4 Q All you're able to extract is what's actually  
5 stored in the phone itself?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q In this case, in July of 2013, were you given a  
8 phone by Investigator Holly Wagner pursuant to a  
9 search warrant and asked to see if you could retrieve  
10 any information from it?

11 A I was. This is the phone.

12 Q And what type of phone is that?

13 A It is a Motorola. I don't recall the model  
14 number, but a Motorola Verizon phone.

15 Q In July of 2013 could you --- or the software at  
16 the sheriff's department, could that data be  
17 extracted?

18 A I was not able to get the phone to connect with  
19 the Cellebrite UFED machine, so I was not able to  
20 download it at that time.

21 Q After that date, did Richland County acquire new  
22 information --- or, rather, new software or hardware?

23 A Basically at the beginning of the year, we had  
24 ordered and purchased the newer model of the UFED  
25 device, which I have found to be a lot more meaningful

1 to connecting to some of the phones.

2 Q So it has newer software, newer updates?

3 A It does.

4 Q And is it compatible with newer phones?

5 A It does, correct.

6 Q After the sheriff's department acquired that  
7 device, were you requested to see if the phone would  
8 work with that device?

9 A I was.

10 Q And did you attempt or plug the phone in to see  
11 if it would even potentially possibly work?

12 A I did, at the request of Investigator Holdorf and  
13 saw that the phone would connect to the new device.

14 Q After you connected the phone to the new device,  
15 did you extract or view or look at the data in anyway?

16 A I did not.

17 Q Then was a search warrant obtained for that  
18 phone?

19 A It was.

20 Q Pursuant to that search warrant, did you then  
21 extract the information available from that phone?

22 A I did. I went through the two step process of  
23 doing a physical analyzer dump. The first process was  
24 using the machine to actually create the digital file  
25 of the memory and then load it into the Windows



1 computer which then created the report.

2 Q I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
3 State's Exhibit 250.

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q Is that the report of the information you were  
6 able to obtain from that cell phone?

7 A This is a print out of the digital report of this  
8 phone.

9 Q Everything that's contained in that report is  
10 what is stored on the hard drive or on the SD card in  
11 that phone?

12 A That's correct.

13 Q Has it been modified, altered, changed, deleted,  
14 or tampered with in any way?

15 A In no way.

16 Q It is an exact hard copy of what's in that phone?

17 A It's a digital print out of what's in that phone,  
18 that's correct.

19 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
20 offer State's 250.

21 MR. STAGGS: Your Honor, we have a matter of law  
22 regarding this.

23 THE COURT: Regarding this?

24 MR. STAGGS: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: All right. Approach.

1 Ladies and gentlemen, stand up, stretch, talk  
2 amongst yourselves.

3 (WHEREUPON, there was a bench conference in the  
4 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

5 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ladies and  
6 gentlemen.

7 I overrule your objection. You can put the  
8 reasoning on the record in a little bit.

9 Go ahead. So State's 250 admitted over defense  
10 objection.

11 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 250 was  
12 admitted into evidence.)

13 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

14 Q After you create that report, you don't do  
15 anything to analyze it or interpret it in anyway?

16 A I can, but in this case, it was all turned over  
17 to Investigator Holdorf. He then reviewed the report.  
18 We communicated later and said he needed nothing else  
19 from me. That was the end of my involvement.

20 MS. McDUFFIE: Thank you, Your Honor. No further  
21 questions.

22 THE COURT: Cross?

23 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

25 BY MR. LI:

1 Q Investigator Metz, what was the name of the  
2 software that you use to extract the data?

3 A The software itself?

4 Q Yes, sir.

5 A For the Windows computer?

6 Q To extract --- to get the phone dump?

7 A Like I said, there are two pieces. One is a  
8 piece of hardware.

9 Q Okay.

10 A That's the Cellebrite UFED.

11 Q Right.

12 A Once you get the data file from there, then you  
13 put it into software that's called Physical Analyzer,  
14 which is also by Cellebrite.

15 Q Right. And this software, which version were you  
16 using?

17 A It's 3.95.192.

18 Q That is for the hardware or software?

19 A That is for the software.

20 Q Okay. How about the hardware?

21 A The hardware, I can tell you was 3.0.5.14.

22 Q Okay. Have you had training with Cellebrite  
23 before?

24 A I have.

25 Q How many times previously have you used this

1 technology to download phones --- to do phone dumps?

2 A I would estimate in excess of 800 times.

3 Q To use this same program?

4 A To use the same program? That was a new program  
5 so I couldn't say. It's very similar to the previous  
6 program. It's just an updated model, and the updated  
7 model, like I said, was 800 plus.

8 Q With this model. Not this version of the  
9 software, how many times have you extracted phones?

10 A I couldn't say. It was fairly new, so maybe 100  
11 to 200.

12 Q Have you had training with this new version?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Are you qualified to interpret the data that's  
15 extracted from the cell phone?

16 A It depends on the data. Most of the data is  
17 self-explanatory as far as how it's printed out. It's  
18 printed out into a PDF, and it's self-explanatory.  
19 There's data on the phone that, because of some of the  
20 forensics schools I've been to, I'm able to withdraw  
21 it off of there into a report and interpret it.

22 Q So you basically just --- you take whatever the  
23 software prints out, you take what it says at face  
24 value?

25 A Correct.

1 Q You take the timestamp at face value?

2 A Correct.

3 Q You take the order that it is printed at face  
4 value?

5 A Correct.

6 Q Okay. I'm going to show you the same 1200 pages  
7 and I'm going to show it to you on my iPad. Okay.

8 If you scroll through that, tell the court if  
9 that looks familiar. It should be 1200 some odd  
10 pages.

11 A You want me to scroll through all 1200?

12 Q Well, just until you're satisfied that's the  
13 same?

14 (Pause.)

15 A Well, I mean, it looks like it's a UFED report,  
16 an analyzer report, yes, sir.

17 Q And it's your testimony that the time stamps are  
18 accurate?

19 A The time stamps would be accurate based on what  
20 the phone is and what the report did, yes, sir. The  
21 report only knows what the phone tells it.

22 Q Okay. So you're saying the time stamps on the  
23 report are exactly what the phone has? The data  
24 that's on the phone is on the report?

25 A I'm not sure of the confusion here.

1 Q My ---

2 A Yes, sir, they're the same --- they may look  
3 different because the report is going to be reported  
4 as uniform time code.

5 Q That's right.

6 A So the phone may actually show it as Eastern  
7 Standard Time and then you can calculate backward from  
8 uniform time code.

9 Q How do you do that?

10 A By subtracting, depending on the time zone and  
11 Daylight Savings Time.

12 Q For eastern time?

13 A That's right.

14 Q How many hours do you subtract?

15 A I didn't go back to look, but it would be either  
16 four or five hours.

17 Q Right, and the order in which things appear, you  
18 believe that they appear in order?

19 A I'm not sure what you ---

20 Q Sequentially. You believe that the way the data  
21 is printed, it is organized by time stamps?

22 A In --- it depends on the section of the report.

23 A Correct. And there is a section --- there's  
24 there is one section that breaks it down to incoming  
25 phone calls.

1 A That's right.

2 Q Outgoing phone calls?

3 A Well, there again, I didn't go through this  
4 report in detail, but on some phones it will put it in  
5 chronological order so you will have the incoming call  
6 and then the outgoing call. On some phones, the  
7 report will show all the incoming and then show all  
8 the outgoing.

9 Q If you will take a scroll through the iPad, you  
10 will notice there is a section for 800 phone calls,  
11 correct?

12 A On the call logs, this one is separated by  
13 incoming and outgoing.

14 Q Correct. Then, if you scroll further down, I  
15 believe, it's probably around page 312 ---

16 A What am I looking for, sir?

17 Q Just letting you know that there is a section  
18 that breaks it down from incoming text messages and  
19 then outgoing text messages, correct?

20 A I haven't seen that, but...

21 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I believe the witness  
22 testified that he prepared the report and gave it to  
23 Investigator Holdorf, and that he hasn't analyzed it  
24 or done anything with it. I don't know what testimony  
25 Mr. Li is trying to ---

1 BY MR. LI:

2 Q Is Investigator Holdorf qualified to interpret  
3 this report?

4 THE COURT: Your Honor, objection to the  
5 question.

6 THE COURT: Sustained.

7 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure what section you want  
8 me to look at.

9 BY MR. LI:

10 Q I'm going to show you page 312. This is the  
11 section. That section is a break down of incoming  
12 text messages, correct?

13 A I would have to see the header, but those do  
14 appear to be incoming text messages.

15 Q And on a portion of it, it says --- on one of the  
16 columns it says network time and device time, correct?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Those times don't add up? Those times aren't the  
19 same, correct?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q And on some of them, it looks like there is four  
22 hour's difference in time, correct, between network  
23 time and device time? I'll focus you to line 867.

24 A I see that all the others are that way, yes, sir.

25 Q Excuse me?



1 A I see that most of them are that way.

2 Q Most of them are off, correct?

3 A It shows a network time and device time, that's  
4 correct.

5 Q There is a network time and a device time. Let's  
6 look at 867. I want to draw your attention to line  
7 867.

8 A That's correct.

9 Q What's the time differential between network time  
10 and device time?

11 A Network time is shown as 2:43 p.m. UTC and device  
12 is showing 6:42.

13 Q Say that one more time.

14 A 2:43 and 6:42.

15 Q Give us the date?

16 A What entry was that again?

17 Q 867.

18 A Both showing as 3:31 on 2013.

19 Q 3:31, 2014. Give me the network time?

20 A The network time is 2:42:23. Device time is  
21 6:42:46.

22 Q All right. 2:42 p.m. or a.m.?

23 A P.M. on both.

24 Q P.M. All right. The other one was what six ---  
25 the device time?

1 A 6:42.

2 Q Yes.

3 A 6:42:46.

4 Q What about the second, p.m. right?

5 A That's right.

6 Q So approximately four hours. Take a look at line

7 748.

8 A It shows both on 4/9/2013 network at

9 12:30:19 p.m., device at 4:32:07 p.m.

10 Q Okay. So now it's off by about four hours and

11 two minutes, right?

12 A Those two times are.

13 Q Okay. Now I want to focus you on line 872?

14 A That's on 3/30/2013, with network at 8:30:08 and

15 device at 1:15:48.

16 Q I'm sorry. Read it to me one more time.

17 A 1:15:48.

18 Q 1:15 ---

19 A And that's a.m.

20 Q That's a.m. What's the date on that?

21 A 3/31. The network was 3/30 at 8:30 p.m.

22 Q The network time was --- the date of the network

23 time was 3/31?

24 A The network time is --- we're talk about 872?

25 Q Yes.

1 A The network time was 3/30/13 at 8:30:08 p.m.

2 Q 8:30 p.m. okay.

3 A And the device time was at 8:31 at 1:15:48 a.m.

4 Q 1:31 a.m. on the next day, right? 3/31?

5 A 3/31, 1:15:48.

6 Q The 1:15 --- just --- you don't need to read the

7 seconds. 1:15. So that's approximately a difference

8 of four hours and 45 minutes, correct?

9 A That's correct.

10 Q Okay. Take a quick scroll to line 19 while

11 you're here.

12 You can use the hard copy if it's easier for you.

13 A On line 19.

14 Q 919?

15 A Let me look at it.

16 (Pause.)

17 Okay, so 919.

18 Q 919.

19 A It just shows a network time.

20 Q So there is a time when there is no device time?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q And look at line 920?

23 A There is just a device time.

24 Q No network time on that?

25 A That's right.

1 Q And on line 635, tell me the network time for  
2 635?

3 A The network time is 4/20 of 2013 at 7:18 p.m. the  
4 device time is shown as 9/6/70 at 1:15 p.m.

5 Q So the device time is showing September 6, 1970,  
6 yeah, 1970?

7 A That's correct.

8 Q And what's the device time on that one?

9 A 1:15 p.m.

10 Q 1:15 p.m. and the last one, I promise. Look at  
11 line 13.

12 A 913?

13 Q No, I'm sorry.. Line 13. Just line 13. It  
14 starts at 3/12. Tell me the incoming time, the  
15 network time for that?

16 A The network time is 7/1/2013 at 9:08 p.m.

17 Q 9:08 p.m.?

18 A Yes, and the device time is 7/2.

19 Q Oh, it's 7/1/13. All right?

20 A And the device time is 7/2/2013 at 3:01 a.m.

21 Q 3:01 a.m. okay. That's a difference of how many  
22 hours?

23 A I have to calculate it. That was six.

24 Q Seven.

25 A Seven. Well.

1 Q Oh, that's fine. Ten, eleven, twelve, one, two,  
2 three, six, six hours, so there is six hours  
3 difference on that one?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q What's the explanation for the varying times  
6 between the network and the device?

7 A You would have to ask somebody that deals with  
8 the network.

9 Q You don't know that?

10 A I do not know that.

11 Q You don't know that?

12 A No, I have not looked at it or checked on it, so  
13 I don't know.

14 Q I promise you this part is going to be quick,  
15 okay. Scroll to the outgoing text messages. That's  
16 right at page 354.

17 (Pause.)

18 Just let me know when you're there. I'm sorry  
19 this is slow.

20 A 354?

21 Q Yes, sir.

22 A Okay.

23 Q Just start with the outgoing text messages.

24 A Okay.

25 Q Just take a look at all of them. Not all of

1    them?

2           THE JUROR:   Please..

3   BY MR. LI:

4   Q     Take a quick look at a times between the network  
5   and the device for the outgoing text messages?

6   A     Yes, sir.

7   Q     What's the approximate difference between network  
8   and device time?

9   A     They appear to be the same.

10  Q     They appear to be the same?

11  A     Correct.

12  Q     Correct, and their listed this as UTC time,  
13  correct?

14  A     That's correct.

15  Q     Scroll down so you can take a few more samples.

16  The outgoing looks the same, correct?

17  A     They do.

18  Q     What's the explanation for that?

19  A     I would not want to guess.  That would be  
20  something that a network administrator for the cell  
21  phones would need to answer.

22  Q     So when you testified earlier that the --- if ---  
23  there is a section of the report that's not printed  
24  out by incoming and outgoing.  There is actually a  
25  chronological order, one, correct?

1 A That's correct.

2 Q So when you have the chronological order one, you  
3 believe that that sequence of events is accurate?

4 A Correct.

5 Q That's your belief?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q I want to draw your attention to page 715 and  
8 page 716, okay. When they're printed out, they print  
9 out in backwards numbers, okay.

10 A Uh-huh.

11 Q Without reading the name or the number of who it  
12 is, okay, I'm going to ask you to read the text  
13 messages all from the same person, okay, starting from  
14 this line and start. Go to finish only from her ---  
15 from this number. It doesn't matter who it is.

16 THE JUROR: Oh.

17 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I think we need to lay  
18 a foundation before we do this and also to the  
19 relevance.

20 THE COURT: Approach.

21 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
22 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

23 BY MR. LI:

24 Q Starting on line --- starting on line 295, if you  
25 would read --- What does that line say?

1 A "Hey, this is Angel. My phone was off. Did you  
2 call me yesterday."

3 Q Read the next one. Sequentially for the next  
4 one.

5 A The next one is, "No."

6 Q Okay. Keep going. And these are --- these are  
7 incoming text messages, right?

8 A I believe so, yes.

9 Q Okay. There is an incoming message from this  
10 Angel person and it says, "No."?

11 A That's right.

12 Q And the timestamp on the first line that you read  
13 is what?

14 A It's 3/29/2013, at 11:05.

15 Q 11:05. Okay. The next one that comes in is what  
16 time?

17 A at 1:12.

18 Q 1:12 and it's still an incoming message, correct?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q What does it say?

21 A "No."

22 Q The next one is an incoming message?

23 A That's correct.

24 Q Okay.

25 A That's at 1:15. "Not busy, what's good."



1 Q That's all incoming from the same person,  
2 correct?

3 A From Angel, yes.

4 Q Keep going?

5 A At 2:37 on the 29<sup>th</sup>, "No response. I would  
6 assume you straight then. I hate to be ignored, ugh."

7 Q Keep going.

8 A At 4:44 on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

9 Q Incoming or outgoing?

10 A That is outgoing.

11 Q Okay.

12 A "No, but are you busy today?"

13 Q All right. Next line. Which line are you on?

14 A 2954. Actually, that one is not from the same  
15 number.

16 Q Okay.

17 A The next one from the same number is 2953 and,  
18 "It's my fault."

19 Q Okay. All right. The line before that is an  
20 incoming?

21 A "The one on North Main by Piggly Wiggly."

22 Q The one above that is an incoming call ---  
23 incoming text.

24 A "I will, but they don't deliver."

25 Q The next one above that is incoming, 2950?

1 A "On my way. They don't deliver out here either.  
2 Is ten a fair price?"

3 Q The one before that 2949?

4 A 2949 is, "On my way."

5 Q That's an incoming, correct, from the same  
6 person?

7 A That's correct.

8 Q 2948 says?

9 A "It's okay."

10 Q So --- I want to ends this torture here. There  
11 is a serious --- it's listed chronologically, correct?

12 A According to the times on there, yes.

13 Q According to the times on there, this is listed  
14 chronologically?

15 A That's right.

16 Q Okay. And just from the few lines that you've  
17 read, you've read --- you've read seven --- seven  
18 incoming text message and one outgoing text message,  
19 correct?.

20 A That's correct.

21 Q The times are listed, and granted they're listed  
22 in UTC time, but they are listed chronologically,  
23 correct?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q So this report purports that the text messages

1 that come in are in chronological order, correct?

2 That's what the report says?

3 A It's shows the time that the phone received it in  
4 that order.

5 Q Right. So the printed out version is putting it  
6 n that order, correct?

7 A Correct.

8 Q Okay. So as far as the time stamps go, are you  
9 confident that the time stamps are accurate?

10 A I wasn't going by the device time stamps and  
11 network time stamps that you are talking about, I was  
12 going by the time stamp on the phone, or the text  
13 message itself. Now, I'm confident those are correct.  
14 Are there may always be things where either the phone  
15 or the network didn't read. That's where you get  
16 those things like the 1978.

17 Q Correct. But the sequence in which text messages  
18 come in are not in order, correct?

19 A There may be a --- no, they're in order. You may  
20 have to go and look at each time on each one and put  
21 them in order.

22 Q But the times are listed chronologically on the  
23 report?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q Correct, so you really don't have to go back and

1 THE COURT: Thank you, sir. Have a nice day.  
2 Call your next witness.

3 MS. CAMPBELL: May it please the Court. The  
4 State calls Rachael Grant.

5 RACHEL GRANT,  
6 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

7 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
8 name for the record.

9 THE WITNESS: Rachael Grant.

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

11 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

12 Q Ma'am, where are you employed?

13 A At the Richland County Sheriff's Department.

14 Q And what do you do there?

15 A I am a DNA analyst.

16 Q As a DNA analyst, what do your duties include?

17 A I basically work in the laboratory, and our job  
18 is to obtain evidence and attempt to develop DNA  
19 profiles from any biological evidence left at the  
20 scene.

21 Q Can you tell this jury a little bit about your  
22 education and your training in the field of DNA  
23 analysis?

24 A I have a bachelor of science degree in biology  
25 from Duluth University. I have a master's degree in

1 forensic serology and DNA from the University of  
2 Florida. I undergone extensive DNA and serology  
3 training. I continue --- I attend continuing  
4 education and training every year, and I have  
5 successfully completed competency set forth by the DNA  
6 Advisory Board and the FBI.

7 Q Is your laboratory actually accredited?

8 A It is accredited, yes.

9 Q What agency accredits your laboratory?

10 A It's a the American Society of Crime Lab  
11 Directors Laboratory Accreditation Board  
12 International.

13 Q So is your laboratory actually held to higher  
14 standards than most laboratories here in the country?

15 A It is.

16 Q And the protocols and policies in order to remain  
17 accredited, those are all followed by y'all?

18 A Yes, they are.

19 Q Have you testified before as an expert in the  
20 field of DNA analysis?

21 A I have.

22 Q Have you been qualified before as an expert?

23 A I have.

24 Q Approximately how many times have you been  
25 qualified?

1 A I believe about nine.

2 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
3 offer her as an expert in DNA analysis.

4 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

5 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

6 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, this witness  
7 will be allowed to testify to give her opinion in the  
8 area of DNA analysis. To give opinion testimony in  
9 that area does not mean that you must accept her  
10 opinion, but it is evidence for you to use in any way  
11 you see fit and give it the weight or credibility you  
12 deem, or believe is appropriate.

13 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

14 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

15 Q In order to do DNA analysis from evidence from a  
16 crime scene, tell this jury generally how the evidence  
17 is submitted or how you extract it from say a piece of  
18 clothing versus a piece of metal or things of that  
19 nature?

20 A Yes, typically the evidence we receive are swabs  
21 and those are sterile swabs from that particular item  
22 that has been swabbed, and the goal there is to  
23 retrieve any nucleic cells because DNA is contained in  
24 the nucleic cell. So the swab, you will take a cutting  
25 from that swab --- if it's an item of clothing, you

1 may take a cutting of that clothing. If it's a hair  
2 that has bulb attached that has tissue, we will take a  
3 portion of that hair. Bailer basically a cutting from  
4 that swab. If it's an item of clothing we may take  
5 an item of that clothing. If it's a hair that has a  
6 root attached with tissue on the end, we may take a  
7 portion of that hair and attempt to extract the DNA.

8 Q In a crime scene, typically how is DNA evidence  
9 left there? What is the manner that it can be left  
10 there?

11 A Several ways. Body fluids are an excellent  
12 source of DNA, so if there is body fluid that's left  
13 at the scene, either from somebody bleeding or saliva  
14 from a cigarette butt or a Coke can. Also,  
15 technologies are so sensitive right now that touch DNA  
16 --- so if I were to touch this and somebody were to  
17 come behind me and swab that area, chances are you are  
18 going to get my DNA profile.

19 Q It can be left like that?

20 A Yes.

21 Q But like with fingerprints, with touch DNA, more  
22 so than blood evidence or saliva evidence, can it be  
23 more difficult to retrieve that?

24 A Yes, just because I touched that particular area  
25 doesn't mean I will get something. That depends on

1 several factors, whether how often that person has  
2 touched that area, how aggressive, if that person is a  
3 shedder, which is just a type of individual that will  
4 shed their epithelial cells or their skin cells more  
5 regularly than other people.

6 Q So touch DNA is simply left by skin cells or some  
7 type of brushing of the skin?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And so, it is a much more fragile way of  
10 transferring DNA to an item?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Even if I go up here and I grab this like this,  
13 am I necessarily going to leave DNA there?

14 A Not necessarily, no.

15 Q Same way as a fingerprint, it just depends on how  
16 it's touched, weather conditions --- different things  
17 can play a factor, correct?

18 A Yes, yes.

19 Q How does a person --- when you're comparing DNA,  
20 what are you looking at in the cell itself, as far as  
21 different alleles and things of that nature, can you  
22 explain that to the jury, how a person comes to get  
23 their DNA that you look at?

24 A Yes, basically everyone's DNA is unique to  
25 themselves with the exception of identical twins. You



1 get half DNA from your mom and half from your dad.  
2 So, our job, basically looking at different locations  
3 on the chromosomes, if you remember from biology class  
4 chromosomes are contained in the nucleus, inside the  
5 nucleus, so what we're looking at is the locations.  
6 Those locations are unique to every individual with  
7 the exception of identical twins.

8 Q So with the exception of identical twins,  
9 everyone's DNA is different?

10 A Correct.

11 Q Does that include siblings?

12 A Correct.

13 Q Does the that include say a mother and son?

14 A Correct.

15 Q A mother and daughter?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And half after your DNA comes from whom?

18 A Your mother.

19 Q And the other half comes from?

20 A Your father.

21 Q So if there's a child and there's similar DNA can  
22 it be more difficult to interpret that DNA analysis?

23 A It's can because their sharing those common  
24 characteristics.

25 Q Are there certain alleles in the cell itself that

1 y'all look at as far as markers --- or explain that to  
2 the jury?

3 A Basically the locations. An allele is a  
4 different form of a particular, I guess, genotype type  
5 at a location, so --- it basically --- with our  
6 analysis it's based on Short Tandem Repeats, but  
7 basically every characteristic --- there's several  
8 different forms within a particular location, and  
9 depending on what you have is what's going to show up  
10 in that location.

11 Q In this case specifically and in every case, do  
12 you take precautions to make sure the integrity of the  
13 evidence that's being tested is protected?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Was that done in this case?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Was there any cross contamination or any  
18 degradation of any of the evidence while it was in  
19 your possession?

20 A No.

21 Q In the evidence in this case when you received  
22 it, was all it all properly packaged when it was  
23 submitted to you?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you check for that to make sure that no one

1 has tampered with anything or altered it in anyway?

2 A Yes.

3 Q In this case, was there any evidence of any  
4 tampering or any alteration of any evidence that was  
5 submitted to you?

6 A No.

7 Q Specifically, when doing DNA analysis, do you  
8 also have to have what's known as a known standard in  
9 order to do comparisons typically?

10 A Yes.

11 Q How do you get a known standard from a person?

12 A A known standard is basically an attempt to  
13 develop their profile, their individual profile and  
14 how it's taken now is you take a sterile ---, it's  
15 called a buccal swab, it's basically just a swab. It's  
16 sterile. You just run it on the inside of your mouth.  
17 It's going to collect your epithelial cells that have  
18 sloughed off and also your saliva.

19 Q In this case, did you receive certain known  
20 samples from people that were potentially involved in  
21 this case?

22 A I did.

23 Q Who did you receive known samples from?

24 A I received a buccal swab from [REDACTED] Victim  
25 [REDACTED], a buccal swab from Robert Antonio Guinyard, Sr.

1 and a buccal swab from Courtney Thompson.

2 Q And prior to doing your testing, is it necessary  
3 for you to know exactly what role anybody plays in  
4 this case or is your testing kind of --- you just do  
5 the testing, you don't have a dog in the fight as to  
6 how it comes out?

7 A No, everything that is done is independent.

8 Q You mentioned that you got a swab from the victim  
9 in the case, Victim?

10 A Yes.

11 Q In addition to that, I want to show you State's  
12 Exhibit No. 205. Did you also get a swab from  
13 Courtney Thompson?

14 A Actually, I did not receive this particular one.  
15 Our technician actually did this one.

16 Q Okay.

17 A Her initials are here.

18 Q Once it was processed, it was forwarded to you  
19 for you to do the analysis?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And when that was --- as far as the notes that  
22 are reflected in your report, it was submitted  
23 properly?

24 A Yes.

25 Q In addition to that, was State's Exhibit 206,

1 which was a swab from Robert Antonio Guinyard, Sr.  
2 also admitted to you?

3 A Yes, yes.

4 Q And you also used that for analysis?

5 A Uh-huh.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time I'd offer  
7 205 and 206 into evidence.

8 MR. LI: No objection.

9 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

10 THE COURT: 205 and 206 without objection.

11 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Numbers 205 and 206  
12 were admitted into evidence.)

13 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

14 Q And what, if any, actual evidence from the crime  
15 scene or swabs that were collected from the crime  
16 scene, were submitted to you in this case?

17 A Would you like me just to read through?

18 Q Uh-huh.

19 A Okay. I received a swab from the right rear  
20 bedroom wall, a swab from the left-side hallway wall,  
21 a swab from the hallway carpet, a swab from the first  
22 bedroom right light switch, a swab from living room  
23 wall number six. I also received left and right-hand  
24 fingernail scrapings from Courtney Thompson, right and  
25 left-hand nail scrapings from Robert Guinyard, Sr., a

1 buccal swab from [REDACTED] Victim, a swab from the  
2 stain on a closet door, a washcloth that was from the  
3 right bedroom dresser. A burgundy colored washcloth,  
4 a section of brown carpet from the right rear bedroom  
5 floor, red shoes, a gray striped shirt, a swab from a  
6 white dowel rod, a swab from a white broom handle,  
7 swab from stain marked (A), swab from stain marked  
8 (B), swab from stain marked (C), swab from stain  
9 marked (D), a buccal swab from Robert Antonio  
10 Guinyard, Sr. and a buccal swab from Courtney  
11 Thompson.

12 Q And in this case, did you do testing on certain  
13 items for the presence of blood?

14 A I did.

15 Q What kinds of tests do you do for the presence of  
16 blood in your laboratory?

17 A In our laboratory, we do --- the first screening  
18 test we do is what's called a presumptive test called  
19 phenolphthalein. It basically tests for the presence  
20 of blood. We run a confirmatory test meaning that it's  
21 not necessarily human at that point, but we do some  
22 preliminary screening. If it's positive, we go ahead  
23 and run it through DNA.

24 Q And in that case, you do that on several of the  
25 items in this case?

1 A Yes..

2 Q Did you prepare a report in this case?

3 A I did.

4 Q I'm going to show you what's been marked as a  
5 blow up of the summary of those two reports on State's  
6 Exhibits 252 and 253. Did you actually participate in  
7 the making of this summary?

8 A Yes, I reviewed it.

9 Q Does it fairly and accurately reflect your  
10 findings and your testing in this case?

11 A Yes.

12 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time I'd offer  
13 State's Exhibit 252 and 253.

14 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

15 MS. PINNOCK: No objection. Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: 252 and 253?

17 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: 252 and 253 admitted without  
19 objection.

20 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Numbers 252 and 253  
21 were admitted into evidence.)

22 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, may the witness step  
23 down so she can come in front of the jury? It will  
24 expedite matters.

25 THE COURT: Oh, yes. Yes, ma'am. You may step

1 down. Just keep your voice up, okay.

2 MS. CAMPBELL: Come around on this side so the  
3 court reporter can hear you.

4 THE COURT: The jurors on the back row have to be  
5 able to hear you, okay, ma'am?

6 THE WITNESS: Okay.

7 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

8 Q I want to start out --- basically the columns or  
9 the items submitted are here in the first column?

10 A Yes, yes.

11 Q And then you tested for the presence of blood on  
12 certain items?

13 A Uh-huh.

14 Q And whether or not DNA was actually extracted?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And then finally, under results --- and when you  
17 are doing your results, I notice some wording here  
18 that it may match someone or may be a mixture, tell  
19 the jury how that can happen.

20 A Yes, if a DNA profile is a mixture, basically  
21 that means that more than one contributor has  
22 contributed to that mixture. We can tell that by  
23 different peaks, so it's not uncommon especially on  
24 touch samples that several people have touched that  
25 you are going to see more than one person, so a



1 discernable mixture is also if we have a major  
2 contributor and a minor contributor.

3 This means that a major --- that there's a  
4 particular person is contributing more of their DNA.  
5 It's coming across the as the intense profile, and  
6 then possibly the minor contributor may be underneath  
7 and we also see as well. So basically a mixture is  
8 just a sample that there's more than one person  
9 present.

10 Q Once you're able to actually come up --- if  
11 you're able to extract DNA and come up with a result,  
12 are you able then to put a quantitative figure in some  
13 cases on that result and what it means?

14 A Yes. Basically any association that we make, we  
15 can put a statistic to it. The FBI has generated  
16 population frequencies for the population and  
17 basically depending on the type of profile we have, we  
18 can put a statistic to it to give that match some  
19 weight.

20 Q Okay. In this case, if we can just take them  
21 chronologically as far as the items that you tested.  
22 The numbers that are assigned over here, are those  
23 numbers that you assigned or were those assigned in  
24 the evidence room?

25 A Those are assigned in the evidence room.

1 Q That's just to be able to have a reference number  
2 later to refer to certain items?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Taking the first item that's listed here, and  
5 they aren't done in any particular order, right? It's  
6 just the order they may have been submitted?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Swab from the right rear bedroom wall ---  
9 again, you weren't the person that actually collected  
10 these?

11 A No. I work strictly in the laboratory.

12 Q Okay. But these were all properly submitted?

13 A Yes, they were.

14 Q Were you able to test for the presence of blood?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And what did your test show?

17 A That item (2) indicated the presence of blood.

18 Q And then at that point would the next step be to  
19 do an actual DNA extraction?

20 A Yes, we ran that sample through the system and  
21 attempted to get a profile.

22 Q In this case once you get a profile, are you able  
23 to --- prior to this, you've already testified the  
24 buccal swab were being tested also?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And so you're trying to compare it to the three  
2 known standards that you have, the buccal swabs from  
3 those three people, and the testing done on that  
4 compares to the unknown item from the crime scene?

5 A Correct.

6 Q When you compared it to those three profiles,  
7 what, if anything, were you able to determine as far  
8 as the swab from the right rear bedroom wall?

9 A That swab, the DNA result, matches **Victim**  
10 **[REDACTED]**.

11 Q And were you able to put a number on that as far  
12 as the probability of it being an unrelated person?

13 A Yes. Basically that was a same source statistic.  
14 It's called the random match probability. The stat on  
15 this one is 5.69 million. Basically that means what  
16 the chances are of me walking down the street and  
17 finding someone at random to have that profile or  
18 someone else randomly matching that profile, it's one  
19 in 5.69 million.

20 Q Nine million?

21 A Nine million.

22 Q I've never heard of 9 million. How many zeros  
23 does nine million have?

24 A Thirty.

25 Q How many people on earth?

1 A Approximately 7 billion.

2 Q How many zeros does 7 billion have?

3 A Nine.

4 Q So it's exponentially ---

5 A More.

6 Q A lot. So in your opinion with your number that  
7 you're able to assign to it, would it match anyone  
8 other than [REDACTED] Victim ?

9 A No.

10 Q No one else on earth?

11 A Correct.

12 Q Whenever it says a match, are you also saying  
13 that it would exclude either Courtney Thompson or his  
14 father Robert Guinyard, Sr.?

15 A Well, in this particular one, because it matches  
16 one person, that means there is nobody else there to  
17 compare it to.

18 Q So that would eliminate the parents?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Even though we don't have that language on there.  
21 Taking the next swab was collected from inside the  
22 home from the left side of the hallway wall, first did  
23 you test for the presence of blood?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What was the result there?

1 A Blood was indicated on item (3).

2 Q Were you able to extract DNA?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Even though you have blood, are you always able  
5 to extract DNA?

6 A Not necessarily.

7 Q Once you ran that and compared it to your three  
8 known standards, what were the results when you ran  
9 the swab from the hallway?

10 A Which is item (3) --- it's a mixture of at least  
11 two individuals. The major matches **Victim**  
12 **and has that same statistic.**

13 Q Uh-huh.

14 A And then, I'm sorry. Robert Guinyard, Sr. is  
15 excluded.

16 Q So you were able to exclude him based on the  
17 information available to you when you ran this swab  
18 from the hallway?

19 A Yes. But there is also a minor contributor  
20 there, but it's too weak for match purposes.

21 Q What does that mean when you say there is a minor  
22 contributor but it's just too weak to match to anyone  
23 else?

24 A Basically in our analysis, if the intensity of a  
25 minor contributor is too low, we can't confidently say

1 that --- or match that to somebody. It has to have a  
2 certain threshold to use it for statistical purposes.  
3 In a way, it's being very conservative, because we  
4 don't just want to assign numbers against something  
5 that is too weak.

6 Q But you were able to exclude Robert Guinyard, Sr.  
7 as a contributor, as that minor contributor?

8 A Yes.

9 Q But you weren't able to make that same  
10 determination as to Courtney Thompson?

11 A Correct.

12 Q However it's too weak, you don't want to call it  
13 one way or the other?

14 A If it's too weak for matching purposes, there is  
15 nothing I can do.

16 Q And that's fair enough.

17 Number (4) the swab from the hallway closet, were  
18 you able to test for the presence of blood?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Were you able to extract DNA on that?

21 A Yes.

22 Q From the hallway carpet, were you able to come up  
23 with a result?

24 A Yes, it matches [REDACTED] Victim [REDACTED] as well, one  
25 in 5.69 million.

1 Q Still at that same number?

2 A Yes.

3 Q In your opinion, would that blood sample be  
4 anyone other than **Victim** 's?

5 A No.

6 Q It couldn't be someone else?

7 A No.

8 Q Number (5), the swab from the first bedroom on  
9 the right light switch. Were you able to test for the  
10 presence of blood?

11 A I was.

12 Q Were you also able to extract DNA?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What were your results?

15 A It was a mixture of at least two individuals,

16 **Victim** and Robert Guinyard, Sr. and  
17 Courtney Thompson are all excluded as contributors to  
18 this mixture.

19 Q So it tested positive for blood, but it's not any  
20 of the three people whose known standards you have?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And you weren't provided any additional standards  
23 to compare it to.

24 A Correct.

25 Q And you never received any of the other

1 children's samples to compare it to?

2 A Correct.

3 Q Number (6), the swab from the living room wall  
4 labeled number (6), actually on the swab itself, were  
5 you able to test for the presence of blood?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And was DNA extracted?

8 A It was.

9 Q And who did it match?

10 A [REDACTED] Victim [REDACTED].

11 Q But I notice at this point you come up with a  
12 different number?

13 A Yes, it's one in 170 octillion, and basically  
14 that just means that we look at the profile as a whole  
15 to put a statistic to every location. This profile  
16 may have been a little bit bigger so the statistic is  
17 going to change. This one is not quite 5.69 million,  
18 it's 170 octillion.

19 Q How many zeros, not to ---

20 A Twenty-seven.

21 Q Okay. In your opinion then, could it be anyone  
22 else on earth?

23 A No.

24 Q However, it just didn't --- sometimes --- explain  
25 the reason it may not match up or one may drop off?



1 A At that particular location, if the peak  
2 intensities aren't above a certain threshold, we're  
3 not going to use them for statistics, so something  
4 that might be a little --- like a blood sample or  
5 might be a little bit degraded, you may have some peak  
6 and balance or it may drop below that threshold that  
7 we're not going to use that certain location for  
8 statistics. It's not uncommon to see that variation  
9 throughout the analysis.

10 Q However, with that match to [REDACTED] Victim  
11 does that eliminate Courtney Thompson?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And it eliminated Sr.?

14 A Yes.

15 Q In your opinion that's [REDACTED] Victim 's  
16 blood?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Looking at the nail scrapings from the left and  
19 right hands of Courtney Thompson, of both the left and  
20 the right hands, were you able to extract DNA?

21 A I was.

22 Q Did you do any of the testing for blood on any of  
23 the fingernail scrapings?

24 A No.

25 Q That wasn't appropriate?

1 A No. Actually I can pull my evidence sheet. If I  
2 can just do that real quick, I can give you the  
3 visual.

4 Q Okay.

5 A Yes, the left and right hand scrapings for both  
6 of them, I just had that there was a little bit of  
7 dirt.

8 Q Dirt is what you ---

9 A Yeah, so at that point, it's not typical for us  
10 to screen for blood.

11 Q There is no indication for blood?

12 A Right.

13 Q At that point you tested on Courtney Thompson,  
14 both left and right, and came up with a mixture?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Of two or more individuals?

17 A Yes.

18 Q You didn't do any further interpretation as far  
19 as the fingernail scrapings, why is that?

20 A Because, like I mentioned earlier, you get half  
21 your DNA from your mother and half from your father.  
22 In this case, you have a child involved that they're  
23 sharing the same DNA alleles as the parents. In these  
24 particular samples, it's not very clear who is who  
25 because they are all sharing the same DNA. At that

1 point no further interpretation was required given  
2 that the parents and the child are all sharing the  
3 same alleles.

4 Q At this point, too, you can get DNA of  
5 fingerprints from just touching --- excuse me, under  
6 the fingernails from just touching another person or  
7 holding them?

8 A I mean, you can.

9 Q But it may not be significant?

10 A Correct.

11 Q The same is true for the fingernail scrapings for  
12 Robert Guinyard, Sr.?

13 A Yes, with the exception of 8.1, the left-hand  
14 scrapings did come back to him, which is not  
15 surprising because ---

16 Q To Senior?

17 A Yes, I'm sorry, Robert Sr., these are his nail  
18 scrapings, come back to him. Nail scrapings are also  
19 referred to an intimate sample. It's taken off a  
20 person. It's not surprising that you're going get the  
21 person's DNA from the item that was collected from  
22 them.

23 Q In fact, it might be surprising not to get their  
24 DNA?

25 A Correct.

1 Q Moving on to number (9). It's just a buccal swab  
2 from [REDACTED] Victim, which was used for  
3 comparison?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Then moving onto item (17)?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Which is a swab of a stain on the closet door.

8 A Yes, it was a mixture of at least two  
9 individuals.

10 Q And it tested positive for blood?

11 A Yes, it did and DNA was extracted. It was a  
12 mixture of at least two individuals. The major  
13 contributor of this mixture matches [REDACTED] Victim  
14 [REDACTED] and the statistic on that is one in  
15 829 septillion.

16 Q How many zeros?

17 A Twenty-four.

18 Q Okay. Then, the minor contributor is too weak  
19 for match purposes. There is a mixture, but there is  
20 a minor that we couldn't put a statistic to.

21 Q On that one, were you able to eliminate any of  
22 the others or was it too weak for you to do anything  
23 with?

24 A Too weak for us to do anything.

25 Q But the major contributor was [REDACTED] Victim

1     ■■■■, and in your opinion would it be anyone else's  
2 blood?

3     A     No.

4     Q     And when you have blood samples and you have a  
5 mixture of a major contributor, is that typically  
6 their blood?

7     A     Yes.

8     Q     Or does it depend?

9     A     Body fluids are an excellent source of DNA, so  
10 even if there was somebody's epithelial cells  
11 underneath that blood, so yes, in my opinion, if it  
12 was blood, then the it's the major contributor's  
13 blood.

14    Q     I notice on items (21) and (22), no analysis was  
15 done.

16    A     Yes.

17    Q     Were you given the information that those were  
18 used to clean up a urine area? In your laboratory,  
19 you don't test for urine or do anything there?

20    A     No, no.

21    Q     Okay. Moving on to section --- item (23), which  
22 is a section of brown carpet from the right rear  
23 bedroom floor?

24    A     Yes. I need my other sheet.

25    Q     You need your other sheet?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Sorry.

3 A Yes, the section of brown carpet, I did screen  
4 that for blood. There were no apparent reddish brown  
5 stains, but I did screen areas that had stains and  
6 everything came up negative, so from there on it  
7 doesn't go through the analysis section.

8 Q So you didn't do any further analysis on that?

9 A Correct.

10 Q I move on to State's Exhibit number 253. Does  
11 this continue with your findings?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did you actually do a cutting from some --- DNA  
14 from a cutting from some red shoes?

15 A I did.

16 Q What is the difference between spotting and  
17 cutting? Does it affect your results?

18 A It's doesn't. If we receive an item versus a  
19 swab and if it has a body fluid on it, for us, we will  
20 just go ahead and take a cutting, if we are able to,  
21 if it is something that can be cut. These shoes were  
22 a cloth type material, so we just took a cutting.

23 Q Versus swabbing?

24 A Yes.

25 Q It doesn't affect any of your results?

1 A No.

2 Q Did you test for the presence of blood?

3 A I did.

4 Q Was DNA extracted?

5 A Yes, it was.

6 Q Again, was this --- what was your result?

7 A Yes, it was a mixture of at least three  
8 individuals. The major contributor of this mixture  
9 matches **Victim** and the statistic on  
10 that is one in 2.2 quintillion.

11 Q That's less or more than septillion?

12 A That's less, there's 18 zeros in that one.

13 Q Okay.

14 A But also Robert Guinyard, Sr. and Courtney  
15 Thompson cannot be excluded. The statistic I have  
16 here is it's greater than 99.97 percent of the  
17 population would be excluded. Basically what that  
18 means is if we have a profile that's several people,  
19 if we can't eliminate somebody and they're included,  
20 we will do a couple of exclusions, so it basically  
21 means 99.97 percent of the population would be  
22 completely eliminated, so they're in the remaining  
23 percentage included in this mixture.

24 Q Which is a fairly rare occurrence?

25 A Yes. It's just whatever the ---

1 Q .03?

2 A .03 percent.

3 Q And everyone else there?

4 A Correct.

5 Q Which is a significant finding?

6 A They can't be excluded.

7 Q Okay. On number (25), which was the gray striped  
8 child's shirt, you did a cutting from that, as well?

9 A I did.

10 Q Did you test for the presence of blood?

11 A I did and --- .

12 Q And DNA was extracted?

13 A Yes, and it matched **Victim** one in  
14 5.69 million.

15 Q Again, in your opinion, could the blood that was  
16 found on that shirt belong to anyone else on earth?

17 A No.

18 Q And that was **Victim**?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Moving on to item number (26), which was the swab  
21 from a white dowel rod in the closet, did you test for  
22 blood in that case?

23 A No.

24 Q And was that because there was visible signs of  
25 it?



1 A Correct, the swab that I received had a black  
2 powder like stain, so I didn't see anything that  
3 indicated blood, so I didn't screen it for blood.

4 Q But did you extract DNA?

5 A I did.

6 Q And what were your results from the white dowel  
7 rod?

8 A It was a mixture of at least two individuals.

9 The major contributor of this mix matches **Victim**  
10 **[REDACTED]** and the statistic on that is one in  
11 10 sextillion.

12 Q And again with that kind of number, is it **Victim**  
13 **[REDACTED]**'s DNA?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And the minor contributor, were you able to do  
16 anything on that?

17 A No. It was too weak for match purposes.

18 Q And, again, you didn't see any presence of blood  
19 on that so you checked for touch DNA?

20 A We checked for touch DNA.

21 Q When you talk about touch DNA versus like DNA  
22 found on biologicals, it's not a different kind of  
23 DNA, it's just the manner that it's ---

24 A Correct.

25 Q Okay. Swab from the broom handle on item number

1 (27), again, did you test for the presence of blood?

2 A No.

3 Q Why was that?

4 A The swab had a black power take stain.

5 Q Were you able to extract DNA?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And that result was what?

8 A That is item --- which one on here?

9 Q Twenty-seven.

10 A **Victim** --- it was a mixture of at least two  
11 individuals. **Victim**, Robert Guinyard,  
12 Sr., and Courtney Thompson cannot be excluded as  
13 contributors. Basically, I have a mixture that I can  
14 see all three of them. Remember, they are sharing  
15 alleles, because you have the parents of the child.

16 Q However, are you able to excludes a certain  
17 percentage of the population?

18 A Well, 99.99 percent of the population would be  
19 excluded. They could not be excluded.

20 Q But almost everybody else can?

21 A Yeah.

22 Q Before I get to 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 37, those  
23 are just the known standards?

24 A Yes.

25 Q That were used for --- you extracted DNA from

1   them for comparison purposes, correct?

2   A    Yes.

3   Q    Finally, swabs from the stain marked (A) on the  
4   white pipe, the marker --- the stain at marker (A) was  
5   swabbed and the swab was submitted to you?

6   A    Yes.

7   Q    Item (29)?

8   A    Yes.   That ---

9   Q    Presence of blood?

10  A    Yes.

11  Q    It tested positive for blood?

12  A    Uh-huh.

13  Q    Were you able to extract DNA?

14  A    I was.

15  Q    And who did it match?

16  A    The result from item (29) matched Robert  
17  Guinyard, Sr., and the statistic on that is one in  
18  1.9 million.

19  Q    The next swab for the stain marked (B) on the  
20  white pipe, did it test positive for the presence of  
21  blood?

22  A    It did.

23  Q    Were you able to extract DNA?

24  A    I was.

25  Q    On that one, what were your results?

1 A That matches [REDACTED] Victim and the  
2 statistic on that is one in 5.69 million.

3 Q So in your opinion, whose blood is that?

4 A [REDACTED] Victim.

5 Q And let me back up. On marker (A), whose blood  
6 is that?

7 A Robert Guinyard, Sr.

8 Q Item number (31), the swab marked (C) on the  
9 white pipe, were you able to test for the presence of  
10 blood?

11 A I was.

12 Q And it was positive?

13 A It was.

14 Q And were you able to extract DNA?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And what were the results?

17 A The major --- it was mixture of at least two  
18 individuals. The major contributor matches Robert  
19 Guinyard, Sr., and the statistic on that is one in  
20 1.2 sextillion. [REDACTED] Victim and Courtney  
21 Thompson also cannot be excluded as contributors to  
22 this mixture and 99.36 percent of African Americans  
23 would be excluded.

24 Q So on that you could positively say that Victim  
25 [REDACTED] and Robert Guinyard, Sr.'s DNA was on

1 that white pipe?

2 A Yes. And Courtney Thompson cannot be excluded  
3 either.

4 Q And is that the extent of your testing in this  
5 case?

6 A It was.

7 Q You can take the stand.

8 (Pause.)

9 As part of your protocol in the laboratory, are  
10 your results reviewed by anyone else?

11 A Yes, all laboratory reports are reviewed by  
12 another qualified DNA analyst.

13 Q In this case, I think at least two other analysts  
14 reviewed your results?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And concurred with your opinions?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Or agreed with your opinions.

19 A Yes.

20 Q In some cases when items are submitted to you for  
21 testing and sometimes you can't get any DNA?

22 A Yes, that's correct.

23 Q But in this case, you were able to get DNA and  
24 then tested for blood as you testified to?

25 A Yes.

Cross of Grant by Li  
Cross of Grant by Pinnock

1051

1 Q Thank you.

2 MS. CAMPBELL: I have nothing further, Your  
3 Honor.

4 THE COURT: Cross?

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

6 BY MR. LI:

7 Q Are you able to date any of the data you  
8 presented?

9 A Date any of it?

10 Q Yes.

11 A No.

12 MR. LI: No further questions.

13 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court.

14 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

15 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, may we approach?

16 THE COURT: Yes. Ladies and gentlemen, stand up.  
17 Talk among yourselves.

18 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
19 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

20 THE COURT: All right. All right, Ms. Pinnock.

21 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

23 BY MS. PINNOCK:

24 Q Just a couple of quick questions. You said item  
25 (29) on your list?

1 A Yes.

2 Q That's marked --- that was a swab from marker

3 (A)?

4 A Uh-huh.

5 Q And that was taken off the white pole as far as

6 you ---

7 A That's what I've been told, but --- yes.

8 Q It just came to you as a swab?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And you said that was Robert Guinyard, Sr.?

11 A Correct.

12 Q And that's --- there is nobody else that could  
13 have been?

14 A Correct.

15 Q And marker (B) that's **Victim** ?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And as far as your understanding of the evidence,  
18 that also came off the white pole?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And that was **Victim** ?

21 A Correct.

22 Q Could not be anybody else?

23 A Correct.

24 Q Okay. And the comparison you took for Antonio  
25 Sr. was off of his swab from his mouth?

Redirect of Grant by Campbell  
Recross of Grant by Li

1053

1 A Correct.

2 Q That's how you showed it was him?

3 A Uh-huh.

4 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Have ---

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Just one question.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

9 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

10 Q He asked you about dating DNA. Can you tell how  
11 long the blood has been there?

12 A No.

13 Q It just depends on how it's stored and used?

14 A Yes.

15 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 MR. LI: Your Honor, one question.

17 THE COURT: Sure.

18 RECROSS-EXAMINATION:

19 BY MR. LI:

20 Q So you can't tell when samples (B), (C), and (A)  
21 --- when they got on the pole?

22 A Correct, I can't tell.

23 MR. LI: No further questions.

24 MS. PINNOCK: Nothing.

25 THE COURT: You can step down. Have a nice day.



1 All right. How long is your next witness?

2 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, her direct would be  
3 pretty brief.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Let's keep going.

5 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, the State calls Latoya  
6 Anderson.

7 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Anderson, raise your  
8 right hand, stand right there.

9 LATOYA ANDERSON,  
10 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

11 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
12 name for the record.

13 THE WITNESS: Latoya May Anderson.

14 THE COURT: Deputy Pitts, will you pull that  
15 microphone a little bit closer to her, please. Thank  
16 you.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

18 BY MS. WALKER:

19 Q Ms. Anderson, where are you currently living  
20 right now?

21 A 1119 Piney Grove Road.

22 Q I know that's your address, but when you leave  
23 here where are you going?

24 A To Kershaw County.

25 Q The detention center there?

1 A Uh-huh.

2 Q And before become there were you at the Alvin S.  
3 Glenn Detention Center Detention Center?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And that's here in Richland County?

6 A Uh-huh.

7 Q Do you know Courtney Thompson?

8 A Yeah, that's my cousin.

9 Q Y'all are first cousins, second cousins, what?

10 A First.

11 Q Did you grow up together?

12 A Huh?

13 Q Did you grow up together?

14 A Yeah.

15 Q And do you know Antonio Guinyard?

16 A Uh-huh.

17 Q Did you know **Victim**?

18 A Uh-huh.

19 Q And did you become aware, in fact, that **Victim**  
20 had died?

21 A Uh-huh.

22 Q I'm going to ask you to say yes or no because  
23 this lady right here is going to type down everything  
24 you say. If you say uh-huh or huh-uh. She is not  
25 going to understand if that means, yes or no.

1 A Okay.

2 Q Did you become aware that **Victim** had passed away?

3 A Yes.

4 Q At some point did you have a conversation with  
5 Courtney about how that child died?

6 A No. I haven't had a conversation about how he  
7 died. She just --- we just had a conversation about  
8 some stuff that she had told me.

9 Q Well, what was that conversation?

10 A She told --- well, she told me that she had  
11 starved him for eight days without food or water. She  
12 told me that he was possessed, and she said that they  
13 was tired of him. Well, she said Antonio told her  
14 that she was tired of him, and she told me that they  
15 had --- his --- he was --- they found Antonio's blood  
16 on a rod, a curtain rod or something.

17 Q Did she tell you anything else about that rod?  
18 Did she tell you what was done with that rod?

19 A She just told me they found his blood on it.

20 Q But that she and Antonio were tired of the child?

21 A Uh-huh.

22 Q Did she tell you how they felt when he died?

23 A She told me that --- that she was relieved.

24 Q Did she mention Antonio in that, as well?

25 A No.

1 MS. WALKER: Beg the Court's indulgence, Your  
2 Honor.

3 (Pause.)

4 Q Thank you.

5 MS. WALKER: I don't have any further questions,  
6 Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. EISENHOWER: May it please the Court, just  
9 briefly.

10 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

11 BY MS. EISENHOWER:

12 Q Ms. Anderson, you stated that Courtney stated  
13 that she starved **Victim** for eight days?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And she also stated that she was relieved when he  
16 died?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 MS. EISENHOWER: Thank you. No further  
19 questions.

20 THE COURT: Cross?

21 MR. STAGGS: May it please the Court.

22 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

24 BY MR. STAGGS:

25 Q I have just a couple of questions, Ms. Anderson.

1 Courtney is your cousin, right?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q She also told you that she didn't kill her son,  
4 didn't she?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q And you weren't on Beaverbrook Road on June 29<sup>th</sup>,  
7 were you?

8 A No.

9 Q Or the 30<sup>th</sup>?

10 A No.

11 Q Or July 1<sup>st</sup>?

12 A No.

13 MR. STAGGS: That's all I have. Thank you,  
14 ma'am.

15 THE COURT: Redirect?

16 MS. WALKER: Beg the Court's indulgence, Your  
17 Honor.

18 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

19 BY MS. WALKER:

20 Q Did she tell you who she said killed her son?  
21 You said she told you she didn't kill her son. Did  
22 she ever tell you who did?

23 A No.

24 MS. WALKER: No further questions.

25 THE COURT: Ms. Eisenhower?

1 MS. EISENHOWER: No.

2 MR. STAGGS: No.

3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am. Have a  
4 nice day.

5 How long is the next one?

6 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, may we approach?

7 THE COURT: Sure.

8 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
9 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

10 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen,  
11 it's about the five o'clock hour. I'm going to go  
12 ahead and release you for the evening. Keep in mind  
13 that you are not to discuss the case with anybody in  
14 any way, shape, or form. You are not to use any  
15 electric devices, TVs smart phones, iPads, iPods,  
16 anything else that you can imagine to look up anything  
17 about the case, do any research, communicate with  
18 anybody about the case. Don't watch the news. Don't  
19 go on news websites. Don't go on blogs that  
20 frequently talk about news issues, anything like that.  
21 You're going to make your decision in this case based  
22 on what happens in this courtroom and the evidence  
23 that is presented to you through witness testimony and  
24 through exhibits that are introduced.

25 Now before I release you for the evening, let me

1 tell you the schedule for tomorrow morning. Does  
2 anybody --- just be honest with me, if you do, that's  
3 fine, and if not, that's fine it doesn't matter. Does  
4 anybody have an issue with starting at nine o'clock in  
5 the morning as opposed to 9:30

6 (Jurors indicated in the negative.)

7 THE COURT: If you do, you're not going to upset  
8 me, you're not going to bother me.

9 Okay, now, let's me tell you why we normally  
10 start at 9:30, because I know in the business world  
11 doesn't start then. All the courthouse staff doesn't  
12 get to work until 8:30, so everybody is doing  
13 everything they can to get ready so that when we come  
14 in here, we're ready to go and people are not moving  
15 around. That's why we normally start at 9:30 and not  
16 9:00, because there is another matter that I have to  
17 hear at 10:00.

18 Now, I do not expect that matter to take more  
19 than a normal morning break that you're going to be on  
20 anyway. It's a very short matter, has nothing to do  
21 with this case in any way, shape, or form. It's not  
22 even from this county, but it's been scheduled for two  
23 or three months. So I have to do tomorrow morning at  
24 10:00. We'll take our morning break at that time.  
25 I'll take care of that matter, and then we'll bring

1 you back in and keep right ongoing.

2 If you'll be back here at 9:00 in the morning and  
3 we'll be ready to go. Thank you for your undivided  
4 attention today. You have all done a good job of  
5 staying awake and paying attention and staying with  
6 us. I know that all the parties and I sincerely  
7 appreciate that. Do not discuss the case. Keep an  
8 open mind. We'll see you tomorrow morning. Thank you  
9 very much.

10 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
11 5:00 p.m.)

12 Anything from the State?

13 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor. We have narrowed  
14 down the autopsy pictures with Dr. Durso.

15 Your Honor, her testimony will be and we'll have  
16 it proffered in the morning, but these are the  
17 pictures that she believes are necessary to adequately  
18 be able to explain what the injuries are to the child,  
19 what happened to the child. She had more pictures  
20 pulled, Your Honor, however, those are duplicative of  
21 the ones already in evidence, so we're not going to  
22 offer these, but these are the pictures that we want  
23 to offer up.

24 THE COURT: Have you all seen these?

25 MR. STAGGS: I briefly reviewed them. I think



1 Ms. Pinnock has probably ---

2 MR. LI: My objection follows theirs.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 THE COURT: What else, Mr. Li?

5 MR. LI: Your Honor, we mentioned earlier that we  
6 would block off some time to proffer witnesses. I've  
7 got them coming tomorrow about ten o'clock. I think  
8 one of them just left.

9 THE COURT: How long do you think that's going to  
10 take? How many people is it?

11 MR. LI: Five maximum.

12 THE COURT: How long do you think --- I don't  
13 need their full blown testimony, I just need the  
14 relevant part ---

15 MR. LI: Right.

16 THE COURT: --- to the issues. How long do you  
17 think that's going to take?

18 MR. LI: To be on the safe side 45 minutes, but  
19 more likely 30.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. LI: That includes Mr. Guinyard's, as well.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MR. LI: So with Mr. Guinyard's, maybe an hour.

24 THE COURT: Do you plan on resting tomorrow?

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: I'm not holding you to this, but do  
2 you think that's before lunch?

3 MS. CAMPBELL: (Nods in the affirmative.)

4 MS. McDUFFIE: (Nods in the affirmative.)

5 THE COURT: Is that a fair statement with Durso  
6 testifying tomorrow morning?

7 MS. McDUFFIE: I mean, obviously it depends on  
8 cross.

9 THE COURT: Right. I understand that.

10 MS. McDUFFIE: I don't think that we should be  
11 past lunch, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Why don't you have  
13 all those people come about 12:00. Maybe we'll be  
14 through with the State's case. We can break, take a  
15 long lunch, take up all the things we need to take up  
16 at the end of the State's case, proffer that and go  
17 from there?

18 MR. LI: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay, Ms. Pinnock, other than looking  
20 through those photos, anything else?

21 MS. PINNOCK: Just one quick thing. There was a  
22 jail call that was marked. Are you going to introduce  
23 that?

24 MS. McDUFFIE: Uh-huh.

25 THE COURT: Can you tell me which call that is?

1 MS. WALKER: Hold on. It's saved on my computer.  
2 I can email the exact call.

3 THE COURT: Can you email both of the defense ---

4 MS. WALKER: I'll email both of them, yes.

5 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

6 MS. WALKER: Thank you.

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

9 MS. McDUFFIE: They had moved earlier about  
10 redacting diagrams of Dr. Durso.

11 THE COURT: Say that again.

12 MS. McDUFFIE: They --- on Monday, they had moved  
13 to require us to redact her diagrams. We intend on  
14 offering them in their --- the way Dr. Durso created  
15 them, tomorrow morning, just so there's no hold up in  
16 the morning.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MS. PINNOCK: I'll --- I guess I'll white one out  
19 and send it to you. That would be what we'll asking  
20 for.

21 MS. McDUFFIE: What is it that you ---

22 MS. PINNOCK: Well, I mean, I think the issue is  
23 that there's a number of injuries that are listed that  
24 are not necessarily caused by something other than an  
25 accident or something other than normal child's play,

1 so we haven't had any evidence, any testimony saying,  
2 you know, all these things that are shown on this  
3 child's body on this diagram were intentionally  
4 inflicted on him, so I was going to ask that the  
5 diagram be redacted based on what has been testified  
6 about.

7 THE COURT: All right. Is Durso the first  
8 witness?

9 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Let's start at 8:45 and we'll  
11 go through that stuff. We'll be ready to roll at  
12 9:00.

13 Are you through those pictures?

14 MS. PINNOCK: Just about.

15 (Pause.)

16 THE COURT: Are you objecting to all these  
17 pictures or specific ones?

18 MS. PINNOCK: Pretty much all of them, Judge, but  
19 there's some that I think are --- just cross over the  
20 line to gruesome that aren't necessary at all.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MS. PINNOCK: If you are to rule that they are  
23 allowed to be used, I would still move to keep some of  
24 those out.

25 THE COURT: All right. What else?

1 MS. McDUFFIE: I don't think I have anything,  
2 Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Li?

4 MR. LI: Nothing, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock.

6 MS. PINNOCK: Nothing.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings were adjourned.)

9 May 23, 2014

10 (WHEREUPON, Court was called to order.)

11 THE COURT: All right. Everybody here?

12 MR. LI: Yes, sir.

13 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Let's talk about these photos.

15 MR. LI: Beg the Court's indulgence.

16 (Pause.)

17 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Let's talk about  
18 them by their numbers. Whatever one you want to start  
19 with.

20 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, I didn't get all the  
21 numbers written down, but the ones --- one that I was  
22 able to get written down was 226. It's like a lower  
23 abdomen view that shows the child's genitals.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MS. PINNOCK: 227, 228 and 229, I believe, are

1 kind of duplicative of each other.

2 230 is another shot of the child's genitals,  
3 which I don't see that it's necessary. 232, 233, I'd  
4 have to look at them. I didn't get to go through all  
5 of them and write all the numbers down.

6 It's my same argument. It's going to have such  
7 an emotional effect on the jurors. We know that based  
8 on the pictures just from the crime scene  
9 investigator, that it's going to significantly affect  
10 them emotionally. I don't think it's probative. I  
11 don't think there is any probative value to having  
12 those pictures in, and I think the doctor's testimony  
13 would be sufficient.

14 I think showing them pictures of this kind, you  
15 know, the prejudicial value skyrockets. I really  
16 don't think that, based on the testimony of the  
17 doctors, these pictures will corroborate the testimony  
18 in any way. I think if she can explain it to the  
19 jury, that would be sufficient.

20 THE COURT: All right. Do you join in that  
21 objection?

22 MR. LI: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Ms. McDuffie?

24 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, the external pictures that  
25 are presently in are pictures that were observed at

1 the house at the time of autopsy.

2 Your Honor, the majority of these injuries are on  
3 the lower back buttocks and upper thighs, which were  
4 not observed and are not included in the pictures that  
5 are presently in, Your Honor. Those are the pictures  
6 that we're requesting, in terms of the external  
7 portions of the private area and are pictures that  
8 aren't in evidence at this point, Your Honor.

9 In terms --- I think the pictures that she was  
10 objecting to, her motion, were of the pictures of the  
11 cuts into the body, Your Honor. Dr. Durso is present  
12 and she can explain why these are necessary to help  
13 illustrate her testimony, Your Honor, but this child  
14 died from a massive loss of blood into the soft  
15 tissues. This isn't a gunshot wound, which is more  
16 easily understandable and being able to explain to the  
17 jury.

18 It's hard to understand what this child actually  
19 died from without seeing these pictures, which show  
20 the massive injury to the soft tissue, the swelling  
21 and different ages of the injuries that are depicted  
22 in those photographs. Dr. Durso can show more  
23 eloquently than I just did. We can proffer that  
24 testimony if you'd like to hear it.

25 THE COURT: Yes, come on up, Dr. Durso.

1                   DR. AMY DURSO,

2 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

3           THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
4 name.

5           THE WITNESS: Dr. Amy Durso.

6           THE COURT: Okay, let's ease this, let's start  
7 with the pictures I do not have an issue with. I do  
8 not have an issue with 225.

9           MS. PINNOCK: Okay.

10          THE COURT: I do not have an issue with 231.  
11 That's the one with the lip. I do not have an issue  
12 with 227. I do not have an issue with 228, and I do  
13 not have an issue with 229.

14          All right. So those are admitted over the  
15 defendant's objection. Even without Dr. Doro's  
16 testimony, they go directly to injuries, injuries that  
17 were present, and they're all of a different angle, of  
18 a different substance, each contain something  
19 different and further, none of them were part of the  
20 photos that I already admitted over defense objection.

21          So those --- do you want me to go over that list  
22 one more time?

23          THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, please.

24          THE COURT: Pursuant to the proper foundation  
25 that I'm sure Dr. Durso will give, okay, 229, 228,



1 227, 231, and 225 will all be admitted pursuant to the  
2 proper foundation being laid over defense objections.

3 MS. McDUFFIE: May I have those?

4 THE COURT: Yes, and that's the other stack.

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION: (Proffered)

6 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

7 Q Dr. Durso, showing you State's 230 and 226, can  
8 you please tell the judge why these photographs are  
9 two that you indicated are necessary to illustrate  
10 your testimony to the jury?

11 A So this one here, I know it has genitals. I  
12 don't know if that can be blocked out, but the part I  
13 wanted to show was some of the scarring and the  
14 bruising over this right hip.

15 THE COURT: Have you looked at the photos that  
16 are already in evidence, Dr. Durso?

17 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure which ones you're  
18 referring to.

19 THE COURT: And what number are you specifically  
20 referring to right there?

21 THE WITNESS: This is 226.

22 THE COURT: Okay. I think there's a photo that's  
23 already in evidence that shows that corner of the  
24 body.

25 THE WITNESS: Yes, there is.

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 THE WITNESS: And this one specifically shows  
3 some of the soft tissue swelling. You can really see  
4 the difference between these two knees and the soft  
5 tissue swelling in this knee in particular.

6 THE COURT: Okay. What number are you referring  
7 to?

8 THE WITNESS: This is 230.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Is there a way to block out  
10 the scrotum?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, there's a way to even cut the  
12 picture.

13 THE COURT: Maybe you can cut the top of it off?

14 Okay, so that's 230. What you would need to be  
15 able to describe, or what you're trying to show there  
16 are the knees and the difference in the swelling?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Is that correct?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

22 Q Dr. Durso, showing you State's 232, 233, 237, 238  
23 and 239, can you please describe for the judge why  
24 these pictures are necessary to illustrate your  
25 testimony and the difficulty of presenting your

1 findings on these injuries to the jury without them?

2 THE COURT: And start with the numbers.

3 THE WITNESS: 232, this does show after --- at  
4 the end of the autopsy, we made these incisions, which  
5 I can explain, but at until the end of the autopsy  
6 when we made these incisions, we were not aware of how  
7 severe the bruising was in his body and how deep the  
8 bruising, as well as the different ages of the bruises  
9 showing dark red hemorrhage, areas of yellow  
10 hemorrhage, as well as all the swelling that went  
11 around it.

12 This is really what his cause of death was,  
13 primarily all of this bleeding and hemorrhage into the  
14 soft tissues of his back. Because he is a dark  
15 skinned child, the pictures of the back on the  
16 external exam, you really can't see the depth, degree  
17 and different ages of these bruises.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 THE WITNESS: For me to explain to the jury how  
20 extensive this hemorrhage was, it would be helpful to  
21 have at least one of these pictures admitted.

22 THE COURT: Okay. The next one that you're ---

23 THE WITNESS: It's just the --- the next one is  
24 233. It's just from the other side.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1 THE WITNESS: And then this 237, the most --- the  
2 deepest bruise was here within the buttocks, the left  
3 buttocks. You can see the hemorrhage here. We kind  
4 of opened it up to show how the hemorrhage wasn't just  
5 in the tissues and skin, but it goes into the muscle  
6 and showing how much force that would take to show  
7 hemorrhage deep into the muscle that's beyond just  
8 spanking. That's a blunt force with a hard object.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 THE WITNESS: And 238, again, is just showing  
11 more of that hemorrhage within the buttocks.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 THE WITNESS: And then 239 specifically just  
14 looks at the legs. The legs in particular show  
15 different timing of the bruises. You can really see  
16 how yellow it is here, which means an older bruise and  
17 darker hemorrhage here. You can see older, kind of  
18 yellowish tint here, just showing the different ages  
19 of the bruises.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Keep going on the next set of  
21 photos.

22 THE WITNESS: I think that's it ---

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 THE WITNESS: --- for that group.

25 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

1 Q And, Dr. Durso, can you please explain to the  
2 judge why you indicated State's 234 and 246 are  
3 necessary to explain your testimony?

4 A So again, we've been explaining a subdural  
5 hemorrhage. This is a picture of the child's brain.

6 THE COURT: What's the number?

7 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry, 234.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 THE WITNESS: This is showing the actual subdural  
10 hemorrhage overlying the brain, the bleeding that's  
11 overlying the brain here, just to show this wasn't ---  
12 this was a thin subdural, so this is just showing us  
13 as we peel it off. This picture makes it look like  
14 it's a big spot looking hemorrhage, but just to point  
15 out that this was actually a very thin layer of blood  
16 overlying his brain. That would have been from one of  
17 the blows to his head.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 THE WITNESS: That was 246 and was the one being  
20 peeled back.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

23 Q 235 and 236?

24 A So again, because of his darker skin --- oh, yes,  
25 235 and 236 are just different views of when we peeled

1 the scalp back in order to look for the bruises there.  
2 So this shows along the back of the scalp the bruises  
3 that you cannot see from the external area to his  
4 head, and this shows the ones along the front, the  
5 bruises here and here.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

8 Q And does that show multiple places of impact?

9 A It shows multiple areas of impact, that this was  
10 not consistent with a fall. This was intentional  
11 injury.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 THE WITNESS: Because there were so many  
14 different areas of impact.

15 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

16 Q 243 and 244?

17 A So 243 is a picture after we fixed the brain. We  
18 cut the brain. This is just showing the areas of  
19 subarachnoid hemorrhage, so a hemorrhage underlying  
20 that arachnoid layer around the cerebellum. And 244  
21 just shows another area of subarachnoid hemorrhage.  
22 This is over the brain here. You can see the dark  
23 discoloration here. That's blood.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MS. McDUFFIE: And then, I think the only three

1 remaining are 240, 241, and 242, and I don't think the  
2 defense is objecting to these. These are the broken  
3 ribs and the broken arm.

4 THE COURT: What are the numbers?

5 MS. McDUFFIE: 240, 241 and 242.

6 THE COURT: Is that right?

7 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Now, here is my question. As to the  
9 cross-examination of Dr. Durso that you anticipate  
10 doing, do you expect the cross-examination to be along  
11 the lines of: these kind of injuries could have been  
12 from a normal spanking?

13 MS. PINNOCK: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Or that any of these were of natural  
15 cause?

16 MR. LI: No, sir.

17 THE COURT: I mean, is there any anticipation  
18 that the cross-examination is going to be this could  
19 have happened from falling off a dresser ---

20 MR. LI: No, sir.

21 THE COURT: --- or this could have happened from  
22 a spanking, or this could be some disease caused  
23 naturally in the body?

24 MS. PINNOCK: No, sir.

25 MR. LI: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything else,  
2 Ms. McDuffie?

3 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, we --- even if their line  
4 of questioning isn't going that way, their clients'  
5 statements do say that this is from a fall from a  
6 dresser and that he then had seizure-like activity,  
7 Your Honor.

8 We have to show regardless of whether they're  
9 going to stipulate to the cause of death or not, that  
10 he died from extreme indifference to human life, Your  
11 Honor. We still have to meet those elements and the  
12 burden of proof on each defendant.

13 Your Honor, these pictures show the massive  
14 extent of these injuries, the chronic nature of them  
15 and the fact these are not an accident. These are ---  
16 these would have been readily apparent to any care  
17 giver who was taking care of this child, Your Honor,  
18 that this child had serious substantial chronic and  
19 persistent injuries.

20 Your Honor, I believe that we should be able to  
21 show that to the jury in order to meet our burden of  
22 proof.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Li.

24 MR. LI: Your Honor, if that's the case then we  
25 need any play backs, we don't need any open skulls.



1 If they're using it to show what a reasonable parent  
2 would be able to observe with the naked eye, we don't  
3 need any of these obscene pictures, Your Honor.

4 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor ---

5 MR. LI: She can testify to --- the expert can  
6 testify to whatever she wants to, but ---

7 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, that's very similar to  
8 what I was going to say. She just said you wouldn't  
9 be able to see the extent of the injuries. Nobody in  
10 here is saying it's an accident or from natural  
11 causes. We have had testimony --- Dr. Rosa testified  
12 about the same injuries. Dr. Durso can testify about  
13 the injuries. The pictures are unnecessary to show  
14 the filleted back of a four-year-old. I think it's  
15 unnecessary. Nobody is saying that her opinion about  
16 what she saw was wrong.

17 MR. LI: We agree, Your Honor. In her previous  
18 testimony, the bruises --- the extent of the bruises  
19 were such that you couldn't see with the naked eye.  
20 So we leave with that.

21 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor ---

22 MR. LI: If their purpose is to show that a  
23 reasonable parent would have seen it, then the  
24 unplayed version would be sufficient.

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, their client's own

1 statements say that this was an accidental fall from a  
2 dresser and a natural death. Further, in their  
3 questioning, the timing of these injuries is very  
4 important and I think it's important to show to the  
5 jury the timing of these injuries.

6 Further, Your Honor, I think it's absolutely  
7 disingenuous to say it's not an accident or cause of  
8 death or that --- you know, why haven't they pled  
9 guilty at this point then, Your Honor? I mean,  
10 they're saying that it wasn't extreme indifference, I  
11 guess, is what they're representing to the court and  
12 it was child abuse and neglect. I mean, I think  
13 that's absolutely disingenuous, Your Honor, and that  
14 is contrary to what they've been arguing this entire  
15 time.

16 I don't think that we --- even if they were going  
17 to stipulate that it's extreme indifference, we still  
18 have the right to be able to show this to a jury that  
19 this child was chronically abused by his parents, Your  
20 Honor. I think that these pictures are necessary to  
21 describe how this child died.

22 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Everybody stop  
23 talking. 232, 233, 237, 238, 239, 234, 246, 235, 236,  
24 243, and 244 are all out. Those are the most  
25 disgusting photos I've ever seen in my entire life. I

1 mean no disrespect to Dr. Durso. She was doing her  
2 job by documenting that and taking that, and  
3 understanding what the body has, but when I saw those  
4 photos for the first time, I was in complete and total  
5 shock, and I mean, I remember the very first case I  
6 ever worked on was a small child who had been beaten  
7 with a drop cord. I mean, I've seen enough disgusting  
8 crime scene photos in my life where most of them do  
9 not have much affect on me, and those photos are all  
10 just --- they're overwhelming, the --- I'm going to  
11 let Dr. Durso explain it.

12 I'm going to let her go into it. She can --- you  
13 can spend as much time with her as you necessary to  
14 get her to explain what she did, how she did it, what  
15 she found, why she couldn't find it until she started  
16 doing the different things that she did, but those  
17 pictures are just shocking to say the least, and I  
18 don't know how else to say it. I don't know how else  
19 to put it.

20 I believe that the testimony of Dr. Durso into  
21 those issues is clearly relevant and it's clearly  
22 crucial to the State's case, and the State should be  
23 allowed to prove that. It clearly falls under  
24 relevant evidence, and what she did and how she did it  
25 and her testimony to it is completely and totally

1 relevant and completely and totally admissible, but if  
2 I ever in my life have seen crime scene photos --- I  
3 mean, autopsy photos that fall under 403, the exhibits  
4 that I just listed are the definition of 403, so I'm  
5 not going to allow any of that in, but I am going to  
6 allow her to explain every single thing she did.

7 So 230 is in, 240, 241, 242, and the previous  
8 list that I went through are all out. The prejudicial  
9 effect is greatly outweighed by the probative value,  
10 and the ones that I stated earlier 229, 228, 227, 231,  
11 225, all of those are in evidence over defense  
12 objection.

13 All right. Anything else?

14 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, I would ask to be allowed  
16 to revisit this issue should they cross-examine Dr.  
17 Durso on that.

18 THE COURT: That's why I asked that question, so  
19 that's specifically why I asked that question  
20 Ms. McDuffie, so if I hear something on  
21 cross-examination --- you can cross-examine her  
22 however you want to within the rules. I'm not telling  
23 you that you can do something or not do something, but  
24 do you need to be very careful of door opening issues.

25 I mean, the State being able to come back in and

1 those pictures potentially could be admissible.

2 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, if I could address one  
4 other thing, in closing arguments for them to be able  
5 to argue that this was accidental, I mean, because  
6 that's what we anticipate because that's what in their  
7 statement.

8 THE COURT: Well, and my question wasn't was it  
9 accidental. My question was: are you going to  
10 cross-examine on a basis of could these injuries have  
11 occurred from a normal ---

12 MS. CAMPBELL: Fall or ---

13 THE COURT: --- child spanking, or could this,  
14 you know, are these injuries something that could  
15 occur naturally within the body? I mean, they give  
16 the statements that the State has introduced that said  
17 what I would call the loud --- the loud thump  
18 statements is what I call them, but, I mean, my issue  
19 is going to be are they --- in Dr. Durso's  
20 cross-examination, are they going to try to imply that  
21 there was some natural cause of all these types of  
22 injuries.

23 MS. CAMPBELL: And just to make sure I'm clear,  
24 Judge, so they can't argue it in closing arguments,  
25 then are they going to argue that their clients'

1 statements are correct and that the --- because they  
2 say and they have said to other people that's come in  
3 that he fell from the dresser, he jumped from the  
4 dresser. He fell from the dresser. These injuries  
5 are not consistent with him having ---

6 THE COURT: I understand.

7 MS. CAMPBELL: If they're not going to argue  
8 that, I agree, but if they're going to route, then I  
9 think we do have a right to show the extent of the  
10 injuries, and that's my only concern.

11 THE COURT: For the record, I mean, the injuries,  
12 the external injuries that can be seen from the naked  
13 eye, I mean, there are --- based upon Dr. --- I don't  
14 remember which witness it was that came in, but I let  
15 a ton of photos in that show external injuries that  
16 are clearly advisable to the naked eye by any  
17 untrained person.

18 I mean, my eight-year-old could see the injuries  
19 to this child. The photos that I have specifically  
20 excluded are photos of the child's body, and I'm sure  
21 I'm not using the right word, Dr. Durso, but the  
22 child's body split wide open.

23 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: But they are graphic and they are  
25 horrific. There's no other way to put them into words

1 other than that. I'm going to let her --- she is  
2 going to be able to explain everything that she needs  
3 to be able to explain, but absent some extreme  
4 cross-examination of the likes of, you know, --- those  
5 photos are not coming in.

6 Now, as to whether or not they can argue in  
7 closing arguments that the child fell off the dresser,  
8 they can argue that if they want to. My issue is are  
9 they going to cross-examine her on: is this some  
10 natural cause of death or something that could have  
11 occurred from a normal spanking or, you know, you fell  
12 down at the baseball field.

13 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, I mean, an issue, too, is  
14 the timing of these injuries.

15 THE COURT: She is going to be able to explain  
16 all that, Ms. McDuffie. These photos are exactly what  
17 the South Carolina Supreme Court has said should not  
18 be admissible. I mean, I'm going to let her explain  
19 it. She can explain she cut open the body and she did  
20 this and she saw this, but she didn't understand it  
21 until she peeled it away and looked at it and this is  
22 what she saw, but, I mean, for me to become bothered  
23 when I see a crime scene --- an autopsy photo, it has  
24 to be pretty bad, and I mean, those photos are that  
25 bad, period, in my opinion, and it's in my discretion.

1 None of those photos are coming in unless something  
2 happens on cross-examination.

3 MR. STAGGS: We did have one other matter, Your  
4 Honor.

5 THE COURT: What's that, Mr. Staggs?

6 MR. STAGGS: This morning we were provided with  
7 the State's summary of the cell phone records. I  
8 would just ask that anything that is on here would  
9 reflect --- the time codes have been chained. It  
10 looks like the State has put that time, the four hour  
11 difference. I would just ask that it appear as it  
12 does in the original record that you admitted into  
13 evidence.

14 THE COURT: Say that again.

15 MR. STAGGS: It might be easier if I show you,  
16 Your Honor. The State prepared this summary, and they  
17 have put their own time codes on there, and they are  
18 different than they appear in the records, and I would  
19 ask that they reflect exactly what the record says.

20 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, the records reflect --- and  
21 just so there's no confusion, Mr. Li in his cross  
22 yesterday about text messages, the network time and  
23 the device time. The records that we intend to  
24 introduce are incoming and outgoing calls and web  
25 history. There is no difference in network time and



1 Honor.

2 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Welcome back,  
3 ladies and gentlemen. Good morning, thank you for  
4 being on time, and we're ready to go. You may call  
5 your next witness.

6 MS. McDUFFIE: May it please the Court. The  
7 State calls Dr. Amy Durso.

8 THE COURT: All right, Doctor. Please come  
9 forward and be sworn.

10 DR. AMY DURSO,  
11 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

12 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
13 name for the record.

14 THE WITNESS: Amy Durso, D-U-R-S-O.

15 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

16 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

17 Q Dr. Durso, where are you employed?

18 A I'm employed by Professional Pathology Services  
19 as a forensic pathologist.

20 Q And as a forensic pathologist with Professional  
21 Pathology Services, do you also perform autopsies?

22 A Yes, my primary job is to perform autopsies,  
23 which are examinations of bodies after death, and I do  
24 them primarily at the request of the Richland County  
25 coroner's office and also at the request of Palmetto

1 Health Hospital.

2 Q And as a pathologist, please describe for the  
3 jury what a pathologist does?

4 A Well, specifically a forensic pathologist, which  
5 is what I primarily do, we perform autopsies. So an  
6 autopsy is where we examine the body after death,  
7 which includes a complete external examination of the  
8 body, so we look at anything from scars, tattoos, hair  
9 color, length, weight, any identifying marks, and then  
10 we also document any injuries that we see on the  
11 outside of the body, and after that, we go to the  
12 internal examination.

13 We do make some large cuts that go from the  
14 shoulders down to the mid line of the chest and then  
15 downwards along the abdomen where we can reflect back  
16 the skin. We remove the front part of the rib cage,  
17 and then we are able to see all of the major organs.  
18 We look at them documenting anything that is abnormal,  
19 any abnormal collections of blood, fluid. We remove  
20 them one by one, weigh them and examine them.

21 We also examine the brain. We do that by doing  
22 an incision on the back of the scalp, we reflect it  
23 and then we are able to use a saw to remove the top  
24 part of the skull, and then again we look at the  
25 brain, remove it, weigh it, take sections through it.

1       Then even after that, we do additional testing.  
2 We do collect samples of blood, urine, that sort of  
3 thing for toxicology testing. We also take small  
4 samples of the major organs to look at under the  
5 microscope.

6 Q     Dr. Durso, you said that you're a forensic  
7 pathologist?

8 A     Yes.

9 Q     That's what you just described for the jury?

10 A    Yes.

11 Q    Are you board certified?

12 A    I'm board certified, actually also in the general  
13 areas of pathology, which include anatomical pathology  
14 and clinical pathology. Anatomic pathology includes  
15 forensic pathology, doing autopsies, as well as  
16 surgical pathology, so if you've ever even had your  
17 gallbladder removed or you have a biopsy to see if you  
18 have cancer or you have a little piece of skin taken  
19 off, pathologists look at that under the microscope  
20 and give a diagnosis.

21       In clinical pathology, we learn how to run the  
22 blood bank, the chemistry lab, the microbiology lab,  
23 so it's a very broad area of pathology, but I do focus  
24 mainly on forensic pathology at this point in my  
25 career.

1 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
2 your educational background and training and in the  
3 field of forensic pathology?

4 A Sure. First, I went to college. I received a  
5 bachelor's degree in psychology from Emory University.  
6 After that, I went to the University of North Carolina  
7 in Chapel Hill where I got my four year medical  
8 degree.

9 After that I went to Wake Forest University where  
10 I did my four year residency training. That was in  
11 both anatomic and clinical pathology. Then I stayed  
12 an additional year to do a fellowship specifically in  
13 the field of forensic pathology and then I sat for  
14 board examinations in anatomic pathology, clinical  
15 pathology and forensic pathology. I'm board certified  
16 in all three areas.

17 Q And approximately how many autopsies have you  
18 performed over your career?

19 A Over 1200.

20 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
21 offer Dr. Durso as an expert in the field of forensic  
22 pathology.

23 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

24 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, this expert ---

1 this witness will be an expert qualified in the area  
2 of forensic pathology. She will be allowed to give  
3 opinion testimony in that area. That does not mean  
4 that you must accept her opinion, however, it is  
5 evidence for you to use in any way that you see fit  
6 and give it the weight and credibility that you  
7 believe is appropriate as you are to do with every  
8 single witness. Thank you.

9 Ms. McDuffie, please continue.

10 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

11 Q Dr. Durso, is there a difference between  
12 performing an autopsy on an adult and on a child?

13 A There are a few differences. In any child, we do  
14 what we call a radiological survey as part before we  
15 even cut into the body so we have the radiology  
16 department come down. They do full x-rays over the  
17 entire body, the skull, the extremities, the chest,  
18 the torso, just to look for any evidence of acute or  
19 healing fractures.

20 Q Is that the major difference between a child and  
21 adult autopsy?

22 A As far as the procedure goes, yes.

23 Q So please describe for the ladies and gentlemen  
24 of the jury, when a person is brought to you for  
25 autopsy, what is the first thing you do?

1 A Usually I have a brief report from whoever is  
2 requesting the autopsy. In this case, it was the  
3 Richland County Coroner's office. I'm just given a  
4 little bit of background information, including the  
5 age, that kind of thing, the circumstances surrounding  
6 the death, how the person was found.

7 Then, you know, we identify the body, make sure  
8 we're autopsying the correct person. We go from there  
9 with the external examination.

10 Q So in this case you were performing an autopsy on  
11 whom?

12 A On [REDACTED] Victim [REDACTED].

13 Q Date of birth?

14 A Date of birth was [REDACTED] 2009.

15 Q And when was his date of death?

16 A His date of death was July 1, 2013, and we  
17 performed the autopsy the next day, the next morning  
18 on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

19 Q What information was given to you by the  
20 coroner's office prior to preparing --- prior to  
21 performing the autopsy?

22 A That it was a four-year-old boy who was  
23 pronounced by EMS at his home, that he was possibly a  
24 special needs child, and that the mother stated she  
25 was showering when she heard a loud thump and found

1 him on the floor in the bedroom across the hall in a  
2 fetal type position, and that he was biting his lip  
3 and shaking.

4 Q That was all the information you had?

5 A Yes, that was all the information I had.

6 Q And when a body is brought to you to perform an  
7 autopsy, are you told that there may be possible abuse  
8 or he may have died of a natural death? Are you given  
9 any background in terms of that?

10 A Just given the history that I had, I was  
11 suspicious of abuse in this case just because four  
12 year olds don't just die for no reason for no reason.  
13 The fact that there was just a thump, I think somebody  
14 mentioned a fall from a dresser, chest of drawers, and  
15 that did not sound consistent with something that  
16 could have caused death, so I was suspicious, yes.

17 Q When you perform an autopsy, what is your goal?  
18 What are you trying to do? What information are you  
19 trying to get?

20 A On top of determining the actual cause of death,  
21 we also just want to document any abnormalities,  
22 whether it's natural disease, any kind of injury, just  
23 anything that's not a normal variant in the body, we  
24 want to document and be very thorough.

25 Q Ultimately you're trying to determine the cause

1 of death?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And in this case, you performed an autopsy on

4 [REDACTED] Victim on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013?

5 A Yes.

6 Q What was --- I think you said --- the first thing  
7 you did was an external physical exam?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Please describe for the ladies and gentlemen of  
10 the jury how you proceed with that exam and what you  
11 do?

12 A Along with me are representatives from the  
13 sheriff's department and from the coroner's office  
14 that take the pictures, and I usually --- I have a  
15 diagram and kind of a blank diagram on this case of,  
16 you know, like an infant or a child. Then I just go  
17 from head to toe. You know, I document the child's  
18 length, weight, eye color. I start documenting any  
19 scars, any injuries, anything that is not supposed ---  
20 not a normal, you know, very...

21 Q Typically how long does that take do you do?

22 A In a normal case, five minutes.

23 Q In this case, how long did it take you to perform  
24 the external examination of [REDACTED] Victim ?

25 A About an hour.



1 Q And you said that you prepared diagrams of the  
2 external injuries?

3 A I did.

4 Q I'm showing you State's 255 and 256, are these  
5 the diagrams you prepared at the time of autopsy?

6 A Yes.

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
8 offer 255 and 256.

9 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

10 MR. LI: No objection.

11 THE COURT: All right. Very well. State's 255  
12 and 256 without objection.

13 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Numbers 255 and 256  
14 were admitted into evidence.)

15 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, may the witness step  
16 down?

17 THE COURT: All right. Dr. Durso, may sure you  
18 keep your voice up so that even the jurors on the last  
19 row can hear you.

20 THE WITNESS: Okay.

21 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

22 Q State's 255, if you could please start at the  
23 head of the child and describe the injuries that you  
24 observed.

25 A Sure. So starting with the head, let me see. So

1 there were several scars over the head. There's a  
2 little scar here on his nose, a scar here on his  
3 forehead. Both eyes had what we call orbital  
4 contusions, which in laymen's terms is a black eye.  
5 He had black eyes on both sides. There was a little  
6 patch of discolored skin. It was just kind of  
7 darkened. I wasn't quite sure if that was just he had  
8 darker skin in that area or it was representative of  
9 some kind of underlying injury.

10 He add a small linear abrasion just below his  
11 left eye. Then on his lips, I noticed quite a few  
12 lacerations. When we pulled down his lower lip, there  
13 were quite a few deep injuries to the inside of his  
14 lip, as well as to his lower lip.

15 Q And Dr. Durso, State's 130, which is already in  
16 evidence, can you please point out to the jury the  
17 injuries you just described?

18 A Sure. You can see here the scar I was talking  
19 about on his nose here, and then here you can see the  
20 bite marks to his lip there, and you can also see that  
21 both of his eyes have this kind of purplish  
22 discoloration around them. Again, those are basically  
23 black eyes, bruises to the tissues around his eyes.

24 Q And showing you State's 31, is that the injury to  
25 the lip that you observed?

1 A Yes.

2 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
3 offer state's the 231?

4 THE COURT: Over defense objection.

5 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 231 was  
6 admitted into evidence.)

7 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

8 Q Dr. Durso, if you could please show the ladies  
9 and gentlemen of the jury, on State's 231, show the  
10 injury that you observed to **Victim**.

11 A Right, when we peeled back his lip, you see the  
12 extensive soft tissue injury to his lip in this area.  
13 It's quite deep. There are several areas where you  
14 have these lacerations to his lower lip.

15 Q Is that --- if someone was biting their lip, is  
16 that consistent with that injury?

17 A Well, I mean, if he was biting it very hard, yes,  
18 he could have bitten it.

19 Q And Dr. Durso, did you see any other injuries to  
20 his head as you depicted on your diagram, externally?

21 A Not on the external exam, no, I did not.

22 Q If you could move to his torso, please?

23 A Sure. So there was a small crusted abrasion  
24 right here, which means it was kind of in a state of  
25 healing. You know, as you have abrasions that heal,

1 when they're older you have that scab that heals over  
2 it. There also was some scarring over his right hip,  
3 as well as areas of dark discoloration over his right  
4 hip. Again, he was a dark skinned child. I wasn't  
5 sure if that was bruising or just some old scarring,  
6 but there were definitely some areas that were scar  
7 like and some that were concerning for bruising that  
8 we did not know for sure until we did the full  
9 autopsy.

10 Q If you'll move to his arms.

11 A Arms, sure. There were several scars on his  
12 arms, a scar here on his left upper arm, two scars  
13 right here in this area on his arm, and another small  
14 scar down here on his arm, and then flipping him over,  
15 there was a scar on the back of this arm, two small  
16 superficial abrasions around his elbow.

17 Q Doctor, let me stop you right there. When you  
18 say abrasions, what do you mean?

19 A Scrapes to the skin. You know, something scrapes  
20 your skin and you have a little scratch there, so  
21 abrasions or scrapes. There was also another little  
22 abrasion right here on the back of his shoulder.

23 Q Dr. Durso is that depicted in State's 225?

24 A Yes.

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we would

1 offer 225 into evidence.

2 THE COURT: 225 admitted over defense objections.

3 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 225 was  
4 admitted into evidence.)

5 THE WITNESS: So this is the ---

6 THE COURT: Hold on just a second. Okay, thank  
7 you.

8 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

9 Q Go ahead, Dr. Durso.

10 A So this is on his left shoulder, and you can see  
11 the abrasion that I'm talking about, the scrape to the  
12 skin. It's not a very deep one, but it does look like  
13 it's healing some. There is some crusting of it kind  
14 of forming a scab.

15 Q And then, Dr. Durso, if you could move to the  
16 lower back and buttocks area.

17 A The lower back and buttocks area had a lot of  
18 discoloration that I did not describe because I wanted  
19 to figure out if that was hemorrhage or just kind of  
20 birth mark. I wasn't really sure until really the end  
21 of the autopsy, because at the end of the autopsy, we  
22 were able to make incisions into the skin to see  
23 exactly whether it was hemorrhage or just a birth  
24 mark. We wanted to make sure we were correct in  
25 calling it.

1 Q State's 228, 229 and 227, are these photographs  
2 that you took of 'Victim's lower back,  
3 buttocks, and upper thighs?

4 A Yes.

5 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we would  
6 227, 228, 229 into evidence.

7 THE COURT: Okay, 227, 228, and 229 are admitted  
8 over defense objection.

9 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Numbers 227, 228, and  
10 229 were admitted into evidence.)

11 THE WITNESS: On most of his back injuries, I  
12 kind of ran out of writing room so I had to get  
13 another diagram, so a lot of those are on the  
14 additional diagram to mark everything.

15 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

16 Q Using State's 256 and Exhibit 227, please  
17 describe the injuries to his buttocks that were noted?

18 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, I'm sorry. May we  
19 approach?

20 THE COURT: Yes.

21 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
22 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

23 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, I would object to the  
24 photos.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Understood.

1       You may continue, Dr. Durso.

2       THE WITNESS: Okay.

3 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

4 Q     Again, using State's Exhibit 227?

5 A     Yes, this is his buttock area. Again, you can  
6 kind of see these superficial abrasions along his  
7 buttocks. You can see how darkly discolored this  
8 whole area was. Again, we were concerned that that  
9 whole area represented bruising, and let's see. There  
10 are also a few little abrasions as you can see here  
11 along the backs of his legs, as well as right here.

12 Q     State's 228, Dr. Durso, if you could please  
13 explain to the jury the injury.

14 A     So this is a little bit higher than the last  
15 picture. You can see some scars, and we can also see  
16 here what's considered to be a healing bite mark.

17       You can see the curvature of the mouth and the  
18 teeth marks, but this is a healing wound, so it  
19 happened some time in the past.

20 Q     Can you tell if that bite mark was made by an  
21 adult or a child?

22 A     I went back and looked at the measurements  
23 because I did measure it at the time. It matches up  
24 with more with either a teenager or an adult.

25 Q     Dr. Durso, finally State's 229, can you please

1 describe to the jury the injuries on this photograph  
2 and on your diagram?

3 A Right. So you can see there is an abrasion here  
4 on his right hip. There are also these dark areas of  
5 discoloration that are very concerning to be bruises.  
6 Again, there's this very dark area here on the lower  
7 buttock that, again, is very concerning to being a  
8 bruise.

9 Q Dr. Durso, when you say bruises describe what  
10 exactly is going on in the body with that?

11 A So a bruise is when you have a blunt injury to  
12 the body. I think we've all had bruises in our life  
13 where you have any kind of impact that's a blunt  
14 impact. So instead of cutting the skin, you kind of  
15 crush the tissues underneath the skin, which forms a  
16 bruise so the bleeding is actually underneath the  
17 skin. You have broken blood vessels under there, you  
18 just haven't broken the skin. That's why underneath  
19 that skin you get that bluish color and it eventually  
20 turns yellow and kind of gets broken down, so that's  
21 what a bruise is. It's from a blunt force impact.

22 Q So the blood actually leaves your circulatory  
23 system?

24 A Right, it's now in the soft tissues. Instead of  
25 having blood circulating through the capillaries,



1 veins, arteries, which is where blood should be, it's  
2 now in the soft tissues where it's no longer  
3 circulating and providing oxygen, blood, nutrients to  
4 your organs and your tissues.

5 Q When you bump into something or get a bruise, the  
6 fact that that blood is no longer in your circulatory  
7 system, does that usually cause any immediate, you  
8 know, health condition to an individual?

9 A Well, it certainly hurts, but if it's just a  
10 small bruise, your body can compensate for small  
11 bruises, a little blood loss. Unless you've already  
12 lost a lot of blood for some reason, it wouldn't  
13 affect you, no.

14 Q When that blood, with a normal bruise, goes into  
15 the soft tissue, does it stay there forever?

16 A No, the body has a way of braking down, so it  
17 breaks down the components of the blood. One of the  
18 components is from the iron in your blood and it turns  
19 into hemosiderin, which has that yellow color. I  
20 don't know if you ever watched your bruises go from a  
21 kind of a purplish color to a blue color, and  
22 eventually it's yellow. Yellow just means that the  
23 hemosiderin has broken down those red blood cells.

24 Hemosiderin has scavenger cells that can go in  
25 and get rid of the old blood products. It kind of

1 breaks it all down, and that's why eventually your  
2 bruise will go away.

3 Q What if an individual is constantly and  
4 repeatedly injured over and over again in the same  
5 area?

6 A That bruise would not heal. You would have  
7 continued blood oozing into that area. Your body  
8 could not keep up with trying to scavenge and get rid  
9 of all the old blood cells that it's trying to break  
10 down, but the more blood and the more that's gathered,  
11 the longer it's going to take for your body to get rid  
12 of the blood in the soft tissues and repair itself.

13 Q When the blood leaves the circulatory system and  
14 goes into the soft issues, does it --- is the body  
15 able to make more blood or just how does that process  
16 work?

17 A Right. So if your body --- if you actually get  
18 low on blood, and if you bleed for any reason, into  
19 your soft tissues or you have a wound where you have  
20 actually bled out, if you lose enough blood there are  
21 actually signals that go to your body and go to your  
22 bone marrow where your blood is made. Your body will  
23 rev up its red blood cell production and actually  
24 starts sending out younger blood cells just to get  
25 blood out there so your body can compensate for the

1 blood loss.

2 Q How quickly can you body remake blood?

3 A It depends on how much it needs. It really is  
4 kind of a process. You can lose probably up to  
5 40 percent of your blood rapidly and with some  
6 transfusions recover, but it just really depends on  
7 how quickly you are losing your blood and whether or  
8 not you're getting treatment for it to stop the  
9 bleeding. About 40 percent is where if you don't have  
10 any kind of medical intervention you would probably  
11 die from that.

12 Q Dr. Durso, in this case when you examined the  
13 external injuries, could your tell how deep they were,  
14 how much blood was lost as a result of each of those  
15 injuries?

16 A On the external examination before we did the  
17 autopsy, no.

18 Q What could you tell from the numerous external  
19 injuries that you told the jury about thus far?

20 A Well, based on the scars, the multiple scars on  
21 this child including a healing bite mark, all the  
22 abrasions, the potential bruising, the dark  
23 discoloration on his buttocks, I had great concerns  
24 that this was a chronically abused child.

25 Q And that was evident from looking at it

1 externally?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Moving to his legs, State's 230, is that a  
4 photograph of his legs?

5 A It is.

6 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this we'd offer  
7 230.

8 THE COURT: 230 is admitted over defense  
9 objections.

10 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 230 was  
11 admitted into evidence.)

12 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

13 Q Dr. Durso, please describe for the jury in  
14 State's 230, the condition of **Victim**'s  
15 legs.

16 A You could just see looking at his legs that this  
17 knee looks somewhat normal, but this knee is really,  
18 really swollen. Again, this is just on external  
19 examination that I noted that his knee was swollen,  
20 but I planned to go back and revisit that at the end  
21 of the autopsy and cut into the tissue there to see  
22 what was going on.

23 Q Looking at the front of his legs or where  
24 clothing may not cover, does he have as many bruises  
25 and abrasions as he does in other parts of his body

1 that clothing does cover?

2 A Nowhere near as many on the front. It's really  
3 on the back of him that I saw the most injuries.

4 Q So lower back, buttocks and upper thighs?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Dr. Durso, can you please tell the jury if you  
7 had any other findings on the external exam?

8 A There was actually. Can I flip this?

9 Q Yes.

10 A There was this injury. There was a little  
11 abrasion above his right elbow. Just below it, we  
12 talked about blunt force injuries and scrapes and  
13 bruises. Well, opposite of blunt force injury is a  
14 sharp force injury that actually cuts the skin. There  
15 was actually a small sharp force injury on this arm  
16 here.

17 Q Is that depicted in State's 144?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Describe for the jury what, if any, significance  
20 that had to you?

21 A Just that you could tell that the skin here had  
22 been cut and here is a deeper puncture mark. So this  
23 is something more like with a nail or something that  
24 slid across and impacted him deeper. It was starting  
25 to heal, but it didn't look like it received any kind

1 of medical intervention, sutures, or anything like  
2 that, but it was a sharp force injury.

3 Q Dr. Durso, if you could retake the stand.  
4 (complies.)

5 Q Dr. Durso, after you performed the external  
6 examination to [REDACTED] Victim --- I'm sorry,  
7 prior to performing that you said you did x-rays of  
8 the body?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And then you did the external examination?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And then after the external examination, please  
13 describe for the jury what, if anything, you did?

14 A So after the x-rays --- the x-rays had a few  
15 significant --- can I talk about the x-rays?

16 Q Sure.

17 A So the x-rays did have a few significant  
18 findings, a possible rib fracture, as well as possible  
19 fracture to the left upper arm. I did contact the  
20 pediatric radiologist to review these with me. She  
21 agreed that there were some abnormalities that were  
22 concerning for fractures.

23 Q And that was done prior to any internal  
24 examination?

25 A Right.

1 Q And then when you began an external examination  
2 of the body of [REDACTED] Victim please tell  
3 the ladies and gentlemen how you started that or what  
4 you did first?

5 A For the internal examination, yes, like I said,  
6 we then made that V shaped incision over the chest and  
7 down the abdomen, removed the rib cage and then  
8 proceeded with the internal examination. Overall, the  
9 main part of that part of the internal examination,  
10 the body organs, there were no congenital  
11 abnormalities. There were no major findings within  
12 the major organs.

13 We did note that the thyroid gland, the gland up  
14 around your neck, was really pale, which we usually  
15 see in anyone that has basically bled out that has had  
16 a lot of significant blood loss, so that was a major  
17 finding that we had there.

18 Q Doctor, let me stop you for a minute.

19 A Sure.

20 Q The pale thyroid gland, is that something that  
21 occurs with slow blood loss over time or rapid blood  
22 loss or is it consistent with both types of blood  
23 loss?

24 A It's consistent in both, but we see it more often  
25 with rapid blood loss. It's kind of like you don't

1 have enough blood flow. It's one of the organs that's  
2 not quite as vital, so when you're in hemorrhagic  
3 shock with lot of blood loss, you kind of cut off the  
4 flow to things like your thyroid gland that aren't  
5 quite as essential as say your brain.

6 Q When you say hemorrhagic shock, what does that  
7 mean?

8 A Hemorrhagic shock is when you don't have enough  
9 blood in your circulatory system to get blood flow to  
10 your major organs. So you've lost enough blood either  
11 internally or externally that you no longer have  
12 enough blood pressure, you no longer have enough red  
13 blood cells carrying oxygen to your major organs. The  
14 two most major organs being your brain, which really  
15 needs high blood flow all the time. It's a very  
16 active organ. And the heart, which you need to  
17 continue circulating what blood you do have.

18 Q So when you began your external examination, you  
19 looked at all his major organs and you looked for any  
20 signs of disease or natural cause of death of **Victim**  
21 **[REDACTED]**?

22 A In the internal examination, yes.

23 Q Were your able to find any disease or natural  
24 cause of death during the internal examination?

25 A No.



1 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
2 how your proceeded after that?

3 A So after removing the organs, weighing them, we  
4 took sections of them to look at under the microscope.  
5 We did notice some rib fractures, so ---

6 Q Let me stop you there for a second, Dr. Durso.  
7 When you say you noticed rib fractures, you first  
8 noticed them on the x-rays that were done, correct?

9 A Right. Then we --- once we have the organs out,  
10 we can see the entire rib cage. We can actually  
11 palpate fractures, we can visualize them directly, by  
12 using the x-rays. We did notice two rib fractures,  
13 which involved --- let me make sure I get my numbers  
14 right.

15 Q Dr. Durso, can I show you 240 and 241?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Are those photographs of the ribs that you took?

18 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, at this time we would  
19 offer 240 and 241.

20 THE COURT: 240 and 241 without objection.

21 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 240 and 241  
22 were admitted into evidence.)

23 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

24 Q So Dr. Durso, which ribs did you notice the  
25 injury to?

1 A The left lateral ninth rib, which was also noted  
2 on x-ray, it was starting to form a little callus, so  
3 as the rib heals it has this little reaction. You can  
4 see this bulbous thing on the x-ray, so that was  
5 actually a healing rib fracture.

6 Q Let me stop you for one second. The left lateral  
7 ninth rib, where is that on the body?

8 A Lateral means on the side, so you start counting  
9 from the top, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven,  
10 eight, nine --- you only have 12 ribs so it's fairly  
11 towards the bottom of the rib cage, so over here on  
12 the side.

13 Q On the side? Okay. And this photograph, can you  
14 please show the ladies and gentlemen of the jury where  
15 the fracture is in his left lateral ninth rib?

16 A Sure. So this is a rib that we've removed from  
17 the body. We fixed and formed to kind of make it  
18 easier to study, and so, I don't know how close you  
19 can get, but there is actually a little fracture line  
20 right here and right here. We split the rib in half.  
21 We cut it down the middle so you could really see the  
22 fracture line. You can see there is this kind of  
23 formation of what we call a callus around it, a  
24 healing rib fracture, where there is actually evidence  
25 of healing. So what we do with these fractures is we

1 actually --- we decalcify them and then we are able to  
2 actually cut them, put them in cassettes so that we  
3 can look at them under the microscope on a slide, so I  
4 was able to look at this rib under the microscope to  
5 do more specific dating to confirm that it was a  
6 healing rib fracture.

7 Q When you say a healing rib fracture, how long had  
8 **Victim** been suffering with this injury  
9 prior to his death?

10 A That rib fracture we dated between ten days and  
11 six weeks.

12 Q Can you get any more accurate or precise than  
13 that in your dating of fractures?

14 A No.

15 Q So for at least ten days, but up to six weeks, he  
16 was suffering with this injury?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Would this have been a painful injury?

19 A Yes, rib fractures were always going to be  
20 pretty painful. Anytime you take a deep breath, you  
21 cough, you sneeze, that would have caused considerable  
22 pain.

23 Q So for at least ten days prior to his death, but  
24 up to six weeks, he was in considerable pain from this  
25 injury, the left ninth rib fracture alone?

1 A Yes.

2 Q If we could move to the tenth --- the right tenth  
3 rib?

4 A I think it's the --- yes, the right tenth rib,  
5 yes.

6 Q In State's 240, please describe the fracture you  
7 located in the right posterior tenth rib?

8 A Right posterior is along the back counting nine  
9 down.

10 So we did the same thing for this one as we did  
11 with the other. You know, we cut the bone in half.  
12 You can see that's the bone marrow inside. Here is  
13 the bony part, the shaft of the rib. You can see this  
14 little fracture line right here and right here. So  
15 you split it open. Here is the fracture line. Here  
16 there is no evidence of healing. There is a tiny bit  
17 of hemorrhage, but there is no fracture callus, none  
18 of that bulbous looking like it's trying to heal  
19 itself. This is an acute fracture. This happened  
20 near the time of death.

21 Q The can you give a time range at all on that?

22 A Within twenty-four hours prior to his death.

23 Q So any time within twenty-four hours. It could  
24 have been two minutes before or twenty-four hours  
25 before his death he suffered this injury?

1 A Yes.

2 Q That was the right back tenth rib?

3 A Yes.

4 Q So he had the left ninth and the right back tenth  
5 rib?

6 A Right. Please are two separate complete injures,  
7 both in time and in space.

8 Q Dr. Durso, how does one break ribs? How do those  
9 injuries typically occur?

10 A That's from blunt force injury, being struck  
11 hard. It could be a child being thrown into the wall  
12 and also some posterior rib fractures can be from  
13 extreme squeezing of the child.

14 Q When you say blunt force injury, what are you  
15 talking about?

16 A Anytime the body strikes a hard flat surface,  
17 whether it's the body moving into the surface or it's  
18 somebody taking a hard flat surface and striking  
19 someone, that would be a blunt injury.

20 Q And, Dr. Durso, do blunt force injuries, do they  
21 commonly break the skin or puncture the skin in  
22 anyway?

23 A Not usually, no. They are commonly for injuries  
24 under the skin, for bruises and fractures and that  
25 sort of thing.

1 Q Did you notice or were there any other fractures  
2 in [REDACTED] Victim at the time of his death?

3 A Yes, there was a fracture to his left humerus, so  
4 the left upper arm bone.

5 Q Is that depicted in State's 242?

6 A Yes.

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, we'd offer 242.

8 THE COURT: Admitted without objection, 242.

9 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 242 was  
10 admitted into evidence.)

11 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

12 Q Dr. Durso, if you will, please describe for the  
13 jury the fracture you saw in [REDACTED] Victim's  
14 left arm.

15 A This fracture was a little bit different. There  
16 was no actual fracture line through the middle of the  
17 bone. What we have instead is, we have the outside of  
18 the bone has what we call a periosular reaction, so  
19 it's trying to heal itself, but in addition to that,  
20 there's also acute hemorrhage overlying the fracture,  
21 which indicates it was very likely a site of repeated  
22 injury. So a periosteal reaction, a healing fracture,  
23 and this is one to two weeks old on top of acute  
24 hemorrhage, so this might have been a place where he  
25 was being forcefully grabbed by that --- I'm sorry, it

1 was this arm.

2 Q So if, hypothetically Doctor, if he was being  
3 grabbed by his left arm and he was trying to get away,  
4 would that cause re-injury to that fracture?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Can you date that fracture in any way?

7 A It was very difficult to date because it had a  
8 slightly abnormal pattern of healing, I think, because  
9 it was being reinjured.

10 Q Can your tell how many times it was reinjured?

11 A Obviously at least twice, but I can't tell you  
12 how many more than that.

13 Q It could be more, but it was least two times?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Dr. Durso, the fracture to the left arm, is there  
16 any way to say possibly how long he could have been  
17 suffering with that fracture?

18 A At least --- like I said at least one to two  
19 weeks, probably longer, but it's really hard to date  
20 it because it does have some abnormal healing because  
21 it was reinjured.

22 Q The injury to the humerus, that's what you call  
23 long bone?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Describe how that injury can occur or did occur

1 if you can?

2 A So any hard impact to the bone itself, but also  
3 yanking of the arm by someone could also cause that  
4 injury.

5 Q And, Dr. Durso, would that injury have been  
6 painful?

7 A Extremely.

8 Q Would he have been able to use that arm in a  
9 meaningful way?

10 A No. He probably would have been guarding it  
11 trying not to let anyone touch it. I don't know if  
12 anyone has ever broken a bone, but it's very painful.

13 Q And, Dr. Durso, that fracture is at least one to  
14 two weeks old?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And that injury would have been readily apparent  
17 to any parent or care giver?

18 A He would have been guarding that arm, and I think  
19 any care giver would have noticed that their child was  
20 not using their arm.

21 Q So in addition to the fracture of the left arm,  
22 which would have been very painful, he also had a  
23 fracture to the left rib?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And he had those injuries for how long, I'm



1    sorry?

2    A     The rib fracture dated from ten days to six  
3    weeks. Like I said, I had difficulty dating the left  
4    arm fracture, but I would say about at least one to  
5    two weeks.

6    Q     That was for the first injury?

7    A     Yes.

8    Q     And you also said that there was acute injury to  
9    the arm?

10   A     Right. There was acute hemorrhage overlying  
11   that, so that means it was also reinjured probably  
12   within twenty-four hours prior to his death.

13   Q     So again when you say twenty-four hours prior to  
14   his death, it could have been twenty-four hours and it  
15   could have been 30 seconds?

16   A     Right.

17   Q     Dr. Durso, after you made your radiological  
18   findings, please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the  
19   jury what you then did?

20   A     Next we turn to the head and again the first  
21   thing we do is make incisions along the back of the  
22   scalp. We actually reflect the scalp forward so we  
23   can get to where we need to cut the skull. Before we  
24   cut the skull, we did notice multiple areas of impact  
25   or bruising to his head that were not evident on the

1 external examination. Again, you start with the skin,  
2 he had hair, and we did notice that he had these, I  
3 believe, it was four areas of impact, here, here, the  
4 back of his head, and also the back side of his head.  
5 So, he had these four different impacts. Those are  
6 different planes. That's not consistent with just  
7 least one impact.

8 Q And, Dr. Durso, please tell the ladies and  
9 gentlemen of the jury if those injuries are  
10 significant and why?

11 A Well, any bruising to a child's head is very  
12 significant. The fact that there were multiple ones,  
13 that doesn't mean, you know, if you have a kid that  
14 falls, you might see one impact. They fall, they hit  
15 their head, and that's going to be it. Having  
16 multiple impacts, again, is a sign of an abused child.

17 Q Dr. Durso, are these injuries to the head  
18 consistent with a singular fall?

19 A No.

20 Q A fall from any height?

21 A No.

22 Q After you reflected the scalp and you noticed the  
23 multiple points of impact or bruising on his head,  
24 please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury what  
25 you then did.

1 A So we removed the top of the skull. Underlying  
2 the skull there's several layers before you get to the  
3 brain. The first layer is called the dura. If you  
4 can picture, it's like this white fibrous sheet, like  
5 a white sheet, that overlies your brain just  
6 underneath your skull. Between that sheet and your  
7 brain are these tiny little veins.

8 So in varying children and older adults, that  
9 white sheet, the dura is almost attached to your  
10 skull. Any big impact to your head will cause your  
11 brain in there to move enough away from the dura. It  
12 will tear these veins and cause bleeding between the  
13 dura, that sheet that I described, and the brain  
14 itself. That is called a subdural hemorrhage.

15 This would require significant force, more than a  
16 simple fall. This would be a significant impact that  
17 would break those veins and cause bleeding, so he did  
18 have a subdural hemorrhage on the --- what was it ---

19 (Pause.)

20 --- on the left side, primarily over the left side of  
21 the brain.

22 Q And again, that's not consistent with a fall from  
23 any height?

24 A No.

25 Q Is that caused by anything natural?

1 A No.

2 Q What was the cause or can you state the cause  
3 of --- how does the subdural occur?

4 A So it comes from a blunt force injury that again,  
5 would give enough of a jolt to the head that the brain  
6 would move and the dura that's kind of attached to the  
7 skull, and it would just rip those veins.

8 Q Dr. Durso, did [REDACTED] Victim [REDACTED] have any  
9 skull fractures?

10 A He did not have any skull fractures, no.

11 Q Is that finding consistent with the subdural you  
12 saw in his brain?

13 A It is consistent.

14 Q Explain to the jury how that works.

15 A So you can have a blow that's hard enough to jolt  
16 the brain and tear those veins, but not hard enough to  
17 actually break the skull. I mean, the bone is pretty  
18 thick, but when you are four years old, the skull is  
19 really starting to thicken. It's harder to break than  
20 in a younger child.

21 Q In a four-year-old it would be much more  
22 difficult to break the skull than in a two-month-old?

23 A Right.

24 Q Dr. Durso, the subdural that you just described  
25 for the ladies and gentlemen of the jury, can you date

1 that in any way?

2 A Yes. If it's kind of fresh, it kind of looks red  
3 and it just kind of falls out, but this was actually  
4 like a red membrane that we could easily peel from the  
5 brain in one piece, which made me think it was a  
6 little bit older. It did not look yellow in color,  
7 which would mean it was even older, because like I  
8 said before, when blood breaks down, it starts to turn  
9 yellow.

10 I took sections of it and I was able to look at  
11 it under the microscope to look for signs of healing.  
12 There have been many studies about what you look for  
13 and how many days, and it dated between five and seven  
14 days.

15 Q That injury occurred from five to seven days  
16 prior to his death?

17 A Prior to his death. After death all healing  
18 stops. It doesn't matter how long after the autopsy  
19 was. This was at his death.

20 Q Dr. Durso, would that injury have had any impact  
21 on his day-to-day life, cognitive functions?

22 A Right, there was enough bleeding in there that it  
23 was not enough to cause his actual death, because  
24 you'd have to have enough bleeding to put pressure on  
25 the brain for the brain to actually herniate

1 downwards, but it was enough that it would have put  
2 some pressure on his brain. He was probably acting  
3 kind of tired, lethargic; it's very likely he could  
4 have vomited, even temporarily lost consciousness  
5 after the blow.

6 Q Dr. Durso, would symptoms of this injury be  
7 readily apparent to any person caring for this child?

8 A Yeah, I think someone would notice that their  
9 child was not acting right.

10 Q And, Dr. Durso, you said that the subdural alone  
11 was not enough to cause his death, correct?

12 A Correct.

13 Q It was just one injury that you noted in your  
14 autopsy?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the jury  
17 what you did further?

18 A So after the completion of the internal exam and  
19 that portion, we were very concerned about all the  
20 findings on his back, the dark discoloration, so we  
21 flipped the child over on his stomach so we could see  
22 his back. We actually ourselves make incisions into  
23 the skin, the soft tissue, and even the muscle on the  
24 back.

25 So we made multiple incisions along the back, you

1 know, extending all the way down his back along his  
2 buttocks, all the way along the back of his legs and  
3 on the back of his arms. I think we were all pretty  
4 horrified to see just how much bleeding and hemorrhage  
5 there was pretty much in every cut that we made. He  
6 had bleeding of different ages. There was a lot of  
7 yellow swollen areas that show an older injury, as  
8 well as dark red, bright red hemorrhage.

9 Q And, Dr. Durso, when you had to make these cuts  
10 down the back of [REDACTED] Victim, describe for  
11 the jury the amount of blood loss that you observed,  
12 where it was, and the significance of that.

13 A So the majority of the blood loss was in his  
14 lower back and buttocks. When we cut into the  
15 buttocks on the left side, there was hemorrhage. It  
16 was four centimeters deep. That's about, you know,  
17 two-and-a-half inches deep into a small child's  
18 buttocks, so it's deep into the muscle at that point.  
19 That's beyond anything that could be caused by  
20 spanking. This is a hard object hitting this child in  
21 order to cause hemorrhage that deep, and that was a  
22 lot of dark red hemorrhage.

23 Again, there were areas of more yellow hemorrhage  
24 mostly on the backs of his legs. There was hemorrhage  
25 on the backs of his arms. Like I said, I've never

1 seen a child with this many areas of bruising this  
2 severe.

3 Q And, Dr. Durso, the areas of hemorrhage that you  
4 noted, could you tell when these injuries were  
5 inflicted on the child?

6 A Well, again, we can't date bruising. Subdurals  
7 have a way of healing that we can date by the way the  
8 body heals, but unfortunately bruising either has  
9 hemosiderin that break down product that makes it  
10 yellow or it's dark red without that. So you can't  
11 really date the yellow areas and there were quite a  
12 few yellow areas with a lot of edema, which is  
13 swelling, which is the body's reaction when you have  
14 such severe injury in the soft tissue, and like I  
15 said, even extending into the muscle itself.

16 So we can't date a bruise other than to say that  
17 there were some areas that were dark red, bright red  
18 that were probably less than eighteen to twenty-four  
19 hours old, so very recent as well as significant  
20 injury that was much older, and I mean, there was just  
21 as much old injury as there was new injury, so it was  
22 all of this together that contributed to the blood  
23 loss of this child so the blood that was in his soft  
24 tissue is --- he no longer able to circulate enough  
25 blood to give oxygen whatever he needs to his brain to



1 maintain his vital functions in his body.

2 Q So if I understand it, Dr. Durso, **Victim**  
3 **[REDACTED]** was repeatedly and consistently beaten?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And those repeated and consistent beatings caused  
6 him to lose so much blood from his circulatory system  
7 and go into his soft tissues that his body couldn't  
8 function anymore?

9 A Correct, this was a small child so based on his  
10 weight, the total amount of blood within his  
11 vasculature, his blood vessels that he should have  
12 had, was only about 1600 milliliters, so that's less  
13 than two liters. When you look at a two liter bottle  
14 of soda, he had less than that as his normal blood  
15 volume.

16 All of that soft tissue hemorrhage is easily  
17 enough to put him over the point of losing more than  
18 40 percent, because it was chronic. He might have  
19 compensated some, but there is no way he could have  
20 compensated for that amount of blood loss into his  
21 soft tissues.

22 Q Dr. Durso, the amount of blood loss into the soft  
23 tissue and the repeated injuries, would those have  
24 caused him pain?

25 A Extreme pain. I mean, I don't know if any of you

1 have ever had a bruise to your body and you actually  
2 bump into it again; it's excruciating. For these deep  
3 bruises, especially even into the muscles, if you  
4 would just try to use those muscles, it would have  
5 hurt. For this child to even try to sit down would  
6 have been excruciating.

7 Q What would day to day life been like for him?

8 A He would have been in pain from the moment he  
9 woke up until the moment he went to bed.

10 Q Would this have been readily apparent to any  
11 person who came into contact with the child?

12 A I would think they would notice the child acting  
13 like children act when they're in severe pain.

14 Q Dr. Durso, are the injuries from **Victim**  
15 **████** in any way caused by natural causes or an  
16 accident?

17 A No.

18 Q Are they all inflicted injuries?

19 A These are inflicted, intentionally inflicted,  
20 injuries to this child.

21 Q Dr. Durso, are these injuries the result of one  
22 incident of spanking or falling?

23 A No, this is cumulative. Like I said, the older  
24 and the newer bruises and hemorrhages into his  
25 tissues, as well as the older and newer fractures that

1 we noted indicate that he had been chronically abused.

2 Like I said, it's the blood loss, not just from  
3 the last incident, that put him over the edge. This  
4 last incident alone wouldn't have killed him. It was  
5 all of the hemorrhaging, along with all of this time,  
6 that finally led to him losing enough blood that he  
7 died.

8 Q Prior to him --- let me rephrase the question.  
9 Dr. Durso, the final time that he was hit or struck  
10 that caused the blood loss, that in itself was not  
11 enough to kill him?

12 A No.

13 Q It was everything together and then that just  
14 happened to be the final thing that ---

15 A Right. You have a limit on how much blood you  
16 can lose. When you go over that limit and your brain  
17 is no longer getting that blood supply, that's when he  
18 would have died, that last bit of blood that came out  
19 into his soft tissues after that beating.

20 Q If someone had done anything to get him any sort  
21 of medical treatment, could he have recovered from  
22 these injuries potentially prior to this final ---

23 A Yes. If no one had kept on beating him, he might  
24 have needed a transfusion, but he could have been  
25 treated and survived.

1 Q Dr. Durso, in your autopsy, your cause of death  
2 is what?

3 A Extensive soft tissue hemorrhage and bleeding  
4 that I described as due to multiple acute and healing  
5 blunt force injuries due to non-accidental trauma.

6 Q So he, [REDACTED] Victim died from constant  
7 and persistent and repeated abuse?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And, Dr. Durso, you also --- when you were  
10 performing your internal examination, you examined all  
11 the systems of the body?

12 A Yes.

13 Q You also had toxicology run?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And that came back negative?

16 A I'm sure it did.

17 (Pause.)

18 Yes, it came back negative.

19 Q Did you also look at the contents of his stomach?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did [REDACTED] Victim have anything in his  
22 stomach?

23 A He had a little bit. Let me go back and read it  
24 so I know exactly.

25 Less than 50 milliliters, which isn't all that

1 much of yellow material, that he had started to  
2 digest.

3 Q Can you tell what that was, if anything?

4 A Not specifically, something that was kind of  
5 yellowish probably to begin with, but I can't tell you  
6 anything further.

7 Q And, Dr. Durso, the weight of the child at death  
8 would that be --- or the weight at autopsy, would that  
9 be indicative of his weight when he was alive?

10 A Well, I mean, he weighed 46 pounds, but again  
11 when you have a lot of swelling, especially with  
12 swelling on soft tissues, it might skew the weight.  
13 He looked quite thin. We could see his ribs pretty  
14 prominently.

15 I was concerned about malnourishment, but given  
16 the weight I had to use was the 46 pounds, he didn't  
17 fall into the malnourished category, although I  
18 expected he might have been malnourished because I  
19 don't really have a formula to subtract whatever the  
20 weight was from the soft tissue swelling that he had  
21 in his knee and back and that sort of thing.

22 Q Dr. Durso, can you pinpoint the exact time that  
23 he died?

24 A No.

25 Q When EMS arrived, they reported that he was cold

1 to the touch. Is that significant to you in any way?

2 A It probably depends on the temperature of the  
3 room, so, you know, there's no scientific rule to say  
4 this is the temperature, so he must have been dead,  
5 you know, exactly two hours, because there's so many  
6 variables, how warm was the person to begin with, how  
7 warm was the environment around them would affect how  
8 quickly he would cool off. If he was in a very cold  
9 room it won't take but less than an hour for him to be  
10 cold to the touch. If he was in a warm room, it would  
11 probably take a few hours.

12 Q If the mother reported that he was still alive  
13 when she was on the phone with 911 call and when EMS  
14 arrived four minutes later he was cold to the touch,  
15 would that be consistent, assuming that the room is a  
16 normal 72 degrees?

17 A I likely think it would have been likely that he  
18 had been dead a little bit longer than that, but  
19 there's no real way for me to know exactly.

20 Q And, Dr. Durso, again your cause of death was  
21 what?

22 A Extensive soft tissue hemorrhage due to multiple  
23 acute and healing blunt force injuries due to non-  
24 accidental trauma.

25 Q And, Dr. Durso, you testified earlier that you

1 have performed approximately 1200 autopsies?

2 A Over 1200 autopsies, yes.

3 Q Have you ever seen any injuries that were like  
4 this before?

5 A Not this severe in my career to this point, and I  
6 really hope I never do again.

7 MS. McDUFFIE: Thank you, Judge. No further  
8 questions.

9 THE COURT: All right. We're going to take a  
10 break ladies and gentlemen. If you'll retire to your  
11 jury room. Do not discuss the case. Keep an open  
12 mind. Thank you very much. Everyone remain seated  
13 while the jurors are excused.

14 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
15 10:46 a.m.)

16 THE COURT: Okay. Dr. Durso, you are allowed to  
17 step down. You are not allowed to discuss your  
18 testimony with anybody. When we come back, if you'll  
19 just be seated in the witness stand. Thank you very  
20 much.

21 THE WITNESS: Sure.

22 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Okay. We'll  
23 take up other issues after I do this plea.

24 THE COURT: All right. Ms. Pinnock.

25 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, Your Honor. We're missing

1 will Mr. Li.

2 THE COURT: We're missing who?

3 MS. PINNOCK: Mr. Li. Okay.

4 (Pause.)

5 MR. LI: Sorry, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: That's all right. Ms. Pinnock?

7 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you, Your Honor. May it  
8 please the Court. Your Honor, I'm respectfully asking  
9 for a mistrial at this point. Juror number 143  
10 yesterday and today when they were --- when the jury  
11 was shown the pictures that have been introduced into  
12 evidence, that particular juror has been covering her  
13 eyes and a number of times today was ducking down  
14 below the barrier so she could not view the pictures.  
15 I understand that there is evidence in this case  
16 that's hard to deal with, but I think her reaction  
17 is --- there is a high possibility it's having a very  
18 negative effect on everybody else in the jury.

19 Again, she is covering her eyes, refusing to look  
20 at stuff, burying her face in her hands and ducking  
21 her head. I think at this point the appropriate thing  
22 to do declare a mistrial. At this point, I think the  
23 entire jury is tainted.

24 MR. LI: I join in the objection.

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, I don't believe that there



1 is any manifest necessity for a mistrial. The images  
2 are hard to look at, and I understand that, Your  
3 Honor. However, they were only shown to the jury to  
4 illustrate the doctor's testimony. They were not put  
5 up there for prolonged periods or extended periods of  
6 time or repeatedly shown for, you know, any purpose or  
7 to make the jury cry. Your Honor, she was paying  
8 attention. She did look down and cover her eyes at  
9 some points, but she was paying attention during the  
10 testimony. I don't think there is any evidence that  
11 she would not be a fair and impartial juror.

12 THE COURT: Are you referring to the young  
13 African American female that is today seated on the  
14 second row to the far left?

15 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: Okay. I actually moved when --- for  
17 the record, Ms. Pinnock approached during Dr. Durso's  
18 testimony and brought this issue up, so she did object  
19 when it happened. I'm just stating that to cover that  
20 on the record. I told her we weren't going to stop  
21 where we were now, but I would let her put her  
22 reasoning on the record later. She did bring this up  
23 during the middle of Dr. Durso's testimony. At that  
24 time, I actually moved, for the record, to the back of  
25 the jury box specifically to watch that juror and see

1 what she was doing or what she was not doing.

2 While there were times when her head was down,  
3 most of the time --- I did not see an issue where her  
4 eyes were closed, where she was ignoring anything that  
5 was in front of her. Her head was down at times, but  
6 I mean, the jurors are not required to stare at every  
7 single thing that either side picks up or puts up in  
8 front of them.

9 It was not a case of her sleeping or her ignoring  
10 something or anything else. Further, all this  
11 evidence will go back in the jury room with her, so  
12 she would have an opportunity to be provided it and  
13 look at it. I akin to her --- to any juror staring  
14 off in the audience while a witness is testifying or  
15 while an exhibit is up there.

16 I believe there is no manifest necessity. The  
17 defense has shown no evidence --- no cases on point  
18 that deal with this issue directly in any way, shape,  
19 or form and I'm going to deny your motion for a  
20 mistrial. It doesn't matter --- I mean, jurors are  
21 going to have reactions to evidence, and I don't  
22 believe that we can stop that. We can't stop people  
23 from their natural reactions. That's why I --- that's  
24 part of the reason why I took a break and allowed any  
25 form of composure that may be necessary, so your

1 motion for a mistake trial is denied.

2 Okay. Bring the jury back in.

3 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, if I may, I have one  
4 more thing before we bring the jury in. Our next  
5 witness is a clerk who overheard a conversation  
6 between the two of them. This defendant appears to  
7 have said that --- she heard her say that she can't go  
8 back to jail. We told her to stay away from that.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
11 11:24 a.m.)

12 THE BAILIFF: All jurors are present.

13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.  
14 Thank you very much for allowing me to have that  
15 break. I was actually able to handle a matter,  
16 completely unrelated to this case, from another county  
17 that had been scheduled for a significant amount of  
18 time. Normally I would have moved something, but I  
19 had people traveling in from other counties just to do  
20 that. I do apologize and take full responsibility.

21 THE COURT: Cross-examination of Dr. Durso, Mr.  
22 Li.

23 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please  
24 the court.

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

CROSS-EXAMINATION:

2 BY MR. LI:

3 Q Good morning, Dr. Durso.

4 A Good morning.

5 Q Dr. Durso, you mentioned that there was a  
6 significant loss of blood; is that correct?

7 A Correct.

8 Q And that there was approximately two liters of  
9 blood left in **Victim**?

10 A Well, his original blood volume in a healthy  
11 child that weighs 46 pounds would be a little under  
12 two liters, that would be his normal blood volume in  
13 an uninjured child.

14 Q A normal child that weighed only 46 pounds,  
15 correct?

16 A Yes, that would have a less than two liters of  
17 blood to begin with.

18 Q To begin with, correct, but you also tested ---  
19 **Victim** didn't originally weigh --- his blood loss  
20 contributed to his weight, correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q So because after a certain amount of blood loss,  
23 his weight was already reduced?

24 A Right.

25 Q And blood loss from prior, prior injuries or

1 blood loss from the final injury?

2 A Just, I guess --- I'm sorry?

3 Q Was the blood loss due to the final injury or  
4 blood loss due to previous injuries that caused him to  
5 only weigh 46 pounds?

6 A Well, he weighed more --- in a healthy child. ---

7 Q Yes.

8 A He probably, without all that soft tissue  
9 hemorrhage and edema, he probably would have weighed  
10 less, but he actually weighed more because he had all  
11 that soft tissue swelling in his body, which, you  
12 know, he probably might have only weighed about  
13 40 pounds. He could have had as much as, you know,  
14 six pounds of soft tissue swelling and blood loss into  
15 his back.

16 Q I got you, and the acute injuries that you  
17 mentioned, there were two acute injuries, correct?

18 A There was the acute rib fracture, as well as some  
19 of the blunt force injuries, the bleeding that I noted  
20 when I cut down his back, were acute injuries, yes.

21 Q Let's talk about the rib injury first. What was  
22 the acute one?

23 A Yes.

24 Q What was your estimated timeframe on the ---

25 A Within twenty-four hours. Within twenty-four

1 hours you do start to see evidence of healing. Again,  
2 I looked at this one under the microphone for evidence  
3 of healing and there was none, so I don't know if it  
4 happened in the seconds before he died or if it  
5 happened up to twenty-four hours. I cannot give you a  
6 specific time for that.

7 Q It could have been the actual final blow?

8 A It could have been, yes.

9 Q And the acute injuries, the acute hemorrhages in  
10 the buttocks?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What was your estimated timeframe on that?

13 A Probably within eighteen to twenty-four hours,  
14 and again I think that whatever the final blow was,  
15 probably was, you know, within minutes before his  
16 death to cause that last bit of blood loss that caused  
17 him to die.

18 Q And that could have been also part of the final  
19 blow, correct?

20 A Yes.

21 Q I'm not saying the whole cause of death?

22 A Right, part of the final blow.

23 Q Part of the final blow. And that's because of  
24 the presence or lack of hemosiderin?

25 A The lack of hemosiderin. Hemosiderin is

1 something you see when you are starting to break down  
2 the blood and it gives it that yellow color.

3 Q As far as the bruises on baby Guinyard's body,  
4 as far as the bruises on **Victim**'s body, he was a dark  
5 skinned child?

6 A He was, yes.

7 Q And his bruises were difficult to see?

8 A Yes.

9 Q To the naked eye?

10 A Right. On the external examination I mentioned a  
11 lot of areas of dark discoloration. Like I said, I  
12 didn't want to call them bruises until I could cut  
13 into them and confirm that that was actually blood and  
14 not just his skin pigmentation.

15 Q And that's actually why you had to cut into him,  
16 correct?

17 A It is.

18 Q Were those on the front or the back, if you can  
19 recall?

20 A Primary on the back, yes.

21 Q Primarily on the back, and you said those were  
22 difficult to see with the naked eye?

23 A Right, the actual bruises.

24 Q And the other injuries that you saw, the ones  
25 that you --- the bruises that couldn't date within

1 eighteen to twenty-four hours, the older hemorrhages?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Any way to get a more specific date on those?

4 A There is really no scientific way of dating  
5 bruises. People try and try, but there is really no  
6 tried and true scientific way to do it, so I cannot  
7 date them, no.

8 Q In fact, the reason that it's difficult is  
9 because that if you're reinjured on the same bruise,  
10 then you can't tell the healing pattern, or I guess  
11 the progression of the healing ---

12 A Right.

13 Q --- or an estimated time?

14 A Right. The acute on top of the chronic.

15 Q That's right. And does that go the same for the  
16 arm injury, as well?

17 A Yes, again, there was an acute injury on top of  
18 one that appeared to be healing, so again it makes it  
19 very difficult to date.

20 Q The --- you wrote a preliminary report for this  
21 case, correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And then you wrote a final report, correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And in the preliminary report on the date of



1 death you just put July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, correct?

2 A I should have put July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

3 Q As the date of death?

4 A Oh, date of death, yes, July 1<sup>st</sup> and the autopsy  
5 was July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

6 Q That's right and in your final report, for the  
7 date of death, you put down July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 at  
8 6:15 p.m., correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Let's talk --- I think that Ms. McDuffie talked a  
11 little bit about being able to place the time of  
12 death,

13 A Right.

14 Q That's basically based on temperature, correct?

15 A Right. The way I do the time of death, I base  
16 that entirely on the coroner's reports ---

17 Q Uh-huh.

18 A --- since they're the ones that respond to the  
19 crime scene and look at rigor, livor, temperature, and  
20 they're in the actual environment, so how warm or cold  
21 the room is, so I depend on them to come up with their  
22 estimation of the time of death. I simply, whatever  
23 they have on the coroner's report, I put that on my  
24 report. This is not something I came up with. This  
25 is something the coroner's office came up with.

1 Q So you actually get the report from the coroner's  
2 office?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Do you remember --- you said you worked with many  
5 of these coroner's reports before?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And you're aware that on the box --- there is box  
8 on it that says "estimated"?

9 A Yes.

10 Q You're aware that for this case the time of death  
11 was not checked as estimated?

12 A I do not remember that, but if you say so I  
13 believe you.

14 Q And that's what you were working off of?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Correct? You weren't at the scene and you didn't  
17 take the temperature?

18 A Yes. My primary reason for doing the autopsy  
19 wasn't to determine the time of death, I was looking  
20 more at documenting the injuries and determining the  
21 actual cause of death.

22 Q Now, in terms of --- in terms of just, I guess,  
23 scientifically, to determine the time of death,  
24 temperature is a big factor, correct?

25 A It's a factor, but it's not a very scientific

1 factor as far as --- like I said, there are so many  
2 variables as to how warm the body is before death.  
3 You know, if someone has a fever, obviously they're  
4 going to cool off slower than not, and the temperature  
5 of the room has a lot to do with it, as well.

6 Q That's correct. So if his temperature --- if  
7 somebody's temperature was low to begin with, they may  
8 appear, to the touch it may appear cooler than a  
9 person who had a higher starting temperature before  
10 they died, correct?

11 A Correct.

12 Q And blood --- the amount of blood that's in a  
13 person's system is a factor in temperature, correct?

14 A I would say more as temperature warming --- it  
15 has a lot to do with body fat and how insulated the  
16 person is.

17 Q And so if --- and additionally, the temperature  
18 of the room?

19 A Right.

20 Q Is a ---

21 A Yes it's a big factor. If someone is sitting in  
22 front of a gas fireplace, they're obviously not going  
23 to cool off very quickly. If they're outside in the  
24 winter, they're going to cool off very quickly.

25 Q Because theoretically, the lowest the temperature

1 the body could get would be the ambient temperature  
2 around them?

3 A Yes, exactly.

4 Q So their temperature would just drop to whatever  
5 temperature that the room was in, right?

6 A Yes.

7 Q You didn't have any information as to how hot it  
8 was that day?

9 A No.

10 Q You didn't have any information as to what the  
11 temperature was inside the home?

12 A No.

13 Q Okay. And you testified earlier that the cause  
14 of death was from a prolonged period of chronic abuse,  
15 correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And it wasn't just one single incident?

18 A No.

19 Q Couldn't have been just one single incident?

20 A No.

21 Q And that the injuries to the two --- and I'm  
22 sorry for being repetitive, the two major acute  
23 injuries that you saw were the rib fracture and the  
24 bruising in the buttocks?

25 A Right, the dark red hemorrhage that I saw in the

1 buttocks and the back.

2 Q And the ---

3 A And the arm.

4 Q And it's possible that those two injuries ---  
5 that those two injuries were the final blow?

6 A It's very possible, yes.

7 Q Because the time periods match.

8 A Yes.

9 Q The others overlap. And the final blow --- the  
10 hemorrhaging in the buttocks would have caused extreme  
11 pain?

12 A Correct.

13 Q To where this child would not even be able to sit  
14 down?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And a reasonable person would notice this?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And also with the rib fracture?

19 A Yes.

20 Q A reasonable person would have noticed that this  
21 child was not even raising their hand and they were  
22 hurting, correct?

23 A Right, that they couldn't move their arm.

24 Q Right. And it was just --- it would be apparent  
25 to the average person?

1 A I think anyone taking care of the child would  
2 have noticed that ---

3 Q Okay.

4 A --- that the child was in pain and wasn't acting  
5 like a normal four-year-old.

6 MR. LI: Beg the Court's indulgence.

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 (Pause.)

9 BY MR. LI:

10 Q And when you made your earlier --- bruises ---  
11 some of the bruises on **Victim**'s back you couldn't tell  
12 right away with your naked eye?

13 A Right. I was very suspicious because they had  
14 that dark discoloration.

15 Q Right. There was why you made the cuts?

16 A To conform they were bruises, I had to cut into  
17 it, yes.

18 Q And tell me what is lividity?

19 A Lividity?

20 Q Yes.

21 A So lividity is a post mortem phenomenon where  
22 after death blood settles into the vessels based on  
23 gravity, so if you die and you lay on your back, the  
24 blood that are in your vessels settle towards whatever  
25 gravity --- dependent on --- if you are leaning up

1 against something, it will settle there, so you can  
2 actually see a pattern in the lividity.

3 Now, this is different than hemorrhage into the  
4 soft tissues. This is --- lividity is still within  
5 the blood vessels and you could actually, within  
6 twenty-four hours, you could press your finger on it  
7 and it will actually glance, you could get it to move  
8 out of the blood vessels and then it will, you know,  
9 come back in.

10 Q It's because of gravity that the blood settles?

11 A Right, the blood is settling.

12 Q So, if a person was laying one way, say  
13 horizontally, the blood would settle to the bottom  
14 with gravity?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Making the skin on the top side of it, actually  
17 making bruises appear more visible, correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q So the bruises that are in some of these pictures  
20 are postmortem, correct?

21 A Yes. Wait, what do you mean? I'm sorry, I ---

22 Q These, obviously, these are post mortem pictures,  
23 correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Because of lividity, some of the bruises are

1 actually enhanced or more visible in the pictures than  
2 they would be closer to the time of death or closer  
3 before lividity set in, correct?

4 A Sometimes in the areas of the --- where you don't  
5 have lividity, yes. They can become more apparent as  
6 the blood leaves the blood vessels surrounding it  
7 because that's in the soft tissues and that doesn't  
8 really change. If it was on the back, it might make  
9 it more difficult to see.

10 Q Right. Only if we're assuming that he's laying  
11 on his back?

12 A On his back ---

13 Q And if he is laying stomach down, then by the  
14 same --- it's ---

15 A Then that makes it opposite, yes.

16 Q Again, the cause of death was not malnutrition,  
17 correct?

18 A No.

19 Q And **Victim** only weighed 46 pounds?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Which you testified earlier that the weight of a  
22 person affects the temperature of the person, the  
23 amount of fat?

24 A Right.

25 Q And Dr. Durso, you're fully competent to testify



1 to everything in your report, correct?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And you're fully competent to testify that this  
4 child died from a period --- from chronic abuse over a  
5 prolonged period of time, correct?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you need somebody to review your notes?

8 A No. I'm confident.

9 Q Do you need somebody to tell you what --- to give  
10 another opinion?

11 A Not in this case, no.

12 MR. LI: Thank you so much. No further  
13 questions.

14 THE COURT: Cross?

15 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

17 BY MS. PINNOCK:

18 Q Good morning, Doctor.

19 A Good morning.

20 Q Hemorrhagic shock?

21 A Yes.

22 Q You said that's when the body pretty much just  
23 shuts down because the blood is not circulating?

24 A Correct.

25 Q It's an extreme blood loss and one of the

1 symptoms of that is you could seize?

2 A Yes, you may have seizures, yes.

3 Q Now, you testified about a laceration on the lip?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Would somebody seizing and biting their lip be  
6 consistent with that injury?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And again, that would be a possible symptom of  
9 the hemorrhagic shock?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Now, with the bruising and all the hemorrhages  
12 acute is anything under eighteen hours?

13 A Yes, within eighteen to twenty-four hours, within  
14 that timeframe, less than eighteen to twenty-four  
15 hours.

16 Q So chronic would be anything over eighteen to  
17 twenty-four hours?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And you can't do any better --- get any closer  
20 than that?

21 A That's the best I can do, yes.

22 Q You testified that the diagrams you did, the  
23 external injuries that you documented, the majority of  
24 those injuries were superficial?

25 A Yes.

1 Q The abrasions and stuff like that?

2 A Yes.

3 Q So they did not contribute to the death?

4 A No.

5 Q Now, you did some slides?

6 A I did.

7 Q You did some slides on the back and buttock area?

8 A Yes.

9 Q That's when you found that hemosiderin was  
10 present?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And hemosiderin shows up at what point?

13 A Around eighteen hours you can start to see some  
14 hemosiderin.

15 Q Those would be acute injuries?

16 A That did not ---

17 Q I'm sorry, chronic injuries, if there's  
18 hemosiderin?

19 A Yes, it's an older injury that's healing at that  
20 point.

21 Q And the slides you did of that same area, if  
22 there's no hemosiderin, it's anywhere from eighteen  
23 to twenty-four hours or less.

24 A Yes.

25 Q You can't say it's twenty minutes, can't say it's

1 five minutes, can't say it's two hours?

2 A I could not.

3 Q Twenty-four hours or less?

4 A No.

5 Q Did you testify before, I might have missed it,  
6 with the healing rib fracture? That's dated anywhere  
7 from ten days to six weeks?

8 A Yes.

9 Q So with the acute rib fracture, is it safe to  
10 assume --- if I'm wrong, please tell me --- that it's  
11 anywhere up to ten days?

12 A No, actually there are some changes you see  
13 within twenty-four hours up to ten days.

14 Q Okay.

15 A But I did not see those. I really didn't see any  
16 healing, so this is, you know, less than twenty-four  
17 hours.

18 Q And is it your testimony that there was evidence  
19 of chronic injury to this child?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And the cause of death that you came to was  
22 because of the blunt injuries it was massive blood  
23 loss?

24 A Yes.

25 Q He was --- he did not pass because of starvation?

1 A No.

2 Q It was the major blood loss?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And one of these symptoms, again, can be a  
5 seizure?

6 A Right.

7 Q When your body is shutting down ---

8 A You no longer having oxygen to your brain. A lot  
9 of events can cause seizures. People have seizures  
10 just from having a heart attack. Sometimes people  
11 have seizure like activity at the end, yes.

12 Q Okay. And you were not provided any information  
13 from the coroner's office about what happened at 104  
14 Beaverbrook on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013, were you?

15 A June 29<sup>th</sup>, no.

16 Q Were you provided anything about what happened  
17 June 30<sup>th</sup>?

18 A No.

19 Q Okay. They told you --- when they got there,  
20 when they responded to the house?

21 A Right, the coroner's office responded first after  
22 the death was reported and that was the only  
23 information I was provided, yes.

24 Q And Mr. Li brought up a question about the time  
25 of death you put on your report. You went off what

1 information the coroner's office told you because they  
2 were there?

3 A Yes.

4 MS. PINNOCK: Beg the Court's indulgence.

5 (Pause.)

6 BY MS. PINNOCK:

7 Q And, Dr. Durso, you testified that there was a  
8 bite mark was on **Victim**'s back?

9 A Yes.

10 Q It was a healing bite mark, right?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And you can't say if it was an adult or a child,  
13 can you?

14

15 A Like I said, I went back and looked at the  
16 measurements. I did measure the bite mark, and when I  
17 looked back at the chart it looked to be more like on  
18 older, like a teenager or adult. It was most  
19 consistent with that, based on the size of the bite  
20 mark.

21 Q Do you know the date that you went back and  
22 looked?

23 A I looked recently just this past week.

24 Q Okay.

25 Q But that was healing?

1 A That was healing, yes.

2 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Redirect.

4 MS. McDUFFIE: Briefly, Your Honor.

5 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

6 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

7 Q Dr. Durso, Mr. Li talked to you a little about  
8 when you first saw the massive skin discoloration on  
9 the back buttocks and thigh of this child you didn't  
10 want to call it a bruise did you?

11 A No.

12 Q You base your information on scientific facts  
13 that can be proven?

14 A Yes.

15 Q When something appears, or looks like something,  
16 you don't automatically call it that, do you?

17 A No, we want to confirm that we're calling it the  
18 correct thing. We don't want to be wrong in these  
19 cases.

20 Q That's why you take the additional step of  
21 cutting into it to confirm that this is a bruise,  
22 correct?

23 A Yes.

24 Q You never saw this child when the child was  
25 alive, did you?

1 A I never did, no.

2 Q So if the child had a skin condition, you would  
3 not know that?

4 A No.

5 Q But a parent would know that, wouldn't they?

6 A I would think, yes.

7 Q If the child's skin looked normal and didn't have  
8 this on it and then it was as you saw it at the time  
9 of death, was that noticeable?

10 A I would be very concerned if it was my child and  
11 their skin was changing can colors, yes, I would seek  
12 medical attention.

13 Q Dr. Durso, he also talked to you a little bit  
14 about lividity, and again, if someone is laying flat  
15 on their back, the blood goes where?

16 A It goes towards their back, it's just gravity.

17 Q Is there any way because of the way the person is  
18 laying at the time of death for blood to get into the  
19 soft tissues from lividity?

20 A Not unless they are starting to decompose.

21 Q In this case, was this body starting to  
22 decompose?

23 A No.

24 Q So the bruising on back, it would actually be  
25 hidden from the lividity?



1 A Right, lividity also causes kind of a darker,  
2 kind of purplish discoloration, so obviously if you  
3 have purplish bruises, it can be hard to distinguish  
4 until you cut into it.

5 Q So the bruises would have actually appeared more  
6 prominent prior to death than at autopsy because of  
7 the way the body was laying?

8 A Yes.

9 MS. McDUFFIE: No further questions.

10 MR. LI: Nothing, Your Honor.

11 MS. PINNOCK: Nothing, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

13 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

14 THE COURT: Have a nice day.

15 THE WITNESS: You, too.

16 THE COURT: Call your next witness.

17 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, the State calls Karen  
18 Davis Tucker.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Did you say Karen tucker?

20 MS. WALKER: Yes. Yes, Your Honor.

21 KAREN TUCKER,

22 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

23 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full name  
24 for the record.

25 THE WITNESS: Karen Davis Tucker.

1 THE COURT: Back up just a little bit. There you  
2 go. We'll gauge it as we need to.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay.

4 MS. WALKER: May it please the Court Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

6

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

8 BY MS. WALKER:

9 Q Ms. Tucker, do you work here in the courthouse?

10 A I do.

11 Q And have you, I guess, been in the same area as  
12 either Ms. Thompson or Ms. Guinyard before?

13 A I have.

14 Q And when you were with or near them, were you  
15 able to observe a conversation they had?

16 A I did.

17 Q Can you tell these jurors, I guess, the content  
18 of that conversation?

19 A Between the parties, there was a lot of crying  
20 from Courtney, and Antonio, he was pretty calm. We  
21 have holding areas behind the family court for ---

22 Q If you just --- you don't have to tell me where  
23 you were. Just tell me what you heard.

24 A Well, he had --- they were talking and he told  
25 her if --- if she would do what he said to do,

1 everything would be all right.

2 Q And that was him telling her, "Do what I tell you  
3 to do and everything will be okay."?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Did you know what --- at that point in time, did  
6 you know what they were talking about?

7 A Not exactly.

8 Q Did she respond to that?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And did she say --- I'm not sure if I can do  
11 that, in kind of a summation of what she actually  
12 said?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What other comments, if any, did you hear  
15 Ms. Thompson make?

16 A She had asked him whether or not he had prayed,  
17 did he remember that night or that day. She also said  
18 that she loved him and she didn't know what to do.

19 Q Did she make any statements regarding other  
20 people who had been in similar situations that they  
21 were in?

22 A She did.

23 Q And what were those comments?

24 A She said that there were other ladies at the jail  
25 that had killed their child, and their attorney had

1 gotten them off and that they don't have a whole lot  
2 on them at this point in time.

3 Q And to whom was she speaking at that point?

4 A To Antonio.

5 Q And the people that had that conversation, do you  
6 see them here in the courtroom?

7 A Yes, I do.

8 Q Can you point out to the jury the female that was  
9 talking?

10 A She is sitting at the table over there.

11 Q At the far end?

12 A At the end, with the black on.

13 Q And the man?

14 A He is sitting at that table with the gray on.

15 Q Thank you.

16 MS. WALKER: I don't have any further questions,  
17 Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Cross?

19 MR. LI: No questions, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Cross.

21 MR. RUFFIN: May it please the Court, just  
22 briefly.

23 THE COURT: Yes, sir, Mr. Ruffin.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

25 BY MR. RUFFIN:

1 Q When you heard them, Courtney was crying?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And Antonio was telling her what to do?

4 A Yes.

5 MR. RUFFIN: That's all. Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Redirect.

7 MS. WALKER: None, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. Have a nice day.

9 Call your next witness.

10 MS. CAMPBELL: State calls Steve English.

11 STEPHEN ENGLISH,

12 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

13 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
14 name for the record.

15 THE WITNESS: Stephen Arthur English.

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

17 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

18 Q Mr. English where do you work?

19 A I work at the original Blue Ribbon Taxi  
20 Corporation.

21 Q You work in the what?

22 A I work at the original Blue Ribbon Taxi  
23 Corporation.

24 Q Where is that located?

25 A 6400 North Main.

1 Q How long have you been working for the Blue  
2 Ribbon Cab Company?

3 A Thirty-eight-and-a-half years.

4 Q And there --- what's the phone number for Blue  
5 Ribbon Cab Company?

6 A The main number is (803)754-8163.

7 Q And the Blue Ribbon Cab Company, do you all keep  
8 certain records?

9 A Yes. We do.

10 Q I want to show you what's been marked as State's  
11 Exhibit No. 257. Do you recognize that?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q Is that a record from your company that you all  
14 keep in the normal course of business?

15 A Yes, ma'am. That's what we keep in the normal  
16 course of business, yes.

17 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time I would  
18 offer State's Exhibit 257 into evidence.

19 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

20 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

21 THE COURT: 257 admitted without objection.

22 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 257 was  
23 admitted into evidence.)

24 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

25 Q What date is indicated as booking --- what is

1 this document, first of all?

2 A This document is when you call in for a taxi, we  
3 take your telephone number and --- we take the  
4 telephone number and if you have called before, we  
5 scroll in here and it goes into the computer system.

6 Q Okay. Was that entered into the computer system?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Does that indicate the telephone number that  
9 called you that day?

10 A Yeah, the telephone --- whatever the telephone  
11 number is here, that's what we took in. That's was  
12 what the customer ---

13 Q That document also has the date and the time the  
14 phone call came in, approximately?

15 A Yes, ma'am, it tells you when it was received and  
16 when it was dispatched.

17 Q Does it also say the general area where the cab  
18 is going to go pick up the person?

19 A Yes, it does.

20 Q What does that reflect on there?

21 A It says Richland Memorial.

22 Q Richland Memorial?

23 A Yeah, at the front? It was a cash payment.

24 Q It was a cash payment at Richland Memorial at the  
25 front.

1 A Yes.

2 Q And what time does it indicate that call came in?

3 A I don't have my glasses, but ---

4 Q I'm sorry.

5 A --- it looks like we received it at, it says

6 13:06 which looks like about one o'clock.

7 Q 1:06 in the afternoon?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, sir. I don't have  
10 anything further.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Li.

12 MR. LI: Nothing, Your Honor.

13 MR. STAGGS: Just a couple questions.

14 Cross-Examination:

15 BY MR. STAGGS:

16 Q Now, this says that the call was received at  
17 13:06 and it was accepted. What does that mean?

18 A Accept that when the driver --- it shows up on  
19 the computer screen. It will go to a driver in that  
20 area.

21 Q Right.

22 A When they hit accept, the computer says what time  
23 they received it. Dispatch received it at 13:06.  
24 The driver received it at whatever other time.

25 Q That's not necessarily the time that the cab



1 arrives, right?

2 A Right, just when he accepts it.

3 Q Usually within a little bit of time after that,  
4 right?

5 A Right.

6 MR. STAGGS: That's all I have. Thanks.

7 MS. CAMPBELL: I just have one question, Your  
8 Honor.

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

10 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

11 Q Sir, if someone calls your company but they don't  
12 request a cab, like if they say it's a wrong number or  
13 sorry, I don't want to talk to you. Do you make any  
14 documentation of that?

15 A No, if it's never entered into the system, we  
16 don't have any documentation of that.

17 Q To be entered into the system, you have to  
18 dispatch a cab somewhere?

19 A Right.

20 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, sir.

21 MR. LI: Nothing, Your Honor.

22 MR. STAGGS: Nothing.

23 THE COURT: Have a nice day, sir.

24 Call your next witness.

25 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, may I approach?

1 THE COURT: You may.

2 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
3 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

4 THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen,  
5 it's noon. We're going to break for lunch. Let's  
6 start back at 1:15. It's 12:00. That will give you  
7 time to get out, eat lunch, stretch your legs. Do not  
8 discuss the case. Keep an open mind. We'll see you  
9 back at 1:15. Thank you very much.

10 THE COURT: Everyone remain seated while the  
11 jurors exit.

12 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
13 12:00 p.m.)

14 THE COURT: All right. Anything before we break  
15 for lunch?

16 MS. PINNOCK: No.

17 MR. LI: No, Your Honor.

18 MS. WALKER: No, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Very well. 1:15.

20 (WHEREUPON, a lunch break was taken.)

21 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibits Numbers 2-A and 6-A  
22 were marked for identification only.)

23 THE COURT: All right. Anything before we bring  
24 the jury in?

25 MR. LI: If the next witness the State is

1 proposing to introduce the jail phone call, we'd ask  
2 for a limiting instruction that could only be used  
3 against Ms. Thompson.

4 THE COURT: You want a what?

5 MR. LI: We would ask for a limiting instruction  
6 for the jury that they can only use it to show the  
7 knowledge of the offense from Ms. Thompson and not  
8 used against Ms. Thompson.

9 THE COURT: All right. What's the State's  
10 position on that?

11 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, under what basis?

12 MR. LI: On the basis that the State said that  
13 they were being offered to show the knowledge of  
14 Ms. Thompson and not being used against Ms. Thompson,  
15 they can go back to Rule 801 (d)(2) because they're  
16 not being used against the accused --- not used  
17 against the party and it's the party's own statement.

18 MS. McDUFFIE: It's not either or, I mean...

19 THE COURT: What would you want the limiting  
20 instruction to say?

21 MR. LI: That the jail phone call --- that the  
22 entirety of the jail phone call could only be used  
23 against --- it could be used as to the knowledge of  
24 Ms. Thompson. That is the reason the State has  
25 proposed to offer this jail phone call because it's

1 for that reason, because if it's not for that reason,  
2 then it being used against the party who made the  
3 statement to them.

4 THE COURT: Ms. McDuffie.

5 MS. McDUFFIE: I don't understand the logic of if  
6 the limiting instruction isn't given then it's not  
7 being used against her. I guess that's ---

8 MR. LI: It's coming in under --- I'm sorry.

9 THE COURT: What would you want the limiting  
10 instruction to say? Be specific.

11 MR. LI: The jail phone call can only go as far  
12 as the solicitor said, the knowledge of the offense  
13 and not towards --- not towards ---

14 THE COURT: I'm not going to do that.

15 MR. LI: All right.

16 THE COURT: That motion is denied. Bring in the  
17 jury.

18 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
19 1:22 p.m.)

20 THE BAILIFF: All jurors are here, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Call your next  
22 witness.

23 MS. McDUFFIE: May it please the Court. The  
24 State calls Coroner Gary Watts.

25 THE COURT: All right. Please come forward.

1                                    GARY WATTS,  
2 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

3            THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
4 name for the record.

5            THE WITNESS: Gary Miller Watts.

6                                    DIRECT EXAMINATION:

7 BY MS. McDUFFIE:

8 Q        Coroner, please tell the ladies and gentlemen of  
9 the jury where you are employed and what your duties  
10 are.

11 A        I'm the Coroner for Richland County. My office  
12 is in charge of determining cause and manner of death,  
13 especially related to unattended deaths, cases that  
14 occur outside of a medical facility, cases that occur  
15 within twenty-four hours of admission to a medical  
16 facility if there is any suspicion or the results  
17 could have been from some type of accident that  
18 occurred. Our office works with the law enforcement  
19 agencies, medical staff things like that to determine  
20 the cause and manner of death.

21 Q        And specifically in the case that we're here  
22 about today in the death of four-year-old **Victim**  
23 **[REDACTED]**, did your office --- was your office  
24 involved in his death?

25 A        Yes.

1 Q The investigation of his death, rather. As part  
2 of the, please tell the ladies and gentlemen of the  
3 jury what the role of the coroner is when you respond  
4 to a death scene?

5 A Well, if the death occurs outside of a medical  
6 facility like in this case where the individual died  
7 at the residence, we have a deputy coroner or several  
8 deputy coroners respond to that scene to work with law  
9 enforcement on that scene to collect evidence, speak  
10 to witnesses, gather information that would help us in  
11 the determination. Also, information that we may  
12 receive so that we can investigate more from a medical  
13 aspect of it, whether it's medical records or things  
14 that will help the pathologist in her determination or  
15 his determination of the autopsy.

16 Q Do you also do things like help the family with  
17 the burial process or things of that nature or assist  
18 in that process?

19 A We try to help the family or family members in  
20 any aspect of it from helping them get through this.  
21 Sometimes it does go all way to helping with burial  
22 processes.

23 Q When you arrive on a death scene, do you try ---  
24 you said earlier that you try to determine the cause  
25 and manner of death. Do you also try and determine

1 the time of death, or can you determine the time of  
2 death?

3 A Well, the time of death is generally a  
4 guesstimate. Unless we are in a controlled  
5 environment, such as an emergency room or surgery ward  
6 or something like that where we actually know the time  
7 of death. Anything other than that is a guesstimate.

8 Q What do you base the time of death on or when you  
9 put that on a death certificate?

10 A It can be several factors. If we have  
11 information from witnesses, if we have information  
12 from EMS or someone who was there with the victim,  
13 then we can sort of get a better idea of what it is.  
14 Sometimes we have to rely on information, if it's an  
15 extended period of time, it may be something as simple  
16 as looking in the mailbox to see how long the mail has  
17 been stacking up to give us some general idea. It's  
18 not a precise science unless you actually witness the  
19 death.

20 Q So you're not basing it on anything scientific?  
21 It's whenever the information is as close as you can  
22 get it?

23 A Well, there are some cases where it ---  
24 especially the longer the person has been dead, there  
25 are some changes that take place in the body. There

1 are some things that occur that we can bring in  
2 scientific basis to try to figure out a time close to  
3 death, but even all of that, anything you pull  
4 together, it's not like you see on CSI on TV. We  
5 cannot look at somebody and say they died at 6:02 p.m.  
6 this afternoon. Like I said, it's not an exact  
7 science.

8 Q In this case specifically, the death certificate  
9 lists the date and actual time of death. It says  
10 actual or presumed time of death, it says 18:15 or  
11 6:15 p.m.

12 A 6:15 p.m.

13 Q What was that based on?

14 A In that particular case, I believe that was based  
15 on a lot from EMS had from their times, when they were  
16 arrived --- when they were dispatched and when they  
17 arrived.

18 Q In this case specifically, it's not based on  
19 temperature or anything like that, but it's merely  
20 when EMS arrived and ---

21 A No, we don't do anything to try to disturb the  
22 body at the scene. The temperature is the only way  
23 you can do that, and it's actually called a liver  
24 stick, which then is something we just don't do. It's  
25 not completely accurate and it's just something that



1 we don't do.

2 MS. McDUFFIE: Thank you. No further questions  
3 of this witness.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Li.

5 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please  
6 the Court.

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

9 BY MR. LI:

10 Q Coroner Watts?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q You're familiar with the Richland County  
13 coroner's case report?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And you're aware that there is a box that says  
16 estimate?

17 A Yes.

18 Q That box is there for a reason?

19 A It can be, yes.

20 Q In this case, it was not checked?

21 A I would have to look at it to see.

22 Q Would you like to see it?

23 A I would be glad to.

24 (Pause.)

25 Okay. It's not checked on that.

1 Q Okay. The information that you're getting is the  
2 information from first responders, correct, EMS in  
3 this case?

4 A EMS, I believe in this particular case, if you  
5 look at the times from EMS when they first received  
6 the call to when they arrived, it's a timeframe  
7 somewhere between that.

8 Q Got you.

9 MR. LI: No further questions.

10 THE COURT: Cross?

11 MR. STAGGS: We have nothing.

12 THE COURT: Thank you.

13 Redirect?

14 MS. McDUFFIE: Nothing, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Have a nice day, Coroner.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 THE COURT: Call your next witness, please.

18 MS. CAMPBELL: May it please the Court. The  
19 State calls Travis Holdorf.

20 THE COURT: Please come forward Investigator  
21 Holdorf.

22 TRAVIS HOLDORF,  
23 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

24 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
25 name for the record.

1 THE WITNESS: Travis Holdorf, H-O-L-D-O-R-F.

2 THE COURT: Okay. Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

5 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

6 Q Where are you employed?

7 A I'm employed with the Richland County Sheriff's  
8 Department.

9 Q What do you do there, sir?

10 A I'm a Special Victim's Unit investigator.  
11 Primarily I handle child abuse cases, rape cases, also  
12 homicide. We typically go on-call once every seven  
13 weeks, and then I'll be responsible for that.

14 Q So you have experience in the area of child  
15 abuse, child neglect, as well as homicide cases?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q How long have you been in law enforcement?

18 A It will be 20 years this October.

19 Q And as an investigator with the Richland County  
20 Sheriff's Department, how do you typically become  
21 involved in a case?

22 A Typically I'm notified by the line unit. Line  
23 units will be the first responders that will get to  
24 the scene first and then notify us, sometimes through  
25 DSS, Department of Social Services, sometimes through

1 medical, mostly through the line.

2 Q I want to turn your attention back to July 1<sup>st</sup>,  
3 2013, were you working that evening?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And, in fact, what did your duties include ---  
6 what was your duty that evening?

7 A I was an on-call investigator, so we were working  
8 nights or into the evening shift.

9 Q As an on-call investigator, what are your  
10 responsibilities?

11 A If anyone in the county asked for an  
12 investigator, we respond. Sometimes people ask  
13 questions about what they need to do on the scene, or  
14 they need help with statements. We basically handle  
15 the situation there until someone else comes in the  
16 next morning.

17 Q That evening, did you receive a call asking you  
18 to respond to 104 Beaverbrook Drive in Columbia?

19 A Yes, we did.

20 Q What type of call did that come in as? What type  
21 of information was relayed to you?

22 A It was suspicious death of a four year old child.  
23 Sergeant Lindler was contacted. He was the supervisor  
24 working with our shift. He asked me to go out to the  
25 scene.

1 Q Once he asked you to go out to the scene, what  
2 did you do?

3 A I went out to the scene.

4 Q Approximately what time was it that you got out  
5 there, do you recall?

6 A I checked into the crime scene log at 7:12 p.m. I  
7 would have gotten there several minutes before then.  
8 I would have talked to the deputies, talked to some of  
9 the other people on the scene, but actually go into  
10 the crime scene itself at 7:12.

11 Q So you would have been there a few minutes before  
12 that?

13 A Yes.

14 Q When you got to the scene, what did you observe?

15 A There was a lot of people. There was a heavy  
16 police presence, which is not normal. There were also  
17 a lot of people in and around the street. It was not  
18 easy to get closer to the location. There was a lot  
19 of things going on. It was a very busy scene.

20 Q At some point once you got to the scene, did you  
21 make contact with either Antonio Guinyard or Courtney  
22 Thompson?

23 A I did. Both were in the back of police cars.  
24 First I went to talk to my deputies to see what they  
25 know or what they been told. Then I'd make contact

1 with the homeowner, the parents, to try to figure out  
2 what their version is to see what's going on.

3 Q At this point, do you have any evidence that a  
4 homicide had actually taken place, as in this case?

5 A No, ma'am. I don't know what this is. It's  
6 titled a suspicious death at first.

7 Q But whenever there is the death of a child, y'all  
8 investigate?

9 A We do.

10 Q But just because you're investigating doesn't  
11 necessarily mean it's going to be a homicide?

12 A That's correct. Most of the child deaths that we  
13 investigate are noncriminal.

14 Q Did you make contact with Ms. Thompson that  
15 evening?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q Can you describe her demeanor and then  
18 subsequently what happened with her when you first  
19 came in contact with her?

20 A When I made contact with her, like I said, she  
21 was in the back of the police car. I explained who I  
22 was and that I was trying to figure out what was going  
23 on, asking pretty vague open ended questions, what's  
24 happening, can you tell me about what's going on,  
25 asked about if we could go in the house, just things

1 like that.

2 Q Let me back up a minute. I skipped something.  
3 Prior to talking to her, did you do a walk through of  
4 the scene?

5 A I believe I talked to her, did a walk through and  
6 then talked to her again.

7 Q Okay. You can continue. We'll get back to the  
8 walk through.

9 A That's just to kind of get an understanding.  
10 Once you get on the scene, you're getting a lot of  
11 information. You're trying to get that information  
12 out to other people, so they can start working on what  
13 else may have been going on, but I got the basics from  
14 her. I got a basic from Antonio, go in the house,  
15 kind of look around, see what you see. Deemed that we  
16 needed a search warrant and we ended up getting a  
17 search warrant for the house.

18 Q At some point there at the scene, did you  
19 actually ask Ms. Thompson for consent to search the  
20 house?

21 A That was done, yes, ma'am.

22 Q Initially, did she give you consent?

23 A She verbally gave me consent. We have a form for  
24 that and when it came --- when another investigator  
25 went for her to sign it, or to have her sign the form,

1 she refused.

2 Q So at that point, you made a decision to make  
3 sure that you did everything correctly so you got a  
4 search warrant?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Prior to anyone collecting any evidence or doing  
7 any testing in the house, that search warrant was  
8 signed by a magistrate?

9 A It was.

10 Q When you walked through the house, did you ever  
11 see the victim, Victim, in the house?

12 A As soon as you walked into the living room door,  
13 he was immediately off to your left in the living  
14 room.

15 Q And he was still there when you arrived?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q And later that night, was his body transported to  
18 the morgue at Richland Memorial?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q While you were there, did you also observe some  
21 injuries to his body?

22 A I did. No one really touches the body until the  
23 coroner gets there. Once he's there we'll roll him  
24 over so we can see more once that person is there.  
25 Everyone --- we've all been working together long



1 enough that we know each other's roles, try to help  
2 each so I'm not going to do something to defeat our  
3 crime scene or something else. You don't touch  
4 anything until it's been photographed. That was done  
5 in this case.

6 Q Okay. Significant as far as your investigation  
7 as it developed later, did you go into a back bedroom  
8 in the house?

9 A I did.

10 Q Do you recall what furniture was in that back  
11 bedroom?

12 A There was a dresser along the wall. There was  
13 also a child's play kitchenette, if you will, like a  
14 little play sink.

15 Q And did you notice anything about the flooring or  
16 the carpeting in that room that became significant  
17 later?

18 A Yes, ma'am, there was a large wet spot in the  
19 carpet. You could still see foam on the carpet  
20 itself. That was concerning.

21 Q I'll get back to that. I'm going to show you  
22 what's been marked as State's Exhibit 45 and 49. Do  
23 those show part of that room, the dresser area?

24 A Yes, ma'am, that is it.

25 Q What is that on top of the dresser?

1 A There was a paper bag and some bottles.

2 Q What was in those bottles?

3 A Formula.

4 Q Formula? And were those located on the dresser  
5 as shown in this photograph?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q Not on the floor?

8 A No, ma'am.

9 Q In fact, in State's Exhibit 49, you can see what  
10 items are actually on the floor; is that correct?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And that's how it appeared?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q You mentioned the spot in the room. In State's  
15 Exhibit No. 52, is that what you're referring to?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q And how did that spot appear, what is shown here  
18 in the photograph?

19 A It was very clear that something had been cleaned  
20 up. Like I said, you could visibly see it was wet. I  
21 didn't even have to touch it. You could also see foam  
22 in that area.

23 Q In fact, was there a washcloth on the dresser ---

24 A There was.

25 Q --- that was wet.

1 A It was.

2 Q Later, did you determine whose room that was?

3 A That was **Victim**'s room.

4 Q Did he have a bed in there?

5 A There was no bed.

6 Q Tell the jury what you did next.

7 A My next task was to talk to the parents to try to  
8 get down what had happened. The easiest way to do  
9 that is to get someone to come back to our  
10 headquarters. They were not under arrest. I asked  
11 both of them independently if they would come back to  
12 our headquarters so we could obtain a statement. By  
13 that time we also had a news crew coming up towards  
14 that area. There were a lot of people there. It was  
15 very ---

16 Q Were there safety issues that night?

17 A It would have been very difficult to do any type  
18 of interview on the side of the street. I don't like  
19 to do an interview, anything that might be long and  
20 extensive where you're in a police car and I'm not in  
21 a police car. My end goal is to take a written  
22 statement so that it's typed out. I can read it.  
23 You can read it. If something needs to be changed, we  
24 can do that. The easiest way to do that is at  
25 headquarters.

1 Q In fact, did you --- did you talk to her briefly  
2 at the scene prior to her leaving or being moved or  
3 going to headquarters?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q And what, if anything, did she tell you, briefly  
6 when you talked to her at the scene, about what she  
7 said happened that night when you initially talked to  
8 her?

9 A That she was in the shower and she heard a loud  
10 boom. She gets out of the shower. She goes into the  
11 kitchen. She doesn't see anyone. She goes in the  
12 back room. She sees **Victim** laying in the floor.  
13 Looks like he's having a seizure. He is biting his  
14 lip, and she pops his lip out of his mouth, brings him  
15 up into the living room, she calls 911. They tell her  
16 how to do CPR, and then shortly afterwards EMS  
17 arrived.

18 Q There at the scene prior to going to  
19 headquarters, did you ask her if she was mad at her  
20 son that night?

21 A Yes, ma'am, we asked a range of questions, health  
22 problems. You're looking to try to piece together  
23 what happened. This was an obvious unnatural event.  
24 I mean, it's not common for children to die. When  
25 they do, you need to make sure you rule out that there

1 is no criminal activity. That's basically what we  
2 were doing. Was she mad, was Antonio mad, just trying  
3 to find out what was going on.

4 Q Did she tell you specifically about a medical  
5 condition she said her son suffered from?

6 A Yes, ma'am. She said she was autistic, he was a  
7 little slow. He had gone over it several times, and  
8 several different angles, if you will, about getting  
9 mad at him. She constantly said no, that she would  
10 not get mad at him. You can't get mad at him because  
11 he is autistic.

12 Q Did you also speak to Antonio there at the scene  
13 briefly before you transported him?

14 A I did, and then more extensively at headquarters.

15 Q Did he briefly tell you about what he knew about  
16 what had happened there at the scene?

17 A Yes, ma'am. That he was in the kitchen cooking  
18 listening to music. He heard a loud boom.  
19 Approximately five minutes later Courtney comes up and  
20 was holding **Victim**. He was not breathing.

21 Q That evening, did both Mr. Guinyard and  
22 Ms. Thompson, were they both transported to  
23 headquarters?

24 A They were.

25 Q Do you know how they got down to headquarters?

1 A They were taken by the sheriff's department  
2 deputies, but again, they were not under arrest. They  
3 were not handcuffed.

4 Q Did both of them agree to go there voluntarily?

5 A They did.

6 Q Once you were at headquarters, what happened?

7 A I'm calling additional people into headquarters  
8 so that one person --- I have two people I need to  
9 talk to. I don't want to talk to them together. I  
10 want to get what she knows. I want to get what he  
11 knows, and I don't want either person being influenced  
12 by what the other is saying, so that I can get as much  
13 of an accurate picture as I can of what happened. So  
14 I had another investigator, Investigator Laurita come  
15 in. I talked to Antonio for a bit before Courtney  
16 gets there. He goes over what's in his statement with  
17 me.

18 Q Prior to talking to Antonio, did you advise him  
19 of anything?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q Why did you do that, sir?

22 A Just because, I don't know where this is going to  
23 go. I don't know if someone is going to make an  
24 admission that they killed him or what's going to be  
25 said. With constitutional right issues against

1 self-incrimination, I just advised him of his Miranda  
2 warnings. We had a standardized written form and just  
3 because I read that to someone and I tell them I'm  
4 advising you of your rights, this does not mean that  
5 you're under arrest. I want to make sure you  
6 understand what's going on. You have a lot going on  
7 right now.

8 Q It's to protect that person's rights?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q You did that in this case?

11 A With both parties, yes, ma'am.

12 Q I show you State's Exhibit No. 3. Do you  
13 recognize that?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And is that the Advice of Rights you used that  
16 evening with Mr. Guinyard?

17 A It is.

18 Q And can you tell the jury exactly how you went  
19 about advising him of his rights that evening?

20 A Yes, ma'am. You want to establish how high they  
21 have gone in education, can they read and write,  
22 articulate that they can read and understand. On this  
23 one he told me he went up to the tenth grade. Asked  
24 about alcohol or drug use. He said that he had one  
25 beer around eight or nine that morning. I did not

1 feel him to be impaired. I put the person I'm talking  
2 to, put his name, which is the same as the victim,

3 **Victim**.

4 When we talk about the investigation, we're  
5 talking about him Antonio, the place we're at which  
6 was 5623 Two Notch Road. That's our headquarters. I  
7 was there with Investigator Weed.

8 Q Okay.

9 A The date, which is 7/1/13 and the time, which is  
10 20:30, which is 8:30 p.m.

11 Q Is that the actual form you used that night?

12 A It is.

13 Q Are those the rights you went over with him?

14 A They are.

15 Q Your Honor, at this time I'd often State's  
16 Exhibit 3 into evidence.

17 MR. MOORE: No objection.

18 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

19 THE COURT: State's 3 admitted without objection.

20 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 3 was admitted  
21 into evidence.)

22 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

23 Q Explain to the jury exactly how you advised him  
24 of his rights to make sure his rights were protected?

25 A Since we're in an office, I'll put the form on



1 the desk. As I'm reading them off, I will check them  
2 off. Before we ask you any questions, you must  
3 understand your rights. You have the right to remain  
4 silent. Anything you say can be used against you in  
5 court. If you --- you have the right to talk to a  
6 lawyer for advice before I ask you any questions and  
7 have a lawyer with you during any questioning.

8 If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be  
9 appointed to you for any questioning if you wish. If  
10 you decide to answer questions now without a lawyer  
11 present, you still have the right to stop answering  
12 questions at any time. You also have a right to stop  
13 answering questions at any time until you talk to a  
14 lawyer.

15 There is a signature for this. If they  
16 understand their rights, I have them sign here. Down  
17 here is a waiver. It states, "I have read the  
18 statement of my rights. I understand what my rights  
19 are. I'm willing to talk and answer questions. I  
20 understand and know what I'm doing. No promises have  
21 been made to me and no pressure or coercion of any  
22 kind has been used against me." I'll ask them if they  
23 understand what pressure and coercion is. If they  
24 don't then I'll underline it. He did not, so I  
25 underlined it.

1 Q So you then explained what pressure and coercion  
2 is?

3 A Yes, ma'am. I explained no one is making you  
4 talk. No one is promising you anything. You're not  
5 being threatened. No one is causing you any physical  
6 discomfort or harm. I'm giving you no motivation to  
7 talk to me other than you want to tell the truth and  
8 get your side out.

9 Q That evening, did he seem to understand what you  
10 were saying to him?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q Did he appear to be under the influence of any  
13 alcohol or drugs that would impair his understanding?

14 A No, ma'am.

15 Q Did you promise him anything to make him talk to  
16 you?

17 A No, ma'am.

18 Q Did you threaten him in any way?

19 A No, ma'am.

20 Q At any point, did he tell you he didn't want to  
21 talk anymore or tell you he wanted a lawyer?

22 A No, ma'am.

23 Q In your opinion, was he talking about to you  
24 voluntarily that evening?

25 A He was.

1 Q And, in fact, after you advised him of his  
2 rights, did he acknowledge his rights by signing off  
3 on that form?

4 A Yes, ma'am, we both signed this form.

5 Q Once he was advised of his rights at  
6 headquarters, did you ask him --- starting at the  
7 beginning of the day, to kind of outline what his  
8 knowledge of what happened that day was?

9 A When I got to headquarters, Antonio was already  
10 there. I went over the Advice of Rights. Just asked  
11 him an open ended question, what happened today. He  
12 said that --- I wanted him to explain this day from  
13 the time he got up to the time we got there.

14 When you're starting, you just don't know what's  
15 going to be important. He said he got up around 8:00,  
16 went to the store to get a beer and got some  
17 cigarettes. He knew that Courtney was coming home.  
18 She had got home by a Blue Ribbon Taxi Cab. She  
19 needed cab fare and that cost \$14. He estimated that  
20 she got home around 1:00 or 2:00 p.m.

21 He started cooking in the kitchen and was  
22 listening to music. Courtney went to get in the  
23 shower. He acknowledged that he heard the bang, but  
24 he didn't go see what it was. He said it was about  
25 five minutes later that Courtney comes in with **Victim**

1 and that **Victim** was not breathing.

2 We went over that. Was that five minutes just a  
3 figure of speech or a legitimate five minutes. He  
4 said no, that it was several minutes. I wasn't just  
5 the figure of speech, five minutes, that people  
6 sometimes do.

7 I asked him why he didn't go back to check when  
8 he hears a loud boom. He doesn't really have an  
9 answer for that. I asked him about --- by this time  
10 after having talked with the deputies and everyone  
11 else, it came out that he was in the closet when  
12 deputies first responded to the house, and I asked  
13 them about that. He didn't really have an answer for  
14 that other than he didn't want us to take his newborn  
15 child away from him. He felt that's what they would  
16 do in situations like this.

17 I asked him about how he disciplined the kids.  
18 He wouldn't admit to any type of physical abuse. He  
19 would have them do other things other than physical  
20 abuse.

21 Q And once he had given you that information, did  
22 Investigation Laurita assist you in actually putting  
23 that into a written form?

24 A He did. When Laurita gets to the scene, I give  
25 him a very brief synopsis of what's going on. I

1 explained to him that I need to take a statement from  
2 Antonio, and told Antonio to tell Investigator Laurita  
3 what he had just told me. They then go off and put  
4 that in writing while I started talking to Courtney.

5 Q And specifically, in State's Exhibit 4, is that  
6 the written form of basically summing up what he told  
7 you?

8 A Yes, ma'am, it is.

9 Q In that first page, there is one question about  
10 was there anything wrong with **Victim** today that you  
11 noticed, or something to that effect.

12 A (Pause.)

13 Q There on the first page.

14 A "Did **Victim** have any medical conditions?"

15 Q Uh-huh.

16 A He said, "He is kind of autistic. Nothing else  
17 that I know of."

18 Q And then the question before that, "Did it seem  
19 like..."

20 A The question is, "Did it seem like something was  
21 wrong with **Victim** earlier in the day." He said, "No,  
22 sir."

23 Q At any point when you were talking to him, did he  
24 talk about anything having been wrong with **Victim** the  
25 day before?

1 A No.

2 Q Or the day before that?

3 A Nothing.

4 Q Or the week before that?

5 A Nothing.

6 Q Or the month before that?

7 A Based upon his statement, this was a normal  
8 healthy child.

9 Q After you left Investigate Laurita with Mr.  
10 Guinyard to take his statement, where did you go?

11 A At that time as Courtney was at headquarters, I  
12 went and talked to her since I already had a good  
13 understanding, or felt like I had a good  
14 understanding, about what one parent was saying so I  
15 could ask the other parent other questions based on  
16 what the other parent said.

17 Q Prior to talking to her, did you also advise her  
18 of her rights?

19 A I did.

20 Q And I want to show you what's been marked as  
21 State's Exhibit No. 1. Do you recognize this?

22 A Yes, ma'am. It's our Advice of Rights form and  
23 it's gone through the same way. She had completed the  
24 eleventh grade and no drug use or alcohol use, and  
25 that was noted at the top of that Advice of Rights

1 form. And the was 8:55 or 20:55 as stated on the  
2 form.

3 Q That's when you actually started advising her of  
4 her rights?

5 A It is.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
7 offer State's Exhibit No. 1 into evidence.

8 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

9 MS. PINNOCK: No objection, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: State's 1 without objection.

11 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 1 was admitted  
12 into evidence.)

13 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

14 Q Can you go through for the jury how you're  
15 advised of her rights?

16 A Filled out her name, the location, who all was  
17 there, myself and the investigator. We used the same  
18 office. Anthony went --- excuse me, Antonio went with  
19 Investigate Laurita to his cube. The date and the  
20 time, and it's just the same advice: Before we ask  
21 you any questions, you must understand your rights.  
22 You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say  
23 could be used against you in court. You have the  
24 right to talk to a lawyer for advice before answering  
25 any questions and to have a lawyer with you during any

1 questioning. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will  
2 be appointed for you before any questioning if you  
3 wish. To you decide to answer questions now without a  
4 lawyer present, you still have the right to stop  
5 answering questions at any time. You also have the  
6 right to stop answering questions at any time until  
7 you talk to a lawyer.

8 I then go into the waiver, and I explain that  
9 they're not really waiving anything, but it states: I  
10 have read the statement of my rights. I understand  
11 what my rights are. I'll ask them if they understand  
12 what your rights are. She acknowledged that she did.  
13 The next part says I'm willing to talk and answer  
14 questions. I understand and know what I'm doing. No  
15 promises have been made to me, no pressure or coercion  
16 of any kind can be used against me.

17 I again asked her if she understood what pressure  
18 or coercion is. She said she did not, so I underlined  
19 it. I explained it the same way, nobody is promising  
20 you anything, no one is taking anything from you or  
21 threatening you with anything. I'm giving you no  
22 reason to talk to me other than just to tell me the  
23 truth and that you want to get your side out.

24 Q Did she agree to talk to you?

25 A She did.



1 Q Did she appear to be coherent that evening?

2 A She was.

3 Q Did she appear to be under the influence of any  
4 alcohol or drugs or anything that could impair her  
5 judgment?

6 A She did not.

7 Q Did you threaten her in any way?

8 A I did not.

9 Q Did you promise her anything to make her talk?

10 A I did not.

11 Q Did you deprive her of any creature comforts?

12 A I did not.

13 Q Did you do anything to make her talk to you?

14 A Other than ask her questions, no, ma'am.

15 Q Did she appear to voluntarily want to talk to you  
16 that evening?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q In fact, did she sign off on that form?

19 A She did.

20 Q Is that acknowledging what she knew her rights  
21 were and she was waiving them?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Once she had been advised of her rights, did  
24 you --- prior to taking a written statement talk to  
25 her more in a kind of one-on-one situation? Was

1 anybody else there?

2 A Investigator Weed was there. She was a newer  
3 investigator, not any disrespect to her, but she just  
4 wasn't very experienced. I don't think she had been  
5 in a situation like this before.

6 Q Was she giving you information again in the same  
7 manner that you asked Mr. Guinyard?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Briefly, prior to taking the written statement,  
10 what information was she able to provide you?

11 A She said that **Victim** was autistic. Sometimes he  
12 would use the bathroom; that he couldn't control it  
13 and he used the bathroom in the house. I asked her if  
14 this would cause her to get mad. She said no. It was  
15 a bit odd.

16 Q Explain that, please.

17 A That's a typical --- I have two dogs that are  
18 house broken. If they go to the bathroom in the  
19 house, I'll get irritated. That's just a normal ---  
20 you know better. So that was a red flag that  
21 something just might not be right.

22 Q Is there anything about her demeanor as she was  
23 talking about **Victim**?

24 A When she was talking about **Victim**, her voice  
25 would change a bit. She would often smile when she

1 would say what he was saying portraying that he was a  
2 happy child. It was kind of eerie, based on the  
3 situation.

4 Q What was her demeanor when she was talking with  
5 you that evening?

6 A It was very normal. She would go through periods  
7 where it seemed like she was upset, but didn't see any  
8 tears, and it looked like she could also turn it off  
9 pretty quick.

10 Q As far as Mr. Guinyard's demeanor that evening  
11 when you were talking to him, what was his demeanor  
12 like?

13 A There really wasn't much of a demeanor to him.  
14 He is just very flat.

15 Q Did she say anything about **Victim** being excited  
16 and the clean up? Did she refer to what happened in  
17 that room where the wet spot was?

18 A She said when she came home, it smelled like  
19 piss. She said she was not mad at **Victim** and smiled  
20 at him. When she did that, she said she smiled to  
21 show **Victim** so he would know that she wasn't mad at  
22 him and asked him if he had done this and that they  
23 were going to clean it up. She said that he would  
24 always get excited if they were going to do something  
25 with him and that he was excited to clean up the pee.

1 At one point he would rub in the pee spot with his  
2 hand.

3 Q At some point, did she indicate that she had  
4 gotten into the shower?

5 A Yes, ma'am. She said she had just had a baby.  
6 She was dirty and she needed to take a shower, so she  
7 gets in the shower. While she is in the shower, she  
8 hears the loud boom.

9 Q What did she say she did when she heard the loud  
10 boom?

11 A She said that she immediately gets out. She puts  
12 on the clothes that she just had on, she goes into the  
13 kitchen, doesn't see anyone there, she goes to the  
14 back room and she finds **Victim** at what she describes  
15 as having a seizure.

16 Q Where did she say he was having that seizure,  
17 which room?

18 A It was in the room where the urine was, where the  
19 clean up spot was.

20 Q And the next day --- I'm skipping ahead, but did  
21 she demonstrate where he would have been in relation  
22 to the wet spot, the pee?

23 A It would have been right there.

24 Q In the area where it was?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q What did she say she did next?

2 A She went to get a Pine Sol bottle. That was  
3 empty, but they had some other soap and her and **Victim**  
4 proceeded to clean up the wet spot --- excuse me.  
5 After she finds him, she realized that he was biting  
6 his lip. She pries his lip out of his mouth. She  
7 brings him up to the front room and calls 911 and they  
8 tell her how to do CPR and that she performed CPR on  
9 him.

10 Q And that was essentially her statement to you?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q Once --- she also provided some additional  
13 information, which was put into the written statement,  
14 as well?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q Once she verbally indicated all that to you, did  
17 you then take a written statement from her?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. CAMPBELL: Beg the Court's indulgence.

20 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

21 Q Here it is. I want to show you what's been  
22 marked as State's Exhibit 2-A. Do you recognize this?

23 A Yes, ma'am. This is the statement that Courtney  
24 Thompson gave us on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

25 Q And again, during the time period that you're

1 talking to her and when you are getting the written  
2 statement and everything, at any point did she ever  
3 invoke any of her rights or tell you she didn't want  
4 to talk anymore?

5 A No, ma'am.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
7 offer State's Exhibit 2-A into evidence.

8 MR. LI: No objection.

9 MS. PINNOCK: Subject to our previous objection.

10 THE COURT: All right. Admitted over defense  
11 objection.

12 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 2-A was  
13 admitted into evidence.)

14 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, permission for him to  
15 publish to the jury?

16 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

17 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

18 Q If you could, just go through the questions and  
19 answers that were provided to you and just so ---  
20 there's signatures on each of these pages?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q Just leek with Mr. Guinyard's first statement?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Did she have an opportunity to review that  
25 statement prior to signing it?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Was she able to have the opportunity to change  
3 anything so that she could get her final word or  
4 whatever she wanted down on paper?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Okay.,

7 A Do you want me to start with the narrative or  
8 just the second page where it goes to Q and A?

9 Q The narrative is fine.

10 THE COURT: Don't read too fast.

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

12 The date is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, at 21:45 hours, which  
13 is 9:45 p.m. I put her information at the top, where  
14 she is living, a number for her. Just asked her an  
15 open ended question, what happened. That's not typed  
16 on the statement, but that's how we started. It's the  
17 same format, I asked her if she could explain her day  
18 from the beginning to where we are now.

19 "I went to Richland Memorial Hospital on  
20 6/29/13 because I was having a baby. I went there by  
21 ambulance. **Baby A** was born at 4:17 a.m. I  
22 got out of the hospital this afternoon at around 1:30,  
23 2:00 p.m. I took a Blue Ribbon cab. When I got to the  
24 house, the cab driver was honking the horn. I got out  
25 of the cab with my baby and knocked on the door. I

1 walked in the house, opened the door to the play room  
2 where the incident happened and put my baby in the  
3 bed. The room smelled like piss. **Victim** is autistic  
4 and he would pee and poop wherever. I asked **Victim** if  
5 he had peed in the room. I had a smile on my face so  
6 he would know that I was not mad at him. He said,  
7 yes, ma'am.

8 "I asked him what he was --- I asked him what was  
9 he doing, and he said he was bending down and was  
10 looking at the thing on the floor, which were cameras.  
11 He could not be --- he could not hold it in and went.  
12 I asked him if he was going to help me clean up. He  
13 said, yes, ma'am.

14 "I put my baby in the bed and rolled the bed into  
15 my room. **Victim** was asking questions about the baby  
16 and wanted to know if that was the baby that was in my  
17 belly. I told him yes. I called cigarettes medicine  
18 so that my kids will not know that I smoked  
19 cigarettes. I went on the porch and smoked a  
20 cigarette. I asked where **Victim** was.

21 MR. LI: Your Honor.

22 MR. LI: Previous objection.

23 THE COURT: Overruled. Go ahead.

24 THE WITNESS: "I finished and came back in.

25 **Victim** asked me if we were going to clean up the pee



1 pee. I got a bottle of Pine Sol, but there was no  
2 Pine Sol in it. I put some soap in it and hot water  
3 and shook it up. I grabbed a rag and the bottle and  
4 went into the room. Report grabbed the pink soap,  
5 which was Dove. I poured the water around the piss  
6 stain. **Victim** started wiping the floor with his hand.  
7 I had a grayish faded rag, which was a washcloth that  
8 I was scrubbing the floor with that still smelled like  
9 pee.

10 "I told **Victim** that it was not coming up. I left  
11 the rag on the floor. I had to pee and there was  
12 blood that was running down my leg from just having a  
13 baby. I told my son that I was going to get in the  
14 shower. He said he wants something to eat. I told  
15 him to give me a second and let me take a shower. He  
16 said yes, ma'am.

17 "He was in the room watching TV. I don't  
18 remember what he was watching. I was going to make a  
19 salad when I got out of the shower.

20 "I was in the shower washing off, and I heard a  
21 loud noise like a tumbling fall. I jumped out of the  
22 shower immediately. I put my underwear back on that I  
23 had just taken off and put the robe on from the  
24 hospital. I checked my kitchen and no one was in the  
25 kitchen. I looked downtown hall and walked into my

1 room. I looked in the room --- I looked in my room  
2 and when I looked in the play room, he was on the  
3 floor, the spot where we had been cleaning up.

4 "His feet were towards the dresser. He was  
5 crunched up and his body was stiff. His butt was up  
6 in the air and he was kind of on his head. It was an  
7 awkward position. He was biting his lip hard. It was  
8 bleeding really bad. I put my finger in his jaw and  
9 pried his mouth open a little bit.

10 "I pried his mouth open a little and pried his  
11 lip from his teeth. I did not know what was going on.  
12 When I popped his lip out from his teeth to keep from  
13 biting it off, he went flat on me. He just dropped.  
14 I screamed and I screamed again. I wiggled his jaw  
15 and was calling him. He was not responding. I picked  
16 **Victim** up like he was a baby and took him to the front  
17 room, which is the living room.

18 "Blood was coming from his lip. I had blood on  
19 my hand. I went to my room to get my phone off the  
20 floor. I called 911. They told me how do CPR. I did  
21 what they told me. I did it several times where I was  
22 pushing on his chest and breathing into his mouth. I  
23 did everything he told me to do until the ambulance  
24 got there. When they got there, they put something on  
25 his chest and they did not do nothing. They just said

1 he was gone."

2 Question: The question was asked, "Did you have  
3 anything to do with **Victim**'s death?"

4 Answer: The response was, "No."

5 Question: The question was asked, "Were you mad  
6 with your son today?"

7 Answer: The response was, "No, he is autistic.  
8 You cannot get mad with an autistic child."

9 Question: "Were you mad because he peed in the  
10 room?"

11 Answer: The response was, "No."

12 Question: "Have you abused your son **Victim**?"

13 Answer: The response was, "No."

14 Question: "Have you not fed **Victim** because of  
15 his going to the bathroom problems?"

16 Answer: The response was, "No, it was not an  
17 every day thing."

18 Question: "What can you tell me about the injury  
19 to **Victim**'s right arm?"

20 Answer: The response was, "His sister **Girl Mi**  
21 **██████████** is three years old. Had cut into  
22 something when I was in the hospital. He said  
23 one time his sister did. Another time he said  
24 **Boy J** did."

25 Question: "What can you tell me about the

1       fingernail marks on your son **Victim**?"

2       Answer: The response was, "That's from his  
3       sister. She scratches him."

4       Question: "What do you know about the bite mark  
5       on his back?"

6       Answer: Response, "That is from his sister. He  
7       bit her and she bit him back. This was probably  
8       about two weeks ago."

9       Question: "What involvement has DSS had with  
10      your family and why?"

11      Answer: Response, "A lady named Angie would not  
12      bring **Girl M**, who was two-years-old  
13      back. I had to do a police report. The police  
14      came to my house several times. I have several  
15      case numbers. The police came and took photos of  
16      my kids from head to toe. Angie and her family  
17      would call because they wanted **Girl M**. Angie is  
18      mother of a guy I had slept with. Another time I  
19      had **Victim** in the car seat and he was strapped  
20      in. I got mad at something with my oldest  
21      daughter."

22      Then it kind of goes into why they were there.

23      MS. PINNOCK: I think we need to approach.

24      THE COURT: Okay.

25      (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the

1       presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

2       THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen,  
3       step back to your jury room for just a moment. Do not  
4       discuss the case. Keep an open mind.

5       (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
6       2:09 p.m.)

7       THE COURT: Can somebody show me the original  
8       statement?

9       I don't know that this has anything to do with  
10      your client.

11      MR. LI: I thought the ruling was the original  
12      first statement went in, not the redacted.

13      MS. CAMPBELL: Except the one line you requested  
14      that they take out.

15      THE COURT: "Did Antonio do anything to harm  
16      **Victim** today?" I ordered that out. So yeah.

17      MS. CAMPBELL: And that's what ---

18      MR. LI: Your Honor, there's --- let me see. In  
19      the original, Antonio answered, "I got my stuff out of  
20      the cab and paid the cab driver." Do you remember  
21      that I made a Bruton objection to that earlier?

22      MS. CAMPBELL: You withdrew it.

23      THE COURT: Yeah. I thought the thing about the  
24      cab driver was in.

25      MR. LI: We had basically said that the original

1 first statement be left the way it is because we had  
2 the cab driver and this one we had Investigator  
3 Holdorf read it. She went on the porch and asked a  
4 ghost where **Victim** was, since nobody else was around.  
5 I thought we made this decision. I thought they  
6 introduced the original, the one that we agreed to. I  
7 could be wrong if that's the ruling, but that's what  
8 the ruling was.

9 THE COURT: I thought the ruling was State's  
10 Exhibit No. 2 is in over --- and the only objection  
11 that Mr. Li had as to its admission was, "I checked my  
12 kitchen and no one was in the kitchen," and he  
13 objected to, "Did Antonio do anything to harm **Victim**?"

14 I ruled that, "Did Antonio do anything to harm  
15 **Victim** today?" and the answer is out. I ruled that, "  
16 I checked my kitchen and no one was in the kitchen,"  
17 was in and the rest of the statement was the same.

18 MR. LI: Right.

19 THE COURT: So we need to amend State's Exhibit  
20 2-A to add back in about Mr. Guinyard answering the  
21 door.

22 MR. LI: And everything in the original, correct,  
23 other than the agreed --- we'll just stick with that.

24 THE COURT: I think the only thing that's missing  
25 is, "Antonio would not come out, and then Antonio

1 answered and got my stuff out of the cab and paid the  
2 cab driver."

3 MR. LI: That's fine, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Yeah, so we need to fix that.

5 Now, do you have a different objection?

6 MS. PINNOCK: Judge, for some reason, the State  
7 made the DSS reference for the other two children in  
8 the shooting.

9 THE COURT: Yeah.

10 MS. PINNOCK: I don't know if we can amend it to  
11 keep the testimony out since that was another ruling.  
12 I don't know why I looked right over it. That's  
13 completely my fault, Judge, I looked directly over it.

14 THE COURT: So what part of that paragraph do you  
15 want out?

16 MS. PINNOCK: From, "I signed my parental rights  
17 over to **Girl Mis**," and down to the, "He almost  
18 fell out." That was a stipulation from yesterday;  
19 just that he was taken and he was given back on this  
20 date and that date. I think that about the shooting  
21 at the house, which caused the other children to be  
22 taken.

23 THE COURT: Do you see the paragraph I'm talking  
24 about?

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Okay. It needs to read, "Another  
2 time I had **Victim** in a car seat and he was strapped  
3 in," period. "I got mad at something with my oldest  
4 daughter," period.

5 MS. McDUFFIE: "We were in court and I slammed  
6 the doors."

7 THE COURT: Next sentence, "We were in court and  
8 I slammed the doors and they took **Victim** because they  
9 said he almost fell out. I did everything they asked  
10 me to do, and I did so that I could get **Victim** back,"  
11 period.

12 We need to take out the part about signing  
13 parental rights over and shootings in the Colony.

14 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, can we just scratch it out  
15 on that copy and we'll prepare the one that actually  
16 goes to the jury?

17 THE COURT: Here is what I would suggest, I would  
18 suggest somebody make sure Investigator Holdorf knows  
19 what to read, number one.

20 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes.

21 THE COURT: And then we'll create a whole brand  
22 new 2-A that everybody can look at to submit to the  
23 jury.

24 MS. CAMPBELL: Can everybody review 6-A, too, to  
25 make sure we don't run into the same problem?



1 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, for the record, we did  
2 email these statements two or three night ago.

3 THE COURT: All right. Okay. So what copy do  
4 you have with you, Investigator Holdorf? Let's start  
5 with that.

6 THE WITNESS: I have no copy; it was given to me.

7 THE COURT: You have no copy.

8 MS. CAMPBELL: I can give him the original and  
9 just mark through the things he's supposed to skip.

10 THE COURT: Or make whatever.

11 MS. McDUFFIE: I ---

12 MS. CAMPBELL: Just mark through it.

13 THE WITNESS: When the jury comes in, can I just  
14 explain that Antonio ---

15 THE COURT: We're going to talk about that in  
16 just one second. So just hold on.

17 MS. CAMPBELL: Can I show him what we're marking  
18 through?

19 THE COURT: Sure.

20 (Pause.)

21 MS. CAMPBELL: Okay. Judge, I reviewed it with  
22 him, and I can show the court, too.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MS. CAMPBELL: I want to make sure that's right.

25 (Pause.)

1 THE COURT: Okay, that's correct and that's  
2 correct. How are we going to put back in the thing at  
3 the door with the cab driver?

4 MS. CAMPBELL: I'll just say did you skip over  
5 two sentences when you were reading it?

6 THE COURT: Do you have an objection to that?

7 MS. PINNOCK: No, sir.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Li?

9 MR. LI: Sir?

10 THE COURT: If she just says to Investigator  
11 Holdorf did you skip over ---

12 MS. CAMPBELL: Or can I add it in this part?

13 THE WITNESS: Part of the question who answered  
14 the door?

15 MS. CAMPBELL: Can I just ask the question who  
16 answered the door and just let him add it back in?

17 THE COURT: Yes. When she got to the house, can  
18 you tell us what she says happened then, and then he  
19 can go back into that.

20 MS. CAMPBELL: I'll just do that at the end.

21 THE COURT: Is that okay with you, Mr. Li? Did  
22 you hear what we said?

23 MR. LI: No, sir. I'm sorry.

24 THE COURT: Okay. When he gets through reading  
25 her statement, Ms. Campbell wants to say, "Can you go

1 back to the part where she talks about answering the  
2 door and can you tell us what was said?" That way, he  
3 does not have to say that he made a mistake or  
4 something like that because it was a typing mistake  
5 more than --- it's not his fault. Okay. That's what  
6 we'll do.

7 MR. LI: I'm sorry, Your Honor. I'm fine with  
8 that.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Let's bring the jury back in.

10 MS. CAMPBELL: Did they review the other one?

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
13 2:21 p.m.)

14 THE BAILIFF: All jurors are here, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much. Ladies  
16 and gentlemen, I apologize for that unexpected break.  
17 I take full responsibility for it, and we will  
18 continue now with testimony.

19 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

20 Q I'm sorry. You can continue.

21 A All right.

22 Answer: (continued) "Another time I had **Victim** in  
23 a car seat, and he was strapped in. I got mad at  
24 something with my oldest daughter. We were in  
25 court, and I slammed the doors open and they took

1       **Victim** because they said that he almost fell out.  
2       I did everything they asked me to do, and I did  
3       it so I could get **Victim** back.

4       Question: "What are the names and ages of all  
5       your kids?"

6       Answer: "**Girl Mis**, it's a girl, seven  
7       years old; **Boy J**, a boy, a six-year-old;  
8       **Victim**, a boy, four years old; **Girl Mi**  
9       , three-year-old girl; **Girl M**,  
10      two-year-old girl; **Girl Z**, one year  
11      old; and my newborn, **Baby A**."

12      Question: "Is there anything about **Victim**'s  
13      death that you have not told me about?"

14      Answer: The response was, "No."

15      Q     And I want to direct your attention back, did she  
16      indicate how she got home that day?

17      A     Yes, ma'am. She said, "I took the Blue Ribbon  
18      cab. When I got to the house, the cab driver was  
19      honking the horn. Antonio would not come out. I got  
20      out of the cab with my baby and knocked on the door.  
21      Antonio answered. I got my stuff out of the cab and  
22      paid the cab driver."

23      Q     So she indicated she got home by Blue Ribbon Cab?

24      A     Yes, ma'am.

25      Q     I'm going to show you State's Exhibit 257. Have

1 you seen that document?

2 A Yes, ma'am, I have.

3 Q Does it reflect what time it was that she  
4 actually called for that cab that day?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q We'll get back to the phone records, but what  
7 time is reflected in that July 1<sup>st</sup>?

8 A It was 1:03 --- 1:06.

9 Q 1:06?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q She also mentioned in her statement to you that  
12 when you asked her about the bite mark on the back  
13 that I believe she said **Girl Mi** did it?

14 A Yes, ma'am. That would be the three-year-old.

15 Q That was the three-year-old child?

16 A According to her statement, yes, ma'am.

17 Q That evening, while they were still at  
18 headquarters, did you have photographs taken of both  
19 Mr. Guinyard and Ms. Thompson?

20 A Yes, ma'am I did, as well as nail scrapings.  
21 Again, you could see some injuries on **Victim**. I don't  
22 know what caused it. There is nothing clear at that  
23 point in time that I can say caused his death. I  
24 still, even with these injuries, don't have a crime.  
25 I have a concerning situation, but I also want to be

1 fair to all parties and document anything they may  
2 have, so we took pictures of their bodies and their  
3 hands. I also took fingernail scrapings from  
4 underneath their nails.

5 Q Why would you want to take fingernail scrapings  
6 from underneath their nails?

7 A If there's a fight. If there's something else  
8 going on, a lot of times it's just a good source to  
9 get DNA.

10 Q Can be?

11 A It can be.

12 Q At that point, did you know anything about a pole  
13 being used in this case?

14 A There was never any mention of a pole that night.

15 Q If someone had used a pole, would you expect to  
16 find anything on fingernail scrapings?

17 A No, ma'am.

18 Q I want to show you what's been marked as State's  
19 Exhibits 152 through 158. Do you recognize those?

20 A Yes, ma'am. This is Antonio Guinyard as he  
21 appeared that night.

22 Q As far as you can tell, do there appear to be any  
23 injuries or any bruising of any type, any cuts on his  
24 hands?

25 A No, ma'am. I didn't witness anything that looked

1 swollen or anything like that.

2 Q And as far as Courtney Thompson, on 161 through  
3 169? Were those photographs that you had taken that  
4 night?

5 A Yes, ma'am, they are.

6 Q And do there appear to be any injuries to her  
7 hands?

8 A There were none and neither party complained  
9 about any injuries.

10 Q That night after giving the nail scrapings, did  
11 you get further information from both Ms. Thompson and  
12 Mr. Guinyard about who was around **Victim** at the time  
13 of his death?

14 A Both parties acknowledge that they were the only  
15 parties at the house at the time. That whole day they  
16 placed no one else going into the house with **Victim**.

17 Q And did both parties --- independently of each  
18 other indicate what they thought had caused his death?

19 A They alluded to the fact that they believe he got  
20 on the dresser, which measured 30 inches, and that it  
21 was a tumbling fall.

22 Q And both of them said that?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q That evening, as far as who was still at the  
25 house, were there any other children at the house

1 other than the newborn and the victim?

2 A There were not.

3 Q And what happened to the newborn that night?

4 A It was given to Antonio's mother.

5 Q To Antonio's mother?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q So she actually came to the scene at some point  
8 or came to the sheriff's department?

9 A At the scene.

10 Q And the child was given to her to take care of?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And why was the child taken from Ms. Thompson or  
13 Mr. Guinyard that night?

14 A We just don't know what's going on. It's much  
15 seizure to err on the side of caution like a  
16 gentlemen's agreement, that the mother would watch the  
17 baby. We needed to talk to Courtney. When I start  
18 talking to someone, I don't know how long it's going  
19 to take.

20 Q And that evening I noticed in the photographs we  
21 reviewed earlier there were some bottles with formula  
22 on top of the dresser?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Were those provided to Ms. Guinyard so she could  
25 take care of the baby?



1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Because the next day, in State's 106, those  
3 bottles are gone.

4 A Correct. She had a reasonable need to have the  
5 bottles more than what we thought was any type of  
6 probative value to keep them on the scene, so the  
7 bottles were given to her for the newborn.

8 Q And were both Antonio and Courtney advised of  
9 what was going on with **Baby A**?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q Okay. So they were aware of it?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q In reviewing the statements, did you note  
14 anything about Antonio's written statement that  
15 contradicted Courtney as far as whether or not she was  
16 angry with the child?

17 A Yes, ma'am. In the statement that he already  
18 gave, in the statement, he said Courtney was angry  
19 with **Victim**.

20 Q That night Antonio Guinyard said that he was in  
21 the kitchen cooking when he heard the loud noise?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q And then five minutes later Courtney came in is  
24 what his statement says?

25 A Correct.

1 Q And in Courtney's statement when she gets out of  
2 the shower and goes and looks in the kitchen, does she  
3 see anyone there, according to her statement?

4 A No, ma'am. In her statement she doesn't see  
5 anyone.

6 Q That evening was a statement taken from a Maria  
7 Nicole Thompson?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Was that the only one in the family whose  
10 statement was taken that night on the 1<sup>st</sup>?

11 A Yes, ma'am. Without knowing what's going on  
12 instead of having a bunch of family members coming in  
13 or other witnesses coming in, I want to try to control  
14 that and stage that until I have a little bit more  
15 knowledge of what's going on. I don't want 20  
16 different people taking 20 different statements and  
17 trying to get through what everyone said as far as  
18 statements and talking to witnesses and stuff, I want  
19 to try to control that and only have a limited number  
20 of people taking statements so that I can make sure I  
21 know what's going on with the case.

22 Q You can't say what she said to you, but after  
23 talking to you, did it become apparent to her --- did  
24 it become apparent to you, that you needed to talk to  
25 other people involved with this family, family

1 members, friends, family taking care of these  
2 children?

3 A Yes, ma'am. We needed to talk to the rest of the  
4 family and that was done.

5 Q During the course of talking to both of these  
6 defendants that night, were either one of them  
7 employed anywhere that they had to be the next morning  
8 or anything of that nature?

9 A No, ma'am. Both parties were unemployed.

10 Q I want to turn your attention to July 2<sup>nd</sup> ---  
11 about what time was it when you actually finished up  
12 with this that evening?

13 A I would put it pretty close to midnight.

14 Q The next morning, what did you do?

15 A The next morning, the autopsy was scheduled for  
16 **Victim**. I attended that just because up until the  
17 autopsy, we had no known cause of death. I also knew  
18 what both parents had said, so if there's any  
19 questions that the pathologist or anyone needed, I  
20 could answer.

21 Q And when you attended the autopsy, was that  
22 performed by Dr. Durso?

23 A It was.

24 Q Did you ask her any specific questions about the  
25 types of injuries that were observed in this case at

1 the autopsy?

2 A Yes, ma'am, I asked if this could have been an  
3 accidental injury. Absolutely not.

4 Q That day, did you also speak to the coroner's  
5 office about a possible reenactment?

6 A I did.

7 Q Is that unusual for a reenactment to take place  
8 to take someone back to a scene to see what happened?  
9 I'm talking about with the coroner's office, at least?

10 A Not with children. With children's deaths we  
11 typically do a reenactment, have an anatomical doll, a  
12 doll they use so we can understand placement,  
13 understand what they did. They can demonstrate to us  
14 what they did. We can see it firsthand.

15 Q And who actually was to meet you at the house  
16 that afternoon?

17 A We asked for both, but Courtney is the only one  
18 that met us.

19 Q And approximately what time was it when you went  
20 to the house at 104 Beaverbrook on July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

21 A It was 2:37 in the afternoon.

22 Q Who was with you?

23 A Investigator Wagner.

24 Q And who were you supposed to meet there?

25 A Jane Powell with the coroner's office. She

1 brought someone with her also from her office, and  
2 Courtney and Antonio.

3 Q When you got there, was the crime scene still  
4 secured?

5 A It was.

6 Q Was that unusual?

7 A No, because we did not know the manner of death.  
8 We held the crime scene until we knew what the cause  
9 of death was. Spoke with my supervisors, explained  
10 what we have, and after Courtney got to the scene,  
11 arrived at the scene, we terminated the securing of  
12 the crime scene and turned the house over to her. So  
13 there is no longer a deputy staying physically in the  
14 front yard or where they can view the house.

15 Q Okay. While you were there back at 104  
16 Beaverbrook, did Antonio Guinyard ever show up?

17 A I never saw him that day, no, ma'am.

18 Q Were you present that day when Jane Powell  
19 conducted an interview with Courtney Thompson in  
20 getting her to show what happened?

21 A I was present, but I did not participate.

22 Q Okay. I want to show you State's Exhibit  
23 Number 106. What does that show, sir?

24 A That's the doll that we used, and it shows --- we  
25 asked Courtney to place the doll where **Victim** was.

1 Q And when Courtney showed you this, she actually  
2 placed the doll's head in the area where she had  
3 referenced as where the piss would have been?

4 A That's correct, yes, ma'am.

5 Q And at that point, you don't have to go over  
6 everything she said there, was she still sticking to  
7 her original story?

8 A Yes, ma'am, what she told Ms. Powell of the  
9 coroner's office was very consistent with her  
10 statement to us.

11 Q Once the enactment was done, did y'all --- do you  
12 know how she got there that day or did you know until  
13 this trial?

14 A I knew she had gotten a ride there. It wasn't  
15 until this trial that I found out Ms. Metze, Angela  
16 Metze took her.

17 Q Once you all had finished --- or the coroner's  
18 office finished the reenactment, did you ask her to  
19 come back to headquarters?

20 A I did.

21 Q And what was the purpose of that, that was  
22 explained to her?

23 A It was explained to her that we wanted to go over  
24 the autopsy. At that point I knew this was not an  
25 accidental death. Again, I did not want to do an

1 interview at her house. I wanted to have it at our  
2 headquarters where if additional statements were made,  
3 they could be preserved.

4 Q Backing up a second, as far as their original  
5 given to you the night before and then there at the  
6 scene, had anyone other than these two people had any  
7 contact with **Victim** over the two weeks prior to this?

8 A No one else was mentioned.

9 Q Do you know how Courtney Thompson got back to  
10 headquarters?

11 A I believe Investigator Wagner and myself brought  
12 her back in our vehicle. Again, she was not under  
13 arrest. She was not handcuffed. We both drive  
14 unmarked pick up trucks that unless we turn on our  
15 lights to identify it, you would not know it's a law  
16 enforcement vehicle.

17 Q And once you got back to headquarters, had you  
18 also requested from Ms. Thompson that she contact  
19 Antonio?

20 A Yes, ma'am, I did.

21 Q Do you know whether or not she did that?

22 A She did.

23 Q And what were you requesting Antonio to do since  
24 he hadn't shown up when he was supposed to before?

25 A It was for the same reason, so we could go over

1 the autopsy.

2 Q Once you got back to headquarters, what, if  
3 anything, did you do?

4 A I again advised both parties of their rights.

5 Q And who did you make contact with first?

6 A Courtney was with us, so she was advised first.

7 Q I want to show you what's been marked as State's  
8 Exhibit 5. Do you recognize that?

9 A Yes, ma'am, this is the Advice of Rights that was  
10 given to her on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the time was 16:45.

11 Q At this point why did you advise her of her  
12 rights again if you had done it the night before?

13 A Out of an abundance of caution, because there had  
14 been a break and since she had not been with us the  
15 whole time, I just wanted to make sure I did things  
16 the proper way.

17 At this point in time, we weren't just talking  
18 about a suspicious death. This was going to be ---  
19 there was going to be some confrontation. There was  
20 also a very likelihood that someone was going to be  
21 arrested. I wanted whatever was said to be used.

22 Q That was largely based on the fact that at this  
23 point you had been to the autopsy and gotten the  
24 information from Dr. Durso ---

25 A Yes, ma'am.



1 Q --- about the nature of these injuries?

2 A Multiple injuries.

3 Q State's Exhibit Number 5, is that the actual  
4 document you used?

5 A Yes, ma'am, it is.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
7 offer State's Exhibit 5 into evidence.

8 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

9 MR. LI: No objection.

10 THE COURT: State's 5 without objection.

11 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 5 was admitted  
12 into evidence.)

13 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

14 Q Can you briefly explain to the jury again how you  
15 went through her rights the second time?

16 A Unlike the first time, I did not ask for  
17 education, alcohol or drug use. It's the same as the  
18 last time. You have the right to remain silent.

19 Before we ask you any questions, you must understand  
20 your rights. You have the right to remain silent.

21 Anything you say could be used against you in court.

22 You have the right to talk to a lawyer before you  
23 answer any questions and to have a lawyer present

24 during any questioning. If you cannot afford a

25 lawyer, one will be appointed for you before you

1 answer any questions if you ask.

2 If you decide to answer questions now without a  
3 lawyer present, you still have the right to stop  
4 answering questions at any time. You also have the  
5 right to stop answering questions at any time until  
6 you talk to a lawyer. Then she signs that she  
7 understands her rights. I also read off the waiver  
8 and she signs the waiver.

9 Q Again, does she appear to understand what's going  
10 on?

11 A She appears to, yes, ma'am.

12 Q Was she under the influence of alcohol or drugs?

13 A No, ma'am, her answers make --- they're relevant  
14 to what we're talking about. There was nothing to  
15 indicate that she was under the influence of anything.

16 Q Did you or anyone else threaten her or promise  
17 her anything, promise her leniency, deprive of her of  
18 creature comforts or do anything to make her talk to  
19 you?

20 A No, ma'am.

21 Q Did she indicate she wanted to talk to you?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Did she also sign off on two places on State's  
24 Exhibit 5 waiving her rights?

25 A They were signed in two places and witnessed by

1 myself and Investigator Wagner.

2 Q At that point, do you start talking to her again  
3 about what had happened surrounding **Victim**'s death?

4 A We did briefly. It wasn't very long before  
5 Antonio showed up at headquarters, so I left Courtney  
6 with Investigator Wagner and Investigator Powell from  
7 the coroner's office. I went to talk to Antonio.

8 Q Where was Antonio when you made contact with him?

9 A He was downstairs in our lobby area.

10 Q At some point did you then escort him upstairs?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And advise him of his rights?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q I want to show you've what's been marked as  
15 State's Exhibit Number 7. Do you recognize that?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q Is that the Advice of Rights you used with  
18 Robert --- excuse me, Antonio Guinyard, Sr. on  
19 July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

20 A The form said Robert. When we were talking to  
21 him, I tried to call him Antonio just to cut down on  
22 any confusion.

23 Q Okay.

24 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
25 offer State's Exhibit 7 into evidence.

1 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

2 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

3 THE COURT: State's Exhibit 7 without objection.

4 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 7 was admitted  
5 into evidence.)

6 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

7 Q Can you explain to the jury again the rights you  
8 went through with this defendant?

9 A Again, I did not note his education or alcohol  
10 consumption because we went over that yesterday. I  
11 didn't feel that he was impaired or --- that just  
12 didn't seem like it was an issue at all. His name,  
13 where we're at, my name. I'm with Sergeant Faust when  
14 I'm talking with Antonio. The date and the time. The  
15 time is actually incorrect. On here it says it's  
16 16:35. It was after I had talked with Courtney, so it  
17 would have been 55. Sometimes you can look. I don't  
18 know if it was the office I was in or just looking at  
19 the clock wrong or just jotting things down. It was  
20 an administrative error, but again I go through the  
21 rights.

22 Before we ask you any questions you must  
23 understand your rights. You have the right to remain  
24 silent. Anything your say can be used against you in  
25 court. You have the right to talk to a lawyer for

1 advice before I ask you any questions and have a  
2 lawyer with you during questioning. If you cannot  
3 afford a lawyer, one will be appointed to you before  
4 any questioning if you wish. If you decide to answer  
5 questions now without a lawyer present, you still have  
6 the right to stop answering questions at any time.  
7 You also have the right to stop answering questions at  
8 any time until you talk to a lawyer.

9 Then you read off the waiver. It says, "I have  
10 read the statements of my rights. I understand what  
11 my rights are. I'm willing to talk and answer  
12 questions. I understand what I'm doing. No promises  
13 have been made to me and no pressure or coercion of  
14 any kind has been used against me."

15 If they understand their rights, I have them sign  
16 the top. If they want to talk to me, consent to talk  
17 to me, I'll have him sign here.

18 Q He did that?

19 A In both places and it's witnessed by myself.

20 Q Again did you promise him anything?

21 A No, ma'am.

22 Q Threaten him in anyway?

23 A No, ma'am.

24 Q Deprive him of any creature comforts, coerce him?

25 A No, ma'am.

1 Q Or do anything to make him talk to you?

2 A There was nothing like that.

3 Q Did he appear to be coherent and understand what  
4 you were saying?

5 A His answers were responsive to our questions,  
6 yes, ma'am.

7 Q In your opinion, was he answering you  
8 voluntarily?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q Did he actually sign off on this form  
11 acknowledging his Advice of Rights and his waiver of  
12 those rights in talking to you?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q And that's his signature?

15 A It is.

16 Q Who had you left Courtney Thompson with when you  
17 went and made contact with Antonio?

18 A With Investigator Wagner, who also works at the  
19 special victim's unit and Investigator Powell with the  
20 coroner's office.

21 Q After he had been advised of his rights and he  
22 indicated he wanted to talk to you, what, if anything,  
23 did he say?

24 A He sat down in the chair. We were in one of the  
25 front supervisor's office that now belongs to Sergeant

1 Strange and explained to him that there had been a  
2 number of developments since we talked yesterday and  
3 that we needed to find out what happened. We told him  
4 that we knew that **Victim**'s death was not an accident,  
5 and that he had died from multiple acts of blunt force  
6 trauma. This was not just something that was an  
7 accident or something like that.

8 Then we started talking with him, you know, could  
9 this have happened or --- we were trying to get what  
10 may have happened. Sometimes some people just come  
11 out and tell you a bunch. Antonio didn't say  
12 anything. He just --- he stuck with his original  
13 story.

14 Q So he didn't say anything differently?

15 A He did not.

16 Q Did you ask him specifically whether he had ever  
17 hit his kids and what did he indicate to you?

18 A He maintained that he had never hit his kids. He  
19 had punished them. He would make them hold their arms  
20 out or do push ups.

21 Q Did you also ask him if he heard anything while  
22 he was in the kitchen area that night?

23 A He said no and then we started pointing out  
24 inconsistencies, confronting him.

25 Q Such as ---

1 A Investigator Wagner got a little more out of him  
2 when she went back over what happened the day before,  
3 but as far as the incident itself, if he was asked the  
4 question why was he hiding in the closet, why wasn't  
5 he there when his son was dying, or why didn't he help  
6 the first aid, he just didn't have an answer for that.  
7 That was very bothersome.

8 Q At that point, did you go and check with  
9 Investigator Wagner about Ms. Thompson?

10 A I did.

11 Q And once you went and made contact with Courtney  
12 Thompson again, who actually was in there with  
13 Investigator Wagner at that point?

14 A Captain Melton. She is my supervisor, two  
15 supervisors up from me.

16 Q Did she also --- did you then talk to Courtney a  
17 little bit more?

18 A I did. Courtney had modified her statement a  
19 little bit. She was saying that --- she would tell us  
20 everything if she could meet with Antonio. We were  
21 getting nowhere with Antonio. I asked if anyone had  
22 any objection or think of any reason why you shouldn't  
23 put these two together to try to look at what  
24 happened?

25 No one disagreed, so we have a larger conference



1 room there and they were allowed in that conference  
2 room with the door closed maybe about 10, 15 minutes.  
3 We knocked on the door and told them it was time to do  
4 statements.

5 Q Was anyone from the sheriff's department able to  
6 overhear what they were talking about while they were  
7 in the conference room?

8 A No, ma'am, and in dealing with a child death, I  
9 mean, it's --- you want to be sympathetic to the  
10 parents. If your child dies, I would want someone to  
11 treat me the way --- if one of my kids died --- I  
12 treat others the way you want to be treated kind of  
13 thing. You're trying to be respectful to that moment.  
14 There's been a lot going on.

15 You still don't know everything, but one party is  
16 telling you --- they're telling you what happened with  
17 the truth and that's what you wanted to get.

18 Q After they had been in there for ten or fifteen  
19 minutes, did both of them come out of the conference  
20 room where they were having a private conversation?

21 A They did.

22 Q And what happened next?

23 A I went to start putting things in writing. Asked  
24 them, well, what is it that you want to change. What  
25 is it that's different? What do you want to tell us

1 now? I'm looking for what matches with what we know  
2 at that time.

3 Q And did you take an additional statement from  
4 Antonio Guinyard?

5 A No additional statement was taken from Antonio  
6 Guinyard because he never changed his story. It was  
7 that he hears the bump, the bang, five minutes later  
8 he sees Courtney.. Courtney says she doesn't see  
9 anyone, and then when EMS and the first responders are  
10 getting there, they don't see anyone either except for  
11 Courtney and **Victim** in the house.

12 Q Was there a second statement, however, taken from  
13 Courtney Thompson on that date?

14 A There was.

15 Q I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
16 State's Exhibit 6-A. Do you recognize that?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we'd  
19 offer 6-A into evidence.

20 MR. LI: No objection.

21 MS. PINNOCK: Subject to previous objections.

22 MR. LI: Subject to previous objections.

23 THE COURT: Overruled. State's 6-A admitted.

24 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 6-A was  
25 admitted into evidence.)

1 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, permission to publish.

2 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

3 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

4 Q Go ahead.

5 A Okay. This is the statement --- there are two  
6 statement forms. You have a witness statement form  
7 and then there's your suspect statement form.  
8 Technically by advising him of the Advice of Rights on  
9 the written form, I've covered the Miranda warnings.  
10 I could have used a regular statement form, but just  
11 because of the issues that we're talking about, she's  
12 already waived, I did it on the suspect statement  
13 form. It's her name, her address, city, Columbia,  
14 South Carolina.

15 This is the 7/2/13 at 19:27 hours, which is  
16 7:27 p.m. it's myself and Captain Melton at the  
17 Richland County Sheriff's Department. The top part is  
18 a type of form that's just going over the Advice of  
19 Rights that he has been read four times now and then  
20 the statement starts:

21 Question: "Courtney, are there any changes you'd  
22 like to make about your previous statement?"

23 Response: "Yes, the first one was not the truth."

24 Question: "Why did you not tell the truth?"

25 Response: "I was scared you were going to put my

1 kids into foster homes and split them up."

2 Question: "What happened yesterday with your  
3 son, **Victim**?"

4 Response: "When I came home from the hospital, I  
5 walked in the bedroom and I saw my son lying on  
6 the floor naked in a pile of piss. I called his  
7 name and he was very weak. His eyes were barely  
8 opened. I asked him what was wrong. He  
9 requested for some water. I got him a cup of  
10 water from a green cup in the kitchen. **Victim**  
11 was drinking the water like he had not had water  
12 in days. I put the cup back in the kitchen and  
13 went in the living room and got some clothes to  
14 put on him. I gave him light gray jeans and a  
15 green shirt. **Victim** was so weak, his feet, legs,  
16 knees, butt and arms were kind of swollen and  
17 blue. **Victim** was just out of it. I got the  
18 bottle of Pine Sol and water and soap and poured  
19 it on the pee. **Victim** was on the floor and his  
20 head was down. I said that I would help him. I  
21 got on the floor to help. I was tired. My back  
22 hurt. I went to take a shower. I heard **Victim**  
23 crying like he was in pain, getting hit.  
24 I jumped out of the shower. **Victim** was stretched  
25 out in the floor in my room. I stood **Victim** up,

1       and he dropped to his knees. **Victim** was  
2       breathing funny. **Victim** fell on the floor.  
3       I asked him if he could get up. He said, yes.  
4       He have stood up. I told him to sit down.  
5       **Victim** was walking down the hall and he collapsed  
6       after taking about three steps. **Victim** balled  
7       up. It looked like he was having a seizure.  
8       I picked my baby up and pried the lip out of his  
9       mouth. I carried him to the front room. I went  
10      to get my phone. He was not breathing. I called  
11      911 and told him that my son was not breathing.  
12      I talked to **Victim** that morning around 11:00 a.m.  
13      My son told me that he had been beaten with a  
14      pole.  
15      MR. LI: Objection, Your Honor, hearsay.  
16      THE WITNESS: I asked the question. Sorry.  
17      THE COURT: Hold on.  
18      (Pause.)  
19      THE COURT: All right. If you all will step back  
20      to your jury room. We'll take an afternoon break.  
21      We'll be back with you in just a few minutes. Do not  
22      discuss the case, and keep an open mind.  
23      (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
24      2:52 p.m.)  
25      THE COURT: Why are we making objections in the

1 middle of documents that we have already discussed?

2 MR. LI: Your Honor, you asked me to do it  
3 contemporaneously.

4 THE COURT: I have never heard you object to that  
5 line in the entire trial.

6 MR. LI: I'll play the transcript back, Your  
7 Honor. I could be wrong. After the Bruton issues,  
8 after we did the redactions, this is not precluded  
9 from making my hearsay objections. I thought ---

10 THE COURT: All right. So what's your hearsay  
11 objection to this line?

12 MR. LI: It is used for the truth of the matter  
13 asserted as an out-of-court statement.

14 THE COURT: Okay. Who is arguing this?

15 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I believe that there  
16 is an exception to the hearsay rules. It's Present  
17 Sense Impressions. It's also a statement of the then  
18 existing physical, emotional or mental condition and  
19 further, Your Honor, I would submit to the court that  
20 this evidence can be viewed as a dying declaration.

21 THE COURT: Okay. It's not a Present Sense  
22 Impression, because Present Sense Impression is  
23 something that happens almost contemporaneously  
24 therewith, so what was your next one?

25 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, it's also a statement

1 about then existing physical, mental, or emotional  
2 condition.

3 THE COURT: All right. So under 803.3 the  
4 declarant's availability is immaterial. Therefore, I  
5 think it goes directly to the declarant. In this case  
6 the declarant would be the deceased child's physical  
7 condition. Therefore I'm going to admit the  
8 statement.

9 All right. Let's take about a ten minute break.

10 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, we fixed the ---

11 THE COURT: You fixed the other one. Let's  
12 everybody look at it. Be right back.

13 THE WITNESS: Can I step down?

14 THE COURT: Yes. Don't discuss your testimony.

15 (WHEREUPON, a short break was taken.)

16 THE COURT: All right. Bring the jury back in.

17 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
18 3:14 p.m.)

19 THE BAILIFF: All the jurors are here, Your  
20 Honor.

21 THE COURT: Thank you very much. You may  
22 continue, Ms. Campbell.

23 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

24 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

25 Q You can continue publishing it.

1 A Okay.

2 Question: "Why did you get in the shower?"

3 Response: "I was bleeding from having a baby."

4 Question: "Have you hit your children before?"

5 Response: "No, I don't hit them."

6 Question: "Do you know what white stick **Victim**  
7 was talking about getting hit with?"

8 Response: "No. The broom was already broken.  
9 The only white pole was an extra shower curtain  
10 rod in the hall closet."

11 Question: "How would you discipline your  
12 children?"

13 Response: "I would turn the TV off."

14 Question: "What do you know about the cigarette  
15 burn on **Victim**'s body?"

16 Response: "I don't know about that."

17 Question: "Is there anything that you have not  
18 told me about **Victim**'s death?"

19 Response: "No, I've told you everything. When I  
20 got home, I saw blood flecks on the wall in the  
21 playroom, on the walls in the hall, and on my  
22 room door. There was blood on the closet door in  
23 my room, and the door had a hole in the middle.  
24 There was blood in the carpet."

25 Question: "Is there anything that you want to



1 add or change about your statement?"

2 Response: "No."

3 Q And once that statement was taken from  
4 Ms. Thompson, was she given an opportunity to review  
5 it?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q Make any changes?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q And then did she indicate that she wanted to  
10 adopt it as her own by signing it?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And that was her second version of events?

13 A Yes, ma'am, and then she was given a copy and we  
14 keep the original.

15 Q After taking that statement, were decisions made  
16 as far as any arrests that were going to be made in  
17 this case?

18 A Yes, ma'am. We reviewed the facts with the  
19 solicitor's office, who agreed with us that there was  
20 probable cause for this arrest and both parties were  
21 charged with what they're charged with here today.

22 Q After completing the statements, were Courtney  
23 and Antonio put in a break room there near the  
24 investigative unit?

25 A They were. We have warrants out, complete arrest

1 reports. It's a bit of paperwork that still has to be  
2 done. Both Courtney and Robert were in the break room  
3 sitting together. It's a large table. You have a  
4 drink machine, snack machine, coffee, water.

5 Q Were they seated across from each other?

6 A They were.

7 Q And what happened next?

8 A Courtney told Antonio to give her the money. He  
9 reached not in just one pocket, but both pockets and  
10 pulled out all the money he had in both pockets and  
11 gave it to Courtney who then split the money, kind of  
12 divvied it up. I didn't count how much. She gave  
13 some back to Antonio. I asked if they wanted to give  
14 the money to who was watching their kids to help defer  
15 the cost and pointed out that, you know, you're going  
16 to jail. You won't be charged for your meals, they're  
17 covered. She said, "Don't do me like that."

18 Q In fact, did Courtney say something further that  
19 about who needed the money?

20 A That they needed the money for their canteen  
21 money.

22 Q And that would be she and Antonio?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Was Antonio saying anything to Courtney during  
25 the confrontation and when they were together in the

1 room?

2 A Yes, ma'am. He kept repeating the phrase, "Free  
3 me," and then towards the end, once the paddy wagon  
4 driver came to transport him down to the detention  
5 center, she stated, "I did it. I did it all," and  
6 that was without any type of foundation or anything  
7 else. It seemed very much in direct response to  
8 Antonio saying, "Free me."

9 Q Did she indicate what should happen to Antonio,  
10 where he should go?

11 A That he should go home to the kids.

12 Q The next day, did you make contact with  
13 additional family members at Allen Benedict Court?

14 A I did.

15 Q Specifically, did you make contact with Gladys  
16 Thompson and Natalie Thompson?

17 A I did. I went along with Investigator Wagner.

18 Q You can't talk about what they said to you, but  
19 did you collect some pictures from Natalie Thompson on  
20 that day?

21 A I did. At first, she did not want to turn them  
22 over. She felt that no one had listened before when  
23 she tried to bring them up. I explained to her I  
24 couldn't control the past. I didn't know anything  
25 about the past, but they are relevant to my

1 investigation now and I needed them.

2 Q I'm going to show you what's been marked as  
3 State's 218. Is this one of the photographs --- and  
4 how did you get the photographs from her? Were they  
5 on paper, on the telephone or what?

6 A They were on the telephone. Investigator Wagner  
7 was able to take them straight off the phone. It's  
8 very easy to do, print them out. They were printed  
9 out as you see on the phone except it's obviously  
10 bigger.

11 Q I show you 218, (and this actually makes the whole  
12 situation blurrier, does that show part of the  
13 photograph that you got?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q Does that show some pattern marks on the back of  
16 the child?

17 A Yes, ma'am, there was a looping, which could be  
18 consistent with a cord.

19 Q And did they both come down to the sheriff's  
20 department on the lower side on Pineview to give  
21 statements that day?

22 A Yes, ma'am, again, in talking with people, you  
23 realize they have a lot of information. I wanted to  
24 get them to where we talked with one person at a time  
25 and put it in writing.

1 Q Did you also make contact with Crystal Thompson?

2 A I did.

3 Q Was this a somewhat tricky situation being that  
4 everyone you were talking to was related to Courtney?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And the father, Antonio?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q And was Crystal, on that day, forthcoming with  
9 you about things she had witnessed and overheard while  
10 on the phone?

11 A Very. It was chilling.

12 Q Once you had taken statements, additional  
13 statements, at this point, you had statements from  
14 Nicole, Natalie, Gladys and Crystal, the next day did  
15 you execute a search warrant back at 104 Beaverbrook?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q Was that based on some additional information you  
18 had gotten from those statements, as well as  
19 information about a pole being used in this situation?

20 A Yes, ma'am. The first search warrant we had no  
21 information about a pole. It's not until the night of  
22 the 2<sup>nd</sup> that we get information about a pole and in  
23 talking with the family members, we realized that we  
24 needed to do another search of the scene.

25 Q Did you also come up with information about a

1 security box that may have some type of recording  
2 device?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q In fact, did that security box, was it even  
5 capable of recording information or was it just a live  
6 feed?

7 A According to Courtney, it was just a live feed  
8 that you could see on her phone. She didn't indicate  
9 it was anything to make a record, it was just a home  
10 security system.

11 Q In your investigation, were you able to get any  
12 information from Time Warner or her that indicated it  
13 was set up to do anything other than a live feed?

14 A No, ma'am, like I said, it was just a live feed.

15 Q When you went back into the home with a search  
16 warrant ---

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q --- did you look for the video, the recording  
19 machine or whatever it was, the video?

20 A Yes, ma'am, we did not find it.

21 Q It was gone when you went back on the 4<sup>th</sup>?

22 A It was not where it was when we were there on the  
23 2<sup>nd</sup>.

24 Q On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, you didn't know the significance of  
25 it at that point?

1 A Did not.

2 Q During the search of the house, were you also  
3 searching for other items, such as a pole that may  
4 have been used in this case?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And what, if any, items were found when you went  
7 back?

8 A We collected two poles in going through the house  
9 in the back bedroom, which was identified as  
10 Courtney's bedroom and Antonio's bedroom. Two  
11 mattresses were sitting on the floor. They weren't,  
12 you know --- it's not like a regular frame, they were  
13 just sitting on the floor. I moved the bed away from  
14 the wall, and between the wall where the mattress was,  
15 there was a pole that we thought was significant to  
16 this investigation.

17 Q State's Exhibit 151, is this the pole that you  
18 actually recovered that day that's been taped back  
19 together? It's the same pole that's been testified  
20 to, correct?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And photographs of where it was found?

23 A Yes.

24 Q You actually found that that day?

25 A I did.

1 Q Did you touch it or do anything to it prior to  
2 Investigator Polis collecting it?

3 A In discovering it, I ran my hand along the edge  
4 and that's when I touched it. I didn't move it any  
5 further. When I touched it, I moved the mattress away  
6 further so that a picture could be taken and it could  
7 be documented where it was.

8 Q During the course of your investigation that day  
9 there at the house an 104 Beaverbrook on July 4<sup>th</sup>, did  
10 you observe some photographs of some children in the  
11 house?

12 A There were pictures of several of the girls,  
13 Courtney's girls, but there was no pictures or art  
14 work or anything from **Victim**.

15 Q And again, in the room where he was supposed to  
16 be sleeping, was there a bed?

17 A There was no bed.

18 Q The next day on July 5<sup>th</sup>, were you requested to  
19 go back to 104 Beaverbrook by a family member of  
20 Antonio Guinyard?

21 A Yes, ma'am, his mother wanted us to meet her back  
22 at the house so that she could retrieve some of his  
23 clothing. Myself and Investigator Wagner went back  
24 there. This was not something where we were looking  
25 for anything, had no intention of anything being



1 found, but something --- Ms. Guinyard, as she is going  
2 through the closet, comes across a shirt with blood on  
3 it.

4 Q What closet was that?

5 A It was Courtney's and Antonio's closet.

6 Q In the master bedroom where they slept?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q You mentioned she was going through the closet.  
9 What all was in the closet area?

10 A There were a lot of clothes, just a pile of it.  
11 She wanted to get Antonio's clothing out.

12 Q And were you actually there when she retrieved  
13 it, the shirt?

14 A I was in the room when she came across it. You  
15 could tell she found something that was unpleasant.

16 Q I'm going to show you State's 247; is that the  
17 interior of the closet?

18 A It is.

19 Q And State's 249, is that the shirt that was  
20 retrieved.

21 Q Do you recall what size that shirt was?

22 A It was a child's shirt.

23 Q And it was buried in their closet?

24 A It was.

25 Q On July 8<sup>th</sup>, did you take a statement from

1 Ms. Guinyard?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q The defendant's mother?

4 A I did.

5 Q And Patricia Guinyard, does she live here in the  
6 Columbia area?

7 A She does.

8 Q And that would be Antonio Guinyard's mother?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q At that point, did you also get a search warrant  
11 for --- were there any cell phones, that were obtained  
12 in this case?

13 A We had Courtney's cell phone. We're not sure  
14 what happened the Antonio's cell phone.

15 Q Were you ever able to find Antonio's phone?

16 A I have no idea where it went.

17 Q But you were able to retrieve Courtney's cell  
18 phone?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q I believe Investigator Wagner actually got that  
21 from her?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Initially you got a search warrant to download  
24 it?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q Or do what we call a dump?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q At that point, was an attempt made to try to get  
4 the information from the phone?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Was it successful?

7 A It was not.

8 Q As Investigator Metz has testified to. Later on  
9 did you get another search warrant for that phone?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q And at that point were documents downloaded?

12 A Yes, ma'am. I learned --- we obtained some new  
13 software, Investigator Metz works in a different area  
14 than where my building is. He works right where the  
15 main sheriff's department is located. I work at 1931  
16 Pineview. He mentioned they had some new software.  
17 We asked if he thought this might work. He said it  
18 appears to work.

19 Q The phone we're referring to, is that State's  
20 Exhibit 210?

21 A If you can flip it over. Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And the information that was gotten from that  
23 phone was initially entered as State's Exhibit 250.  
24 This is it?

25 A It's a huge document.

1 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time, based on  
2 the defense request, we would substitute the redacted  
3 portions for 250 at their request.

4 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

5 MR. LI: No objection.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MS. CAMPBELL: So this would be substituted as to  
8 the relevant dates.

9 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 250-A was  
10 marked for identification and admitted into  
11 evidence.)

12 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

13 Q I want to now show you the new Exhibit 250 and  
14 see if you recognize that.

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q Do you have a copy of those before you?

17 A I do.

18 Q Are those incoming, outgoing calls, and Google  
19 internet searches from July 1<sup>st</sup> into July 2<sup>nd</sup>?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q Do you work with telephone records in your job?

22 A Yes, ma'am. They're very helpful to us.

23 Q Once you were able to get this information, did  
24 you have an opportunity to review it?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q And this started just at a point on 7/1/2013 ---  
2 and how were these records listed? The first column  
3 is the type, which is ---

4 A It's either outgoing or incoming call.

5 Q And the second column is a time stamp?

6 A Correct.

7 Q And that timestamp, is it accurate as far as  
8 Eastern daylight time?

9 A It's in the --- what they call the UTC time,  
10 which is the coordinated universal time code. Eastern  
11 Standard Time is typically five hours behind it.  
12 However, during Daylight Savings Time, which July 1<sup>st</sup>  
13 would be during Daylight Savings Time, it's only four.

14 Q It would be a four hour difference?

15 A Correct.

16 Q When you're looking at the times that are  
17 actually listed on State's Exhibit 250, in order to  
18 get the correct Eastern Standard Time that would have  
19 been here, how many hours do you subtract or add?

20 A You subtract four.

21 Q As far as the times being accurate in these  
22 columns, as far as ingoing and outgoing calls, as well  
23 as the Google searches, the stuff that Mr. Li was  
24 asking about yesterday, is that concerning text  
25 messages?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q But not these calls?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And these are the calls that you relied on as  
5 part of your investigation?

6 A They were. That was further corroborated on with  
7 the Blue Ribbon Taxi Cab.

8 Q And we can start there.

9 A I'm sorry.

10 Q If you go to the fourth page. There is an  
11 outgoing call?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q And I believe that's at what time? Oh, let me  
14 put a basis in for it. The numbers that are reflected  
15 on these and the names and the description of who the  
16 party is?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q Is that information you collected during the  
19 course of your investigation?

20 A Yes, ma'am. Most of these are family members, so  
21 their phone numbers are listed on their statement  
22 forms or within their contact information they gave  
23 us. The ones that are not family members, I call the  
24 number, find out, or Google it, but it's confirmed  
25 that what is listed here is what it says, Chase Bank

1 is Chase Bank, Time Warner Cable is Time Warner Cable.  
2 Blue Ribbon is Blue Ribbon. The hospital has several  
3 different numbers, kind of like the sheriff's  
4 department, but the numbers listed in this report  
5 belong to the hospital.

6 Q So after the time stamp is the party. That's how  
7 it's listed actually in her phone?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q With the phone number, as well as if there's any  
10 other kind of name next to it, such as this one, "Kids  
11 grandmother," "Sister Chrystal"?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And then next to that is the description and  
14 that's who you were able to match these up to?

15 A Correct.

16 Q Based on the information from your investigation.  
17 And then finally the duration of these calls is the  
18 final column; is that correct?

19 A Correct.

20 Q On the one starting with Blue Ribbon Taxi,  
21 there's a date indicated on there on page four?

22 A Blue Ribbon Taxi, the date is 7/1/2013.

23 Q And I want to turn your attention to one at  
24 5:06 p.m.?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q And you see that one?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q And is that that universal time you were talking  
4 about?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q What's the abbreviation for that?

7 A UTC

8 Q But in order to put it into our time, what would  
9 you have to do?

10 A You'd have to subtract four hours.

11 Q So that would actually be at 1:06 p.m.?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q Eastern Daylight Time, which would be accurate  
14 for summer?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q And in reviewing the Blue Ribbon Cab Company log,  
17 is that corroborated?

18 A It is.

19 Q Going on down to the bottom of that page on  
20 7/1/2013?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q This is the Blue Ribbon call, right? Was that  
23 ingoing or outgoing?

24 A That was an outgoing call.

25 Q At the bottom of the page, the last one on that



1 one is what date?

2 A The last one on that page is 7/1/2013. That's  
3 9:05 UTC time.

4 Q Which would translate to what on Eastern Daylight  
5 time?

6 A 5:05.

7 Q And that's?

8 A That's the sister, Crystal.

9 Q Crystal?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q What's the duration of the call?

12 A Two minutes, 11 seconds. I don't know if you  
13 need to know, but that's an incoming call with  
14 Crystal. The next one on the next page is an outgoing  
15 call. That's also on 7/1/2013 and that's at 9:07 p.m.  
16 UTC time --- UTC time, which would be 5:07.

17 Last two, Nicole Thompson is in her phone as  
18 Mikayla. That's a 20 second call. Then you have  
19 several web searches and those were significant to us.

20 Q And the web searches, what times were those and  
21 how many of them are there?

22 A Five.

23 Q There are five web searches?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q And what time period are those in?

1 A Do you want just what time here or what time it  
2 says on the report?

3 Q On the report first.

4 A All right. On the report is 10:03 p.m. which  
5 would be --- the last one because they're all ---

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q The last one is what?

8 A 10:05.

9 Q And that would translate into?

10 A 6:03 and 6:05 respectively, P.M. On the web  
11 searches there is no duration.

12 Q No duration?

13 A No, ma'am.

14 Q And what was being Googled on Courtney Thompson's  
15 phone?

16 A "A child have seizures what to do."

17 Q At 5:05 to 5:07?

18 A "What to do if your child has a seizure, what to  
19 do if your child has seizure." It's all what to do if  
20 your child has a seizure.

21 Q And then after that is there a lapse in time?

22 A There is.

23 Q And then the next call, calls, are actually  
24 outgoing calls, I believe, to Kim Gooden?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q And those are from 10:40 to 10:48.

2 A Yes, sir. Those are all less than a minute, less  
3 than 30 seconds.

4 Q And those are to Kim Gooden?

5 A Yes, ma'am, there are seven to Ms. Gooden.

6 Q That would translate into 6:40 to 6:48?

7 A Yes, ma'am. Excuse me, it would be to 43. The  
8 48 is Robert Guinyard, Sr.

9 Q Oh, I'm sorry. Based on your investigation, were  
10 you aware that after Ms. Thompson left the house that  
11 she started making phone calls?

12 A I didn't ---

13 Q There at the scene, sheriff's deputies observed  
14 her doing that?

15 A Yes.

16 Q What time was the 911 call placed in this case?

17 A 911 is called in to the EMS side at six --- hold  
18 on one second. I have a lot of paperwork here. I  
19 believe it was 6:13. Let me double check before I  
20 tell you. It was at 6:12, which is to 911.

21 Q So the call to Crystal was at 5:05?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And immediately a 20 second call to Nicole?

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q Then five web searches between 6:03 and 6:05?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q And then seven minutes later the 911 call?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q Did Ms. Thompson ever mention to you that she was  
5 calling her sister after she hung up the phone with  
6 Crystal?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q She did mention that to you?

9 A I'm sorry. No, ma'am.

10 Q Did she ever mention to you how she was Googling  
11 on how a seizure would appear prior to calling 911?

12 A No, ma'am, never said that.

13 Q The house in this case at Beaverbrook, there's  
14 been mention of a --- of a store where Mr. Guinyard  
15 went that morning?

16 A Yes, ma'am.

17 Q And another mention of a store where he was  
18 dropped off by Ms. Metze later?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q I want to show you State's Exhibit No. 213. Does  
21 this show both the store and the proximity to 104  
22 Beaverbrook?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we would  
25 offer 213 into evidence.

1 MS. PINNOCK: No objection.

2 MR. LI: No objection, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: 213 without objection.

4 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 213 was  
5 admitted into evidence.)

6 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

7 Q Is this approximately where the house is on  
8 Beaverbrook?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q What road is this down here?

11 A This is Fairfield Road. The bottom part here  
12 would be where I-20 would be.

13 Q I-20 would be down here? Is it on the map?

14 A Not on the map, no.

15 Q The store, is it shown on this map?

16 A It's the larger building here with the cars in  
17 the parking lot.

18 Q Is that the building that Antonio was referring  
19 to going to that morning ---

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q --- to buy his beer?

22 A Yes, it's within easy walking distance from the  
23 house.

24 Q When you were there at the house that day, you  
25 actually went inside?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q You were there while the coroner was there and  
3 everyone else?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q This was what month?

6 A July 1<sup>st</sup>.

7 Q What was the temperature inside the house when  
8 you were there?

9 A The temperature inside the house was warm. It  
10 was hot outside, it was hot inside. It was just a warm  
11 day.

12 Q In fact, when you were there inside, how did it  
13 affect you?

14 A I was sweating when I was inside. There was not  
15 a breeze. There was no air movement.

16 Q Let me go back to one thing. In these phone  
17 calls, and we haven't gone through all the rest of  
18 them, that evening there are also a number of phone  
19 calls to Time Warner?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q And ---

22 A That's what started on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, U.T.C time would  
23 be the 4:43 real-time would be --- excuse me, east  
24 coast time would be right at midnight.

25 Q That would be on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q About midnight, she is worried about the Time  
3 Warner Cable box?

4 A Yes, ma'am, there is a lot of activity calling,  
5 looking up, searching Time Warner Cable.

6 Q In fact, it's on the home security that she is  
7 looking?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q And then later that morning there's also been  
10 testimony that there was a phone call to Ms. Angie  
11 Metze in the early morning hours because she needed to  
12 leave?

13 A Yes, ma'am. That time shows up on the phone at  
14 this 6:39. Again, that would be the UTC time, which  
15 four hours from that would be 2:39 in the morning.

16 Q So about twenty till three in the morning?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q There are a number of additional searches that  
19 next morning around 9:00 a.m.?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q For what information?

22 A It was Time Warner Cable. You see where she  
23 tried to sign in.

24 For the next several bit, it's "Time Warner  
25 Cable."

1 Q Then ultimately does she start Googling into news  
2 web sites?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q And specifically what is she searching?

5 A She does a search on **Victim** --- excuse me,  
6 "Columbia news." She goes to "WLTX, ABC news."

7 Q And finally line 12 at 11:00 a.m.?

8 A "Four-year-old boy on Beaverbrook," Google  
9 search. I apologize. A lot of times when you're  
10 going through this, it's got a lot of what I call  
11 filler, and you're trying to look for the words that  
12 would make sense, so as I'm going through, I'm just  
13 trying to make sure I didn't miss anything, but yes,  
14 ma'am.

15 Q Did you also collect buccal swabs from these two  
16 defendants at a later date pursuant to court orders?

17 A Antonio was a consent search and Ms. Courtney was  
18 a Schmerber.

19 Q And that's State's 206 and 205?

20 A Yes. Antonio was 7/19/13 and Courtney was  
21 3/12/14.

22 Q Did you also collect a 911 call in this case?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q Who made the 911 call?

25 A Ms. Courtney did.



1 Q I show you what's been marked as State's Exhibit  
2 223. Did you have a chance to review that?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q I'm going to mark it for ID at this point.  
5 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 223 was marked  
6 for identification only.)

7 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

8 Q Finally, did you also during the course of this  
9 investigation, did you get some --- a jail phone call?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q And I show you what's been marked as State's  
12 Exhibit 254. Have you had an opportunity to review  
13 this?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And I believe Sergeant Waters testified to how  
16 it's collected?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q And is this a phone call made by Courtney  
19 Thompson?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q Do you know what date that was?

22 A The jail call was 7/20/14 (sic) to her sister  
23 Nicole.

24 Q July 20<sup>th</sup>?

25 A 4/20.

1 Q Oh, April 20<sup>th</sup>?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q Of this year?

4 A Yes.

5 Q To her sister ---

6 A Nicole, yes.

7 MS. CAMPBELL: Your Honor, at this time we would  
8 offer State's 254 into evidence.

9 THE COURT: Over defense's objection.

10 (WHEREUPON, State's Exhibit Number 254 was  
11 admitted into evidence.)

12 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you. Your Honor,  
13 permission to publish?

14 THE COURT: You may.

15 Ms. Smith, do those speakers move?

16 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: They move.

17 THE COURT: You may want to set them up on the  
18 jury. If anybody on the jury can't hear, raise your  
19 hand. We'll do our best to get them where you can  
20 hear.

21 (WHEREUPON, the call was played for the jury.)

22 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

23 Q In that phone call, was there yet another version  
24 of events given by Ms. Thompson?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q And finally, she mentions, and she is talking to  
2 her sister --- was it Nicole or Natalie?

3 A She is talking to Nicole Thompson.

4 Q And when she is talking to her, she references a  
5 phone call she made trying to let her know the baby  
6 had died?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q In the records, the first phone call after the  
9 hang up with Crystal is a 20 second phone call at  
10 5:07, two minutes after Crystal had heard that?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q And an hour before 911?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q The people that were arrested in this case, both  
15 of them, for homicide by child abuse and unlawful  
16 neglect of a child, the people who gave you these  
17 stories. Do you see them in the courtroom?

18 A I do, the mother, Courtney Thompson and the  
19 father, Antonio Guinyard.

20 Q They're seated at the table with their lawyers?

21 A They are.

22 MS. CAMPBELL: Let the record reflect he has  
23 identified the defendants.

24 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

25 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please

1 the Court.

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

4 BY MR. LI:

5 Q Investigator Holdorf.

6 A Good afternoon, sir.

7 Q Good afternoon. Let's talk about this phone call  
8 first. When people make phone calls at the jail, they  
9 know they're recorded, right?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q They're informed right away?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Courtney Thompson is calling her sister?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Nicole?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Who has given a statement?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Whose going to be a --- was a witness?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Known witness, correct. She is --- her statement  
22 is in discovery, correct?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Because you've given that to the solicitor's  
25 office?

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q Who has given it to the lawyer?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And the --- what was the date on the phone call?

5 A The date on the phone call was 4/20/14.

6 Q And what's today 's date? What day did this

7 trial start?

8 A It started Monday. Today is Friday.

9 Q The 19<sup>th</sup>?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q And has Nicole --- you were in this courtroom the

12 entire time?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q And Nicole has testified already?

15 A Yes, sir.

16 Q Has she testified consistent with what she said?

17 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Sustained.

19 BY MR. LI:

20 Q Earlier you said that you had a 911 call?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q And has that been played yet?

23 A It has not been.

24 Q And you said in Antonio's statement that he went

25 along with it being an accident?

1 A That was the jest of it, based on both of their  
2 statements if you're talking about the first night.  
3 The statements on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

4 Q On the 1<sup>st</sup>, right. He actually never says that  
5 it's an accident?

6 A All he will acknowledge is that there was a boom.

7 Q That's right.

8 A And the rest of it, there is nothing else that he  
9 knows.

10 Q That's right.

11 A And also that his son was fine that day.

12 Q Yes, sir.

13 A He didn't notice any injuries. He doesn't hit  
14 his son.

15 Q Uh-huh.

16 A He didn't see any type of abuse. He is just  
17 clearly not being forthcoming in his statement.

18 Q That's what --- at that point, at that point on  
19 the 1<sup>st</sup>, there is no autopsy, correct?

20 A There is not.

21 Q And you're investigating it as a suspicious  
22 death?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q And you mentioned earlier when Ms. Campbell was  
25 asking you questions, you mentioned that he never came

1 forward and told you the condition of **Victim** two days  
2 ago or three days ago, correct?

3 A On his statement, his son was fine.

4 Q Earlier when Ms. Campbell asked you, and he  
5 never --- he didn't tell you the condition of **Victim**  
6 two days ago, a week ago, previously. You said ---

7 A He was asked about any medical problems. There  
8 were a bunch of open ended questions. That's done so  
9 that I'm not narrowing it down to scope. Any medical  
10 problems that he might have --- before you write down  
11 a statement, you're talking with this person for  
12 awhile. I'm not trying to broadcast my questions too  
13 much. I'm wanting to see when I ask you a question  
14 how do you respond, how do you react, do you seem like  
15 you are forthright and forthcoming or does it seem  
16 like there might be a little bit more that you're not  
17 telling me.

18 Q Okay. And I don't know which State's exhibit it  
19 is, but I just want to show you the --- do you have it  
20 up there?

21 A I think I have it.

22 Q Antonio's statement? I'll show you.

23 Just read the questions.

24 A What? I'm sorry?

25 Q I'm sorry?

1 A I see it's highlighted. It distracted me.

2 Q The first question you asked him was, "Tell me  
3 what happened on July 1, 2013, at Beaverbrook Road,"  
4 right?

5 A Right. That's the question that the investigator  
6 wrote.

7 Q I got you; I got you.

8 A But I'm talking with him, and we're talking a  
9 little before and this goes on --- it's hard to take a  
10 statement from someone. You want to make sure  
11 everyone has an understanding of what's going on.

12 Q I understand.

13 A So you try to get all the information out there,  
14 that's what I want. I want all the information out  
15 there.

16 Q The second question was?

17 MS. CAMPBELL: Objection, Your Honor. I think he  
18 has a right to finish his answer.

19 THE COURT: He does.

20 BY MR. LI:

21 Q I'm sorry. I didn't mean to stop you.

22 A The questions that I would have asked were not  
23 specifically to read out of habit, but the meeting is  
24 the same.

25 Q I got you. Okay, but ---



1 A Go ahead, sir. He was asked specifically about  
2 it the first time. I asked about any type of medical  
3 problems, any type of conditions. There was no  
4 indication whatsoever that there was any problem with  
5 this son until there's a boom. Five minutes later he  
6 says that Courtney is calling for help.

7 Q Right. You asked him about the medical  
8 conditions, correct?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q Open ended questions?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Then at that point, you yourself did not know  
13 that the cause of death was a prolonged period of  
14 abuse, correct?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q Right. You were investigating it as a death on  
17 that day?

18 A That's correct.

19 Q In fact, the day that you talked to Antonio was  
20 the same day that his firstborn child had died,  
21 correct?

22 A No, sir, not his --- I don't know if that's the  
23 firstborn. Courtney has seven kids. I don't know.

24 Q But his child had died.

25 A One of his children had died, yes, sir.

1 MR. LI: Beg the Court's indulgence.

2 (Pause.)

3 No further questions.

4 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

5 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court.

6 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

7 BY MS. PINNOCK:

8 Q Investigator Holdorf, do you know what time ---  
9 what time did you say you got to the house on ---

10 A On the 1<sup>st</sup>. I was signed into the crime scene at  
11 7:12 p.m. I had been to the house a little bit before  
12 I actually go into the house. They don't log --- when  
13 we get on the scene, we go into the patrol area.

14 Q You go into the patrol area?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q When you got there, you said you spoke to  
17 Courtney before you went into the house and came back  
18 out and talked to her again?

19 A Yes, ma'am.

20 Q Who were the first people to the house that you  
21 were aware of?

22 A EMS.

23 Q EMS. Do you know what time they got there?

24 A I know the call was made at 6:12. I want to say  
25 a pretty quick response time. You can hear it on the

1 911 tape. It doesn't take that long to get there. It  
2 was pretty quick.

3 Q Okay.

4 A A few minutes.

5 Q And when you're in the house, you said you walked  
6 through the entire house?

7 A I went back to the back room where the clean up  
8 was. I was in every room, but I wasn't fully going  
9 into each room.

10 Q Right.

11 A I was just kind of looking around and getting a  
12 feel, like the officers said, is anyone else here, do  
13 a search and the third one finds Mr. Antonio, just to  
14 make sure what I'm telling my supervisor, I say hey,  
15 this is what I saw. This is what I know.

16 Q Right, so when you got there, you weren't looking  
17 for anything. You just walked and looked in every  
18 room?

19 A Yes.

20 Q You noticed the wet spot on the carpet?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q When you went and talked to Courtney in the car,  
23 she told you it was urine that she was trying to clean  
24 up?

25 A She told me I could smell it, yes, ma'am.

1 Q And when you were talking to Courtney while she  
2 was sitting outside her house, she was upset there in  
3 the back of the car?

4 A It was an emotional situation.

5 Q Was she crying?

6 A She was emotional; I don't remember seeing any  
7 tears. I know there were times when she would seem  
8 more emotional and then it would automatically turn  
9 off. She was going through a range of emotions.

10 Q Do you have your report with you?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q Can you look on the first page, third paragraph  
13 where you wrote, "I spoke with Courtney and asked what  
14 was going on. She was upset and crying."?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q That was when she was still in the car?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q And the first time you talked to Antonio  
19 Guinyard, he was also sitting in the back of the  
20 police car?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q What was his demeanor?

23 A He really doesn't have a whole lot of response.  
24 He doesn't --- he's never overly excitable, never ---  
25 just kind of flat in the middle, if you will.

1 Q Okay. At some point, you know there's a whole  
2 bunch going on. You want to get statements from both  
3 of them. Both of them were transported down to  
4 headquarters to get statements, right?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And you speak with Courtney or Antonio first?

7 A I spoke with Antonio first.

8 Q And that's when he told you just verbally what  
9 happened on July 1<sup>st</sup>?

10 A Yes, ma'am, which is consistent with his written  
11 statement.

12 Q Okay. He didn't provide you any detailed  
13 information about what happened June 29<sup>th</sup>?

14 A That Courtney goes to the hospital to have a  
15 baby.

16 Q He didn't mention anything about **Victim**?

17 A I don't have any --- there is nothing I recall  
18 about June 29<sup>th</sup> and **Victim**.

19 Q Okay. Did he mention anything about **Victim** on  
20 June 30<sup>th</sup>?

21 A It's an open ended question. I'm not trying to  
22 ask a parent what happened on this day, what happened  
23 on this day, what happened on this day. I would  
24 expect some sort of forthcomingness from a parent in  
25 this type of situation, especially if this is

1 noncriminal. As far as specifically asking about each  
2 and every day of the week leading up to the death, no  
3 that was not done. Open ended questions were done  
4 asking about any medical problems, how do you  
5 discipline ---

6 Q Okay.

7 A --- anyone mad, trying to find the trigger  
8 mechanisms that would cause something like that.

9 Q Let me ask you this way: does the statement refer  
10 to any --- tell you any information about what  
11 happened June 29<sup>th</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup> or what happened July 1<sup>st</sup>?

12 A I know that he talked about Courtney going to the  
13 hospital on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I don't recall --- there's a  
14 lot of information, and I can't say whether or not  
15 that's in his statement or not. Things at this point  
16 in time start blurring a little bit together.

17 Q Okay. But you do remember him telling you that  
18 on the morning of July 1<sup>st</sup> he left **Victim** at the  
19 house?

20 A He went to the store to get some cigarettes and  
21 beer.

22 Q And **Victim** as at the house lying in a puddle of  
23 urine.

24 A Yes, ma'am.

25 Q And **Victim** was at the house by himself.

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Laying in a puddle of urine.

3 A Yes, ma'am, on the floor.

4 Q Then he came back and he drank a beer.

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And then he went back to sleep, according to what  
7 he said in his statement?

8 A Yes, ma'am, watching TV, went back to sleep.

9 Q Then when you talked with Courtney, she told you  
10 that she went to the hospital on June 29<sup>th</sup>?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

12 Q And she got home July 1<sup>st</sup>.

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q And you took both of her written statements,  
15 correct?

16 A I did, yes, ma'am.

17 Q And you already said you reviewed the '911 call?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q What date did you get that? Do you remember?

20 A No, ma'am. I didn't document it. They would  
21 have it with dispatch what time it was created or  
22 something.

23 Q Okay. Now, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, you said you did meet with  
24 Courtney over at the house?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q What time did you say you got there?

2 A On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, I signed into the crime scene log at  
3 14:37, which was 2:37 p.m.

4 Q And Courtney got there shortly after?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And you were involved with Courtney going over  
7 things with Investigator --- with Deputy Coroner  
8 Powell?

9 A I was present. I wasn't involved. I wasn't  
10 asking questions. I wasn't directing anything. We  
11 were there just observing, myself and Investigator  
12 Wagner and Timothy Lee from our lab to just witness  
13 what was going on.

14 Q And what that's for, and you already testified to  
15 this, is they wanted to ask Courtney some more  
16 questions trying to figure out what was going on in  
17 the house, right?

18 A Yes, ma'am. The placement, how she actually  
19 finds **Victim**.

20 Q Uh-huh.

21 A Where he was. Neither party --- neither parent's  
22 statement makes a whole lot of sense, especially after  
23 the autopsy, other than they're just not telling the  
24 truth. So I wanted to get additional information.

25 You can say, well the white board is over there



1 and we can have a difference of opinion. It helps a  
2 lot of times if you can go over there and put it right  
3 where you can see it.

4 Q And Courtney was there?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Antonio Guinyard is not there?

7 A He did not show up.

8 Q Do you recall how long you were at the house?

9 A I would say probably close to an hour.

10 Q And then after you were done at the house,  
11 everybody went back to headquarters?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q You said you drove Courtney there?

14 A I think Investigator Wagner drove.

15 Q Okay.

16 A But yes, ma'am. I'm not trying to play word  
17 games. We were in the same car together and went back  
18 to headquarters together.

19 Q And how long is that trip, 15 to 20 minutes?

20 A Yes, 15 to 20 minutes.

21 Q So you got there at 2:37, you're there about an  
22 hour, then 15 to 20 minutes later you're back at  
23 headquarters and you take Courtney directly upstairs?

24 A Yes, ma'am, we would have come in through the  
25 back door. The back door comes in to the second level

1 of the sheriff's department.

2 Q At that point, you said that you, Investigator  
3 Wagner and Courtney and Jane Powell all end up sitting  
4 together going over the autopsy and just going through  
5 some more questions?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q At some point after talking to Courtney, you were  
8 informed that Mr. Guinyard had showed up?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q So you leave them there and you go get  
11 Mr. Guinyard?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q How long had you been talking to Courtney at that  
14 point?

15 A It wasn't very long, maybe five, ten minutes.

16 Q At that point, you start going over things again  
17 with Mr. Guinyard. You inform him of the autopsy  
18 findings and Courtney is still with Investigator  
19 Wagner and Jane Powell and I think, it's Investigator  
20 Weeks?

21 A It's Melton now, but yes.

22 Q Melton, I'm sorry.

23 A I'm sorry.

24 Q And she showed up then?

25 A She showed up sometime while I was talking to

1 Antonio. I didn't know she was there until I walked  
2 into the room.

3 Q At some point, you and Investigator Wagner have a  
4 conversation about letting Courtney speak to Antonio  
5 alone?

6 A Yes, ma'am. I wasn't getting anywhere with  
7 Antonio. There was no changes. There was nothing  
8 that --- it just wasn't progressing. It wasn't  
9 moving, so Investigator Wagner had asked about ---  
10 that Courtney wanted to talk to Antonio.

11 Q And you put them in the room --- you let them do  
12 that? They sat there by themselves in private for 10  
13 to 15 minutes?

14 A They were in a room. They were standing or  
15 sitting, I don't know.

16 Q Okay.

17 A There is no video monitoring, there is no audio  
18 monitoring. They had 10, 15 minutes alone. No one  
19 made any loud noises. No one called for help.

20 Q Okay. So after that was done, you then joined  
21 Courtney again to continue her statement?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q All right. How long had Courtney been at  
24 headquarters at this point?

25 A I don't know. I can go off the time on her

1 statement when we started writing it down versus the  
2 time of the Advice of Rights. We were there for a  
3 little bit of time.

4 Q Okay.

5 A More than hour, I would say.

6 Q And what time did you start her written  
7 statement?

8 A The written statement was started at 19:27.

9 Q Can you translate that for me?

10 A I'm sorry. That would be 7:27 p.m.

11 Q 7:27 p.m. that's when you start writing it?

12 A Yes, ma'am.

13 Q Okay. Do you know how long it took to complete  
14 it?

15 A It took a very long time.

16 Q A long time?

17 A The statement doesn't --- in talking with her, it  
18 was coming out in bits and pieces. It wasn't like  
19 where she is telling you everything at once. You're  
20 having to pretty much draw it out of her, what her  
21 statement is, and it just gets to the point where you  
22 have to start writing this down. You start putting  
23 this down so it's preserved.

24 Q Okay. So some time went by before you started  
25 writing it?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Okay. Then you started the writing process. You  
3 were typing. She was answering questions?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q At the end, she read over it. She signed it?

6 A Yes, ma'am.

7 Q Did they ask you this already, about what time it  
8 was when you finished?

9 A I believe it was closer to midnight.

10 Q Midnight?

11 A I'm not sure. I didn't document the time we  
12 finished. It had been a long day for everyone.

13 Q And then from --- I'm assuming you took breaks?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q And you would give 10, 15 minutes just for  
16 everybody to sit down, be quiet just a second before  
17 you continue questioning?

18 A Get water, something to drink. I believe that  
19 Captain Melton bought Sprite and a Diet Coke and  
20 regular Coke. Offered whatever she wanted, but I  
21 don't think she ate anything. It was offered to go  
22 get dinner, which wasn't uncommon. Again, you treat  
23 people the way you want to be treated. It had been a  
24 long day. If we ate, she would have eaten. I didn't  
25 document in my notes that anyone did eat, but I can't

1    imagine that we didn't.

2    Q     Okay.  Shortly after completing her written  
3    statement, she was in place in the break room; is that  
4    right?

5    A     Yes, ma'am.  You can put them there.  You can  
6    keep them in the office with you or you can put them  
7    in the D cell.  We just put them in the break room.

8    Q     Okay.

9    A     It was late at night.  There wasn't a lot of  
10   other people at the sheriff's department.

11   Q     Was she sitting there with other investigators,  
12   other deputies or by herself?

13   A     People were coming in and out of the room.  
14   Again, at that time someone was typing up warrants.  
15   Someone was working on the arrest report, contacting  
16   the paddy wagon trying to get finalization so we could  
17   get them transported down to the detention center.  
18   There were several people in and out and then standing  
19   in the doorway.

20   Q     Let me just back up a second.  When you were  
21   taking her written statement, she told you that she  
22   heard **Victim** crying like he was getting hit?

23   A     Yes, ma'am.

24   Q     Okay.  She told you she came around the corner  
25   and saw him laying on the floor?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q She told you she picked him up. He was seizing  
3 and then he went limp?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q She told you she called 911.

6 Q Yes, ma'am you pulled the 911 call, so you know  
7 she called 911?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q You know she tried CPR?

10 A I know she was instructed on doing CPR, how to do  
11 CPR. I wasn't present, so I don't ---

12 Q Well, she told you she did CPR?

13 A Yes, ma'am, but it also appeared that there's a  
14 very real possibility that **Victim** was dead approximately  
15 an hour before she called 911.

16 Q She told ---

17 A It's ---

18 Q It's very easy question ---

19 THE COURT: Whoa, whoa, whoa. One person talks  
20 at a time. Investigator Holdorf is in the middle  
21 answering a question.

22 THE WITNESS: If he's been dead an hour, basing  
23 that off the phone records where Crystal said she  
24 talked to Courtney, and then where Courtney on her  
25 jail call says she tried to call Natalie, I don't see

1 her doing CPR on somebody that's been dead an hour.  
2 I'm not trying to be cold or callous, but, I mean,  
3 it's just too late then.

4 BY MS. PINNOCK:

5 Q She told you she did CPR?

6 A She told me that, yes, ma'am.

7 Q On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, she even demonstrated to you how she  
8 tried to do CPR?

9 A She demonstrated several different things that  
10 also are not true.

11 Q Okay, but she demonstrated to you how she did  
12 CPR?

13 A Yes, ma'am, she did.

14 Q Now, you mentioned the phone records. What time  
15 did Courtney leave headquarters?

16 A What day?

17 Q On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, I'm sorry.

18 A On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, I think we wrapped up closer to  
19 midnight. I think both days were probably wrapped up  
20 closer to midnight.

21 Q She was taken directly from the sheriff's  
22 department down to the county --- when you placed her  
23 under arrest?

24 A On the 1<sup>st</sup>, her and Antonio left. They were not  
25 under arrest. They left, they went home. On the 2<sup>nd</sup>,



1 they were both placed under arrest and they were taken  
2 down to the detention center, yes, ma'am.

3 Q Before I get to the phone records, you mentioned  
4 --- Ms. Campbell asked you about the cable box?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q That was present on the house on the 2<sup>nd</sup>?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q Courtney never went back to that house on that  
9 day?

10 A She did not.

11 Q And you saw it when you were there?

12 A I did see it.

13 Q Just about done. Let me get my marker. Beg the  
14 Court's indulgence.

15 (Pause.)

16 You said on the 2<sup>nd</sup> you got to the house at  
17 2:37 thereabouts, correct? That's when you signed in,  
18 but you got there a few minutes earlier?

19 A Yes, ma'am. And I'm basing that off the crime  
20 scene log. I didn't write it down off my own  
21 independent recollection or notes of what time I got  
22 there.

23 Q You said the UTC time is four hours off?

24 A It's four hours ahead of us during the summer  
25 months.

1 Q So if there is a call on 7/2/13 at 6:58 p.m.,  
2 what time is that call?

3 A 6:58 would be two.

4 Q 2:00 p.m.?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 A I'm sorry, 2:58 p.m.

7 Q 2:58 p.m. Can you locate that? It's on the last  
8 page of the summary.

9 One, two, three, six up from the bottom? What's  
10 the duration of that call?

11 A Which person is it that was contacted?

12 Q Angela Metze, six up from the bottom on that last  
13 page.

14 A It was a 55 minute and 28 second call.

15 Q All right. Beg the Court's indulgence.

16 (Pause.)

17 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you, Your Honor. That's all  
18 I have.

19 MS. CAMPBELL: just one question.

20 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

21 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

22 Q That last one, that she is talking about the  
23 duration was 6:58, that would be right at 3:00 p.m. on  
24 the 2<sup>nd</sup>?

25 A Yes, ma'am.

1 Q The duration of that was 55 minutes.

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q And during the course of your investigation in  
4 talking with Ms. Metze, you were aware that Courtney  
5 had dialed the phone and left it on the entire time  
6 the reenactment was going on?

7 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor. That answer  
8 is based on hearsay.

9 MS. CAMPBELL: She asked about the phone call and  
10 there is an explanation. We don't want to ---

11 MS. PINNOCK: That's not in evidence.

12 THE COURT: Rephrase the question.

13 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

14 Q You were there for the reenactment?

15 A Yes, ma'am.

16 Q And you are aware of Ms. Metze in this case,  
17 Ms. Angie Metze?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q And that's who that phone call was to?

20 A Yes, ma'am.

21 Q During the course of your investigation, did you  
22 become aware that Ms. Metze ---

23 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, leading.

24 BY MS. CAMPBELL:

25 Q What did you become aware of as far as Ms. Metze,

1 this phone call?

2 A It was dialed while we were at the scene. She  
3 was not in custody at that point in time. She was not  
4 in custody. If she wants to make a phone call, she  
5 can make a phone call.

6 Q And you've talked to Ms. Metze?

7 A Yes, ma'am.

8 Q You can't say what she told you, but is that  
9 corroborated?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 MS. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Li?

13 MR. LI: No further questions.

14 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock?

15 MS. PINNOCK: Briefly, Judge.

16 RECROSS-EXAMINATION:

17 BY MS. PINNOCK:

18 Q Investigator Holdorf, when you were at the scene  
19 doing the reenactment, didn't Jane Powell look into  
20 Courtney's phone and she scrolled through the phone  
21 calls?

22 A I know I looked at them. I believe Jane may  
23 have. Again, as I said, I wasn't directly involved,  
24 so I'm not --- you're trying to stay back so that  
25 you're not interfering with any of the things that are

1 going on.

2 Q Right.

3 A I do believe that was correct.

4 Q Okay, so she looked through Courtney's phone when  
5 you were on the scene?

6 A I believe so, yes.

7 Q And you were there for one hour?

8 A I'm saying we were there for approximately one  
9 hour. I didn't know the time we got there or the time  
10 we left. They take a little bit of time, and you want  
11 to explain to the parties involved what we're doing,  
12 why we're doing it. Make sure nobody has any  
13 questions, and then you go through it.

14 A Fair enough.

15 Q But you looked through the phone?

16 A I did.

17 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much. You may  
19 step down.

20 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

21 THE COURT: Can you approach?

22 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
23 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

24 THE COURT: All right. Here is what we're going  
25 to do, ladies and gentlemen. It's 4:30 now. I need

1 less than ten minutes with the lawyers outside of your  
2 presence on some scheduling issues. If you'll go back  
3 to your jury room, and then I'll be right back with  
4 you just as soon as possible. Do not discuss the  
5 case. Keep an open mind. We're going to discuss  
6 scheduling.

7 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
8 4:31 p.m.)

9 THE COURT: All right. Tell me where you think  
10 you are.

11 MS. McDUFFIE: I think we are prepared to rest.  
12 We would just like a few minutes to make sure that all  
13 the exhibits we needed to get in are in before we  
14 rest.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Are all your people here on  
16 your issue?

17 MR. LI: I need to check one person outside.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Let's assume he has some  
19 people here. We take some testimony. Let's assume  
20 you don't have any more witnesses, and I'm not holding  
21 you to that, and then he has got his --- Mr. Li has  
22 his issue that we need to proffer a little bit on ---  
23 I still have to go through directed verdict motions.  
24 I still have to advise both defendants of their  
25 rights. I have to bring them back anyway to give them

1 this limiting instruction, and I just thought about  
2 that.

3 What time do you think we need tell them to be  
4 back on Tuesday morning? That's my real question.

5 MS. McDUFFIE: Assuming we do all of this  
6 tonight?

7 THE COURT: I don't know. How many witnesses do  
8 you have? You said it's going to take an hour?

9 MR. LI: I have six.

10 THE COURT: Are they all here?

11 MR. LI: They're all here.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MR. LI: We could do it next week if it's okay  
14 with you. It doesn't matter to us.

15 THE COURT: Are any of them police officers?

16 MR. LI: One of them is, and that's the question  
17 I was going to address the court.

18 THE COURT: Go ahead and ask that question.

19 MR. LI: That is Deputy Wilder. He was proffered  
20 the other day. I don't think I need to proffer him  
21 again.

22 THE COURT: Is he going to say anything more than  
23 what he proffered the other day?

24 MR. LI: No.

25 THE COURT: Yes, he doesn't need to proffer.

1 again; I remember that testimony very well  
2 (indicating).

3 (Deputy Wilder left the courtroom.)

4 MR. LI: Okay.

5 THE COURT: Do you want to do that tonight or  
6 Tuesday morning?

7 MR. LI: Tuesday morning.

8 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, we prefer to do it tonight.

9 MS. PINNOCK: Judge, I don't care.

10 THE COURT: So --- I'm listening.

11 MR. LI: Your Honor, I would respectfully ask we  
12 do it Tuesday. It would give me time to prepare and  
13 talk to my client. It's give me time to prepare and  
14 proffer him as well. It's been a busy week, and I  
15 haven't had much time to talk the other witnesses.

16 THE COURT: I mean, we were supposed to do this  
17 at noon today, so what were you going to do if it  
18 happened at noon?

19 MR. LI: Go with it.

20 THE COURT: All right. Let's bring the jury back  
21 in.

22 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
23 4:34 p.m.)

24 THE BAILIFF: All the jurors are here, Your  
25 Honor.



1 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Burgess.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, I actually forgot to tell  
3 you something, so I'm going to tell you this  
4 information and then I'm going to release you for the  
5 three day weekend. So listen to me on these two  
6 instructions that I'm going to give you.

7 Number one, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you  
8 have just heard testimony about an alleged statement  
9 made by the Defendant Courtney Thompson to the  
10 witness, that being Investigator Holdorf.

11 This evidence is admitted solely against  
12 Defendant Thompson. It is not to be considered by you  
13 in anyway to indicate the guilt of the co-defendant.  
14 And indeed, you cannot consider that evidence against  
15 the co-defendant. It may be considered only by you in  
16 connection with your determination of whether or not  
17 the Defendant Thompson is guilty or not guilty of the  
18 offenses. It is limited solely to her and is  
19 admissible only against her at this trial.

20 Now, ladies and gentlemen, you also just heard in  
21 a statement, testimony about an alleged statement made  
22 by the defendant, Robert Guinyard, to this witness.  
23 This evidence is admitted solely against Defendant  
24 Guinyard. It is not to be considered by you in any  
25 way to indicate the guilt of the co-defendant, and

1 indeed you cannot consider that evidence against the  
2 co-defendant. It may be considered only by you in  
3 connection with your determination of whether or not  
4 Defendant Guinyard is guilty or not guilty of these  
5 offenses. It is limited solely to him and it is  
6 admissible only against him at this trial.

7 Now, at the conclusion of the case when I give  
8 you my full charge on the law, I will give you those  
9 charges again, and I'll give you another full charge  
10 about statements of defendants and the things that you  
11 have to consider in considering whether or not those  
12 statements were actually made.

13 Now, I'm about to release you over a three day  
14 weekend, okay. Now, the last time I released a jury  
15 over a three day weekend we had a polar vortex and  
16 court was shut down for the rest of the entire week.  
17 I doubt that that in this happen this time, but I am  
18 going to release you over the weekend. We are not  
19 going to work on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. This is  
20 a holiday weekend. You all need to be with your  
21 families and your friends and catch up on any work  
22 that you need to do. You've made a great sacrifice to  
23 be here this week. We are imposing upon you during a  
24 second week. I understand your sacrifice and have a  
25 great appreciation for it. We will not be holding

1 court on Monday. However, we will be back here  
2 Tuesday morning. You need to be here at 10:30 on  
3 Tuesday morning ready to go.

4 You will recall that I previously instructed you  
5 in great detail that you have to decide this case  
6 based solely on what happens in this courtroom, the  
7 evidence that comes from the witness stand and the  
8 exhibits that are introduced.

9 Because we're about to take an extended break,  
10 that being a three day weekend, I'm now reminding you  
11 of that warning and urging you again to commit to each  
12 other, the parties, the lawyers and to the court that  
13 you're not going to do any independent research on  
14 this case in any way, shape, or form, electronically,  
15 digitally, Blackberry, iPhone, smart phone, telephone,  
16 Google, blogs, anything that I can't imagine.

17 I won't to give you actually an example of that,  
18 a very simple example to show you the length of which  
19 I mean that. You heard medical testimony this week.  
20 So if you heard a word that you do not know the  
21 meaning of, okay, you cannot go look it up. Okay.  
22 Now, that's contrary to how you normally behave in  
23 life because you would be inquisitive and you would  
24 say, I heard this witness say a word and I don't know  
25 what it means. You may, on your own, want to go look

1 it up. You can't do that. I mean that. You can't go  
2 look up news accounts of the case. You can't read the  
3 newspaper, the internet, the radio, anything like  
4 that. I mean that all the way down to you can't go  
5 pull out Webster's Dictionary and look up the word ---  
6 I'm just going to pick out a word that was said today:  
7 acute. Okay. You can't go look up the definition of  
8 that word.

9       You will make your decision in this case based on  
10 what happened in this courtroom, the testimony that  
11 was presented by the witnesses, and the exhibits that  
12 were introduced. Now, I know some exhibits this week  
13 you have seen. Some exhibits you have kind of not  
14 seen. When you actually go back to deliberate on the  
15 case at the very conclusion, all of the exhibits that  
16 were introduced into evidence will come back in the  
17 jury room with you. So anything that you want to look  
18 at or spend more time with or whatever you want to do,  
19 you will have that opportunity to do so. So those are  
20 my instructions to say you for the weekend. Do not  
21 discuss the case with anyone, including your family  
22 members.

23       You are allowed to tell people that you're on a  
24 jury, but you are not allowed to discuss the case or  
25 anything about it. Now, we've been going and you've

1 been going. You've been working hard and diligently  
2 since Monday morning, and so we do not need anything  
3 to happen over the weekend because this may be  
4 something that you want to talk about at a Memorial  
5 Day party or a cookout or something like that.  
6 Complete and total silence about the case. That is  
7 the only thing that is fair to all the parties. Were  
8 you one of the parties in this case, you would want  
9 that same fairness and that same respect to this case.

10 This is everybody's day in court on this matter.  
11 That's why it's so important and crucial that you base  
12 your decision solely off what happens in this  
13 courtroom, and nothing --- you're not affected by  
14 anything outside of what happens in the courtroom.

15 Thank you very much for your service this week.  
16 I know I've said that to you multiple times. I mean  
17 that sincerely. You all have done an excellent job of  
18 staying awake, staying with us and being patient with  
19 us. I sincerely appreciate that. I know it means a  
20 lots to the parties, too, for your undivided attention  
21 that you have given us this week. They can't address  
22 you, but I know if they could, the first thing they  
23 all want to tell you is thank you very much for your  
24 attentiveness and your willingness to serve.

25 We will see you back on Tuesday morning at 10:30.

1 Your pads will be locked up in my office over the  
2 entire break and no one will read them. Thank you  
3 very much.

4 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
5 4:42 p.m.)

6 THE COURT: All right. Let's take about a five,  
7 ten minute break. Then we'll start proffering this  
8 testimony. We'll make it as far as I can take it and  
9 then I --- y'all can have time to look at the  
10 exhibits, make sure, you know, so if you need to call  
11 somebody Tuesday morning you can. If you need to come  
12 in and rest Tuesday morning, that's fine, too.

13 MS. WALKER: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. Let's take a little  
15 break.

16 (WHEREUPON, a short break was taken.)

17 THE COURT: All right. Ready?

18 MR. LI: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 MR. LI: Patricia Guinyard.

21 THE COURT: Please come forward, Ms. Guinyard.

22 You can just stand right there and raise your  
23 right hand.

24 PATRICIA GUINYARD,  
25 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

1 was allegedly at the video reenactment and how could  
2 all of that have been the same, so I am going to allow  
3 it.

4 I'll tell them about Captain McDonald. Bring the  
5 jury back in.

6 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, could we get her back in  
7 the courtroom before?

8 THE COURT: Yes. Sure.

9 (Pause.)

10 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
11 10:57 a.m.)

12 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, sorry about  
13 that. You will disregard any testimony from Captain  
14 McDonald.

15 The State may call its next witness.

16 MS. WALKER: The State calls Angela Metze.

17 THE COURT: All right. You may come forward and  
18 be sworn, Ms. Metze.

19 ANGELA METZE,  
20 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

21 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full  
22 name.

23 THE BAILIFF: State your full name for the  
24 record.

25 THE WITNESS: Okay. Angela Elaine Metze.

DIRECT EXAMINATION:

1  
2 BY MS. WALKER:

3 Q Ms. Metze, you have previously testified in this  
4 case?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q And you --- in that testimony, you talked about  
7 giving Courtney Thompson and Antonio Guinyard a ride  
8 to their house for a meeting with the coroner's  
9 office?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q There was a phone call in question that happened  
12 on July 2, 2013, during that meeting. Do you recall  
13 that phone call to you?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q What was the purpose of that phone call?

16 A Courtney just called me when they were doing the  
17 reenactment and she didn't really talk to me. She  
18 just called and said hold on. We heard what was going  
19 on with the reenactment.

20 Q Okay. You could hear that from Courtney's phone?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And you could hear the reenactment going on?

23 A Somewhat, yes, ma'am.

24 Q And you were aware that for a period of time the  
25 family was at Allen Benedict Court?



1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q And are you aware of which county is that located  
3 in?

4 A Richland County.

5 MS. WALKER: Thank you, ma'am. I don't have any  
6 further questions.

7 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

8 MR. LI: No questions, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock.

10 MS. PINNOCK: No questions, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. You may step down.  
12 Have a nice day.

13 Call your next witness.

14 MS. WALKER: Your Honor, at this time the State  
15 rests.

16 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, at  
17 this point in time the State has rested their case in  
18 chief. I have a matter of law which I must discuss  
19 with the attorneys. I'll ask that you retire to your  
20 jury room. Do not discuss the case. I will be back  
21 with you in just a few minutes. Thank you very much  
22 for your patience.

23 (WHEREUPON, the jury left the courtroom at  
24 11:01 a.m.)

25 THE COURT: All right. Directed verdict motions.

1 MS. EISENHOWER: At this time, the defense for  
2 Mr. Guinyard would like to make a motion for a  
3 directed verdict.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 MS. EISENHOWER: Thank you, Your Honor. May it  
6 please the Court.

7 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. EISENHOWER: Case law states that in order to  
9 overcome a motion for a directed verdict, the State  
10 must show either direct or substantial circumstantial  
11 evidence.

12 Your Honor, in this case, the State was provided  
13 a very specific timeframe in their indictment for  
14 homicide by child abuse. It was June 15<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>,  
15 a period of about two weeks.

16 Within that two week time period, the State has  
17 not presented any direct evidence as to Mr. Guinyard's  
18 guilt as it concerns physically abusing the child. As  
19 far as neglect, there was no direct evidence of  
20 neglect that actually resulted in the child's death.

21 The only direct evidence of neglect, Your Honor,  
22 is that Mr. Guinyard left **Victim** lying in a puddle of  
23 urine and did not feed him for that day. The State's  
24 own witness, Dr. Durso, testified that that kind of  
25 neglect is not what led to **Victim**'s death.

1       As far as circumstantial evidence goes,  
2 circumstantial evidence that was admitted as to  
3 Mr. Guinyard beating **Victim**, we would --- we would  
4 submit that it was not substantial circumstantial  
5 evidence. First of all, the shower rod with Antonio's  
6 blood on it, the State cannot prove when that blood  
7 appeared on the shower rod and therefore, they cannot  
8 show that Antonio's blood appeared on the shower rod  
9 in that two week timeframe provided for in the  
10 indictment.

11       Further, Mr. Guinyard's blood on the shower rod  
12 is more indicative actually that he himself was hit  
13 with the rod than he injured his son with the rod.  
14 There is testimony from Ms. Thompson's mother and  
15 sisters in their statements to law enforcement that  
16 they had seen Antonio possibly hit **Victim** on the side  
17 with a closed fist.

18       On the stand, however, they were impeached to  
19 change their statements, under oath, on the stand to  
20 state that they had never seen Mr. Guinyard hit his  
21 son. They only said they would spank him the way a  
22 father would.

23       And, Your Honor, finally for circumstantial  
24 evidence, Ms. Thompson's testimony regarding the phone  
25 call, I would submit is not substantial. She was

1 impeached three separate times on the stand, once by  
2 Ms. Campbell, once by Mr. Li, and once by Ms. Pinnock.  
3 She only states that she heard Courtney tell Antonio  
4 to hold **Victim**'s legs. She never says that she heard  
5 Antonio say okay or that he actually held **Victim**'s  
6 legs.

7 Finally, the phone call was a total of two  
8 minutes and eleven seconds. I've taken a look at the  
9 phone log and there were no back-to-back phone calls  
10 as Crystal testified there were. I believe she said  
11 there was a butt dial and the phone called back  
12 Ms. Thompson's phone and she heard the beating taking  
13 place, but on the phone log there is only one phone  
14 call and that is the one that is two minutes, eleven  
15 seconds.

16 I submit that's not nearly long enough for her to  
17 have heard everything that she claims to have heard  
18 between her speaking to Ms. Thompson about that her  
19 giving birth, add to that beating, and the  
20 conversation that she claims was going on between  
21 Mr. Guinyard and Ms. Thompson.

22 And, Your Honor, I would say that any of the  
23 circumstantial evidence that was submitted does not  
24 amount to proof in this case.

25 The State vs. Hepburn, the South Carolina Supreme

1 Court stated that the trial court should grant the  
2 directed verdict motion when the evidence merely  
3 raises the suspicion that the accused is guilty, as  
4 suspicion applied to belief or opinion as to guilt  
5 based upon fact or circumstances, which do not amount  
6 to proof.

7 Finally, Your Honor, causation is an element  
8 under the statute of homicide by child abuse and I'd  
9 argue that the State has not proven that  
10 Mr. Guinyard --- but for Mr. Guinyard's actions or  
11 inactions that **Victim**'s death would not have occurred.

12 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Eisenhower.

13 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, I think that the  
14 standard is that if there is any direct evidence or  
15 circumstantial evidence, a person is guilty of  
16 homicide by child abuse if they cause the death of a  
17 child under 11 while committing child abuse or neglect  
18 and the death occurs under circumstances manifesting  
19 extreme indifference.

20 Child abuse or neglect is an act or omission  
21 which causes harm to the child's physical welfare and  
22 harm a person inflicts or allows to be inflicted upon  
23 a child --- physical injury, including physical injury  
24 from excessive corporal punishment.

25 Your Honor, this case is remarkably similar to

1 State v. Smith 359 S.C. 481. In that case, the court  
2 deemed it proper to submit the case to the jury when  
3 two people could have been responsible for the  
4 injuries. In Smith, the court found that where the  
5 evidence indicated that the defendants were the only  
6 people who could have caused the injuries, which is  
7 what is shown here, Your Honor, one of the two adults  
8 clearly caused the injury and the evidence of the  
9 victim's impairment should have been obvious to one or  
10 both of the defendants, Your Honor. I think that we  
11 have sufficiently proven that.

12 In respect to Mr. Guinyard with the elements of  
13 unlawful conduct and homicide by child abuse, there is  
14 substantial circumstantial evidence that Mr. Guinyard  
15 inflicted at least one of the victim's injuries.  
16 Further, the defendant was alone with the victim on  
17 the 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and a good portion of the 1<sup>st</sup>. The  
18 condition of the victim would have been rapidly  
19 deteriorating on these days preceding the child's  
20 death.

21 Further, the doctors testified that had he  
22 received medical attention, he could have been saved  
23 or lived, Your Honor, and it's very clear that this  
24 defendant did nothing to help his son who was dying  
25 before his eyes.

1 Further, Your Honor, there is the victim's own  
2 statement, [REDACTED] Victim, that he had been  
3 beaten with a pole, Your Honor. In State v. Palmer  
4 and Gorman the court said that the court may properly  
5 consider in deciding a directed verdict motion the  
6 impossibility that these defendants in initial  
7 statements are true in determining whether there is  
8 substantial circumstantial evidence of each  
9 defendant's guilt.

10 Judge, the homicide by child abuse statute, the  
11 legislature enacted a criminal offense that recognizes  
12 omissions. Both acts and the omissions that typify  
13 the situation in which a helpless child perishes is  
14 the result of an action --- is the result of an adult  
15 action or criminal ambivalence, Your Honor. That's  
16 exactly what we've shown here, Your Honor, and we're  
17 asking that you deny the directed verdict motion as to  
18 both charges for this defendant.

19 Your Honor, the cite for State v. Palmer and  
20 Gorman, the South Carolina cite hadn't been published  
21 yet, but it's 2014 Westlaw 551581.

22 THE COURT: All right. Do you have anything  
23 further, Ms. Eisenhower?

24 MS. EISENHOWER: Yes, Your Honor, just briefly.  
25 Ms. McDuffie cited, I believe it was State v. Smith.

1 I'd like to cite State v. Hepburn. In that case there  
2 were also two defendants, one of which obviously had  
3 inflicted the injuries on the victim and the State --  
4 or rather the Supreme Court stated that while  
5 undoubtedly present at the scene, the only inference  
6 that can be drawn from the State's case is that one of  
7 the two co-defendants inflicted the victim's injuries,  
8 but not that the appellant harmed the victim.  
9 Therefore, they reversed the trial court's refusal to  
10 direct a verdict of acquittal.

11 That's all I have for the homicide by child  
12 abuse, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: What about on the unlawful conduct  
14 towards a child?

15 MS. EISENHOWER: We are just going to make a  
16 motion for the record that there is no direct or  
17 circumstantial evidence.

18 THE COURT: All right. Both your motions made  
19 under Rule 19 of the South Carolina Rules of Criminal  
20 Procedure as to both charges are denied. The court is  
21 only concerned with the existence or nonexistence of  
22 the evidence and not its weight. I find that there is  
23 sufficient evidence that has been presented throughout  
24 the trial to meet the elements of the crime by the  
25 State and the standard that is before me now. All



1 right.

2 Who is arguing over here?

3 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court, Your  
4 Honor.

5 THE COURT: Ms. Pinnock.

6 MS. PINNOCK: Your Honor, at this time I would  
7 like to make a directed verdict motion for the  
8 defendant, Courtney Thompson. For the record, I would  
9 make the motion based on the State has lacked to  
10 provide any --- to submit any direct or circumstantial  
11 evidence that Ms. Thompson is guilty of the unlawful  
12 neglect. I'll make that for the record, Your Honor.  
13 For the homicide by child --- for the unlawful neglect  
14 charge.

15 For the homicide by child abuse, Judge, I am  
16 moving for a directed verdict because the State has  
17 failed to introduce any direct or substantial  
18 circumstantial evidence that Courtney Thompson  
19 inflicted the injuries that caused **Victim**'s death.  
20 Your Honor, I will also cite State v. Hepburn 406 SC  
21 416. South Carolina Supreme Court reversed the  
22 defendant's conviction because the court held that the  
23 State --- even though they were able to raise to a  
24 suspicion that one of the two defendants were the ones  
25 that inflicted the injury that ultimately killed the

1 child, they said that suspicion did not reach the  
2 level of --- did not cross over the threshold of a  
3 case that should have been presented to the jury.

4 Your Honor, I would direct your attention to some  
5 of the testimony that we have heard last week. We  
6 have to keep in mind that there are two charges. The  
7 State's main case and most of the testimony that we  
8 have heard many from Ms. Thompson's family and other  
9 witnesses that were called have been about incidents  
10 that happened in the past. The indictment for the  
11 homicide by child abuse was extended to cover  
12 June 15<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>. Even extended it to that time  
13 period, it does not --- we have not heard any  
14 testimony or any sort of evidence presented that  
15 Courtney Thompson inflicted any injury or any abuse on  
16 **Victim** throughout those dates.

17 The bulk of their case has been focused on the  
18 unlawful conduct charge with what she has done  
19 allegedly in the past, so I think we have to keep  
20 these separate in looking at what evidence has been  
21 presented when we're trying to figure out if this case  
22 should be presented to the jury. They have not  
23 presented any evidence, direct or circumstantial, that  
24 Courtney Thompson caused any of these injuries, much  
25 less the final injury that led to **Victim**'s death.

1           Your Honor, the doctor's testimony, also, I'd  
2 draw your attention to Dr. Durso and Dr. Rosa, neither  
3 one of the medical experts that the State called to  
4 testify was able to say when an injury actually  
5 occurred. We got more than 18 hours or less than 18  
6 hours. We have, well there's some sort of injury that  
7 happened that pushed his body over the edge that he  
8 couldn't handle anymore. There is nothing specific  
9 that's been alleged by the State within those two  
10 weeks that they chose to extend the indictments to  
11 that says that Courtney Thompson did anything to cause  
12 those injuries.

13           We do know from the record, and Ms. McDuffie just  
14 cited it, that Ms. Thompson was out of the house from  
15 the 29<sup>th</sup> through most of the 1<sup>st</sup>. There has been no  
16 evidence that there was anything wrong with **Victim**  
17 before she was admitted to the hospital. The only  
18 evidence we have is what they're taking from her own  
19 statement saying that there was something wrong with  
20 him when she got home.

21           So, even with what happened --- with how they  
22 have presented their evidence, Judge, and relying on  
23 Ms. Thompson's testimony about where she was and what  
24 she observed when she came home, it still does not say  
25 that she was personally the one who inflicted these

1 injuries. I think the evidence that has been  
2 presented by the State, viewing the evidence in the  
3 light most favorable to them, Judge, that is the  
4 standard and I understand that, but I don't think they  
5 rise to the level of substantial circumstantial  
6 evidence. It's circumstantial, but it's not  
7 substantial circumstantial evidence, and I think it  
8 just raises to a suspicion, a mere suspicion, that  
9 Ms. Thompson was the one responsible for causing the  
10 injuries. I don't think it's appropriate for the case  
11 to make it to be presented to the jury for  
12 Ms. Thompson so I'd ask you to grant the directed  
13 verdict motion.

14 MS. McDUFFIE: Your Honor, we rely on our same  
15 arguments previously stated. We believe that we've  
16 shown both direct and very substantial circumstantial  
17 evidence that not only was she present and knew about  
18 the injury, knew about the impairment to her son, but  
19 she caused the injury and impairment of her son for  
20 both charges, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Anything further?

22 MS. PINNOCK: Yes, just for the record, Judge,  
23 State v. Smith that was cited, that case is  
24 distinguishable from this case because Mr. Smith was  
25 convicted of the aiding and abetting in the homicide



1 by child abuse and that conviction actually was over  
2 turned because it was an improper conviction in that  
3 case.

4 I'd just like to make that distinction between  
5 those two cases and Palmer, it was --- it's a 2014  
6 case. It has not been given a cite, Judge. The  
7 testimony in that case is distinguishable from this  
8 one also because the medical testimony in State v.  
9 Palmer was that the injuries --- all the doctors said  
10 the injuries happened within a certain amount of time  
11 with the two people --- Palmer and Gorman were the  
12 only two people with the child at that time. That is  
13 not the same situation we have here. There is  
14 testimony, again, that Ms. Thompson was not even in  
15 the house and we can't say when the injury occurred.  
16 We can't say when any of this happened. I just want  
17 to make a distinction between those two cases.

18 THE COURT: Thank you very much. You're motions  
19 for a directed verdict are denied under Rule 19 and  
20 the case law is present to look at the existence of  
21 the evidence and not the weight and take it in the  
22 light most favorable to the State.

23 All right. Mr. Guinyard, we've reached that  
24 point in the trial --- stand up for me, please ---  
25 where based upon our previous conversation you need to

1 let the court know whether or not, understanding all  
2 of your constitutional rights that I explained to you  
3 earlier, whether or not you want to testify in your  
4 case or not?

5 DEFENDANT GUINYARD: Yes.

6 THE COURT: You do choose to testify?

7 DEFENDANT GUINYARD: Yes, sir.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much. You may  
9 be seated.

10 Ms. Thompson, please stand up. Understanding all  
11 of your constitutional rights as I've explained them  
12 to you earlier, your discussions with your attorney,  
13 do you choose to testify in your case?

14 DEFENDANT THOMPSON: Yes, sir, I do.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you very much.

16 All right.

17 MS. McDUFFIE: Judge, just procedurally, I'd  
18 assume that Mr. Li calls a witness and then he is  
19 crossed by the defense and then the State?

20 MS. PINNOCK: I thought it was the other way. I  
21 thought they went first and then we went.

22 THE COURT: I would say --- Mr. Li calls a  
23 witness, the State is going to cross them first and  
24 the other side will cross them second.

25 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Are you going  
2 first?

3 MR. LI: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: All right. Do you have all your  
5 witnesses?

6 MR. LI: I'm going to get my witnesses.

7 THE COURT: All right.

8 MS. PINNOCK: I'm sorry, Judge, for the record,  
9 we have an addition to our witness list.  
10 Ms. Jacqueline Rickburn, we realized that we were  
11 going to need to add her to our list.

12 THE COURT: What's her name?

13 MS. PINNOCK: I'm sorry?

14 THE COURT: What's her name?

15 MS. PINNOCK: Oh, sorry, Your Honor, it's  
16 Jacqueline Rickburn, R-I-C-H-B-U-R-G, oh, Richburg,  
17 I'm sorry.

18 THE COURT: Why was this not done earlier?

19 MS. PINNOCK: I'm sorry?

20 THE COURT: Why was this not done earlier?

21 MS. PINNOCK: She is an employee of 911  
22 communications. The State rested their case without  
23 introducing some stuff, so now we're going to be  
24 forced to call her as a witness.

25 MS. CAMPBELL: We have no problems. We've

1 already marked the 911 call for ID.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MS. WALKER: It's already been marked for ID.

4 THE COURT: All right. Bring in the jury.

5 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
6 11:18 a.m.)

7 THE BAILIFF: All jurors are accounted for, Your  
8 Honor.

9 THE COURT: Thank you very much. Thank you for  
10 your patience, ladies and gentlemen. As you know, the  
11 State has rested their case in chief. The defendants  
12 now have an opportunity if they wish to put on a case.  
13 As I have told you before, and I will continue to tell  
14 you, they do not have to put on a case. They do not  
15 have to present a defense. The burden of proof is  
16 upon the State.

17 Mr. Li, do you care to present any witnesses?

18 MR. LI: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay. You may do so.

20 MR. LI: The defense calls Charles Robinson.

21 THE COURT: All right. Please come forward,  
22 Mr. Robinson.

23 CHARLES ROBINSON,  
24 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

25 THE CLERK: Please have a seat. State your full

1 name for the record.

2 THE WITNESS: Charles Eugene Robinson, Jr.

3 MR. LI: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

6 BY MR. LI:

7 Q Charles, where do you work?

8 A CSL Plasma.

9 Q And where did you work before that?

10 A Sam's Club on Forest Drive.

11 Q Where are you currently living?

12 A 1810 Allen Benedict.

13 Q Allen Benedict Court?

14 A Yeah.

15 Q Can you describe, just kind of describe Allen  
16 Benedict Court?

17 A It's like --- it's a neighborhood. A lot of  
18 people are friendly. It's like the projects, you  
19 know.

20 Q Okay. And how long have you lived there?

21 A Several months.

22 THE COURT: Could you scoot up just a little bit?

23 Thank you.

24 BY MR. LI:

25 Q How long have you lived there?

1 A Several months, close to a year.

2 Q And prior to that where did you live?

3 A Dixiana and Forest Avenue..

4 Q And do you know Courtney Thompson and Mr. Antonio  
5 Guinyard?

6 A Yes, I do.

7 Q How do you know them?

8 A That's my fiancée's sister and brother.

9 Q And who is your fiancée?

10 A Natalie Thompson.

11 Q And she is one of the sisters?

12 A Sister of Courtney Thompson.

13 Q Have you had an opportunity to spend some time  
14 together?

15 A Yeah, we do that quite frequently.

16 Q And what kind of situations have you had a chance  
17 to get to know them?

18 A We would have family events like cook outs and  
19 stuff like that at our house.

20 Q Were there times when you would drop off your  
21 fiancée at their home in Allen Benedict Court when you  
22 went to work?

23 A Yes, when I worked at Sam's Club and also when I  
24 worked at CSL Plasma where I'm currently working at.

25 Q I'm sorry. Go ahead.

1 A We would be over at their house like every day.

2 Q So you would see them for a period of time and  
3 see them every day?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Okay. Do you know their children?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Have you had a chance to hang out with them?

8 A Yeah.

9 Q Who are their children?

10 A It was **Victim**, **Girl Mi**, **Girl Z**, and **Girl M**.

11 Q And have you had a chance to be around when both  
12 parents were around and interacting with the children?

13 A Yes. I have.

14 Q Okay. Just from what you observed and what you  
15 witnessed, how would you describe Antonio and the way  
16 he interacted with all his children?

17 A Antonio, from what I witnessed, he loved his  
18 kids. They would take advantage of him because he  
19 would threaten them all day and say he was going to  
20 spank them, but he never did.

21 Q You never seen him beat any of his children?

22 A Not that I physically seen, no.

23 Q Now, let me ask you specifically, how did he  
24 treat **Victim**?

25 A To me, he loved him. He didn't treat him no

1 different from how he treated any of his other kids.  
2 I mean, there's been times that I've seen him and **Victim**  
3 together. Like there was one situation where **Victim** hit  
4 him.

5 Q Right.

6 A He hit him in the face because he wanted to go  
7 outside, hit him in the face with his shoe because  
8 Antonio was lying down. **Victim** wanted to go outside and  
9 Antonio was taking too long and I guess he wanted to  
10 finish up his little nap or whatever and **Victim** wasn't  
11 playing that so he hit him. Antonio jumped up and was  
12 like man somebody get this boy.

13 Q Right. And did you ever see him lay a hand on  
14 that boy?

15 A No.

16 Q Have you ever witnessed a time when Antonio  
17 wouldn't give food or water to **Victim**?

18 A I've never physically seen it, no. Any time any  
19 of those kids asked him for something, he would give  
20 it to them. I know while we was there he did.

21 Q Have you ever seen him get mad at **Victim** when **Victim**  
22 would ask him for water or food?

23 A I never have.

24 Q And you've been around them a lot?

25 A Yes.



1 Q Have you ever seen Courtney get mad at **Victim** when  
2 he would ask for something to drinking or eat?

3 A Yes, I have. There was one incident in  
4 particular.

5 Q Go ahead and tell us about that.

6 A It was an incident where he was hungry or  
7 whatever, and he had been sitting in the corner before  
8 I went to work.

9 When I got off work, he was still sitting in the  
10 same corner. They were saying that they were going to  
11 order some pizza and so Antonio, he was excited. He  
12 was telling them to get their shoes because they was  
13 going to order pizza and he was like telling **Victim** to  
14 get your shoes boy, because we're getting ready to go  
15 so we can get some pizza. He was telling all the kids  
16 to get their stuff so they could go and get the pizza,  
17 you know.

18 Q And what was **Victim** at that point? What was his  
19 reaction?

20 A Oh, he was like --- his face got lit up because  
21 he was happy he was going to get the pizza. So **Victim**,  
22 he went to go get his shoes. Antonio was like, like  
23 babe, --- you know, we be going to get home and get  
24 the kids ---

25 Q Why are you shuttering like that?

1 A Cause that's how he would talk like and the way  
2 he would talk to his kids.

3 Q Right.

4 A He's like, we be going to the house and we going  
5 to be getting some pizza. Babé, we give the kids  
6 three slices of pizza a piece. Courtney was like  
7 three slices. So Antonio was like well, well, well,  
8 we'll give them two then. She was like two slices,  
9 you sure that's going to be enough --- that's going to  
10 be too much. He is not going to eat that, and so  
11 Antonio was like, he was dropping his head and was  
12 like I guess we're going to have to give you one slice  
13 of pizza. That same night they wound up not leaving,  
14 so I had like a Debbie cake in my bag and ---

15 Q Slow down. Before you get to that, now I believe  
16 that might --- has Courtney ever been mad at you for  
17 giving **Victim** food?

18 A Yes, she was.

19 Q Can you remember a particular time when she got  
20 mad at you personally?

21 A Yes, the same incident with the pizza. When she  
22 walked outside, I had the Debbie cake in my bag, and I  
23 took the Debbie cake. I sat it on the chair. While  
24 she was outside, I told him to go ahead and eat the  
25 cake.

1 Q You're thinking this was the same incident, the  
2 same night?

3 A It was the same night.

4 Q Okay.

5 A I told him to go ahead and eat the cake. When  
6 she came back in, she caught him eating the cake. She  
7 was like --- and I'm going to say it exactly how she  
8 said it, okay?

9 Q Say it.

10 A She was like, "Man, who the fuck gave you a cake?  
11 How you --- what you doing eating that?" So then I  
12 came in. She was like, "You know you ain't supposed  
13 to have that shit." So when I came in and she was  
14 like fussing at him, so I was like, "I gave him the  
15 cake. It was my bad. It was my fault. I gave him  
16 the cake." She was like, "Well, you know he ain't  
17 supposed to have fucking shit like that. I'm just  
18 saying he ain't supposed to have stuff like that."

19 Q Has Antonio ever gotten mad for giving you  
20 something like that to **Victim**?

21 A No, me and Antonio has never had any verbal  
22 altercations or anything.

23 Q Okay. Just in general, can you describe the  
24 relationship between Antonio and **Victim**?

25 A It was a loving relationship. Like I said, he

1 would threaten him and tell him he was going to do  
2 something to him. Everybody knew he wasn't going to  
3 do it. Even **Victim** knew it because he would take  
4 advantage of him.

5 Q Did the other children take advantage of him?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did **Girl Mi** take advantage of him?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Is there anything she would do in particular?

10 A **Girl Mi**, well, **Girl Mi** is a tough cookie. Like  
11 she is a boy trapped in a girl's body because anything  
12 a little boy could do, she could do ten times better.

13 Q Right.

14 A And **Girl Mi** would do stuff like she would mess  
15 with him, hit him, run from him, just stuff like that  
16 and she would kind of rough house with him.

17 Q Have you ever seen Antonio put his hand on  
18 **Girl Mi**?

19 A No.

20 Q Do you remember a time in April of 2012 and  
21 December of 2012 when Antonio wasn't at home for an  
22 extended period of time without saying why he wasn't  
23 there? Do you remember why he wasn't at the home for  
24 an extended period of time?

25 A Yes, I do remember.

1 Q Did you still go around their apartment at that  
2 point?

3 A Yes, we still did.

4 Q Did you know --- did you witness or know of any  
5 beatings of **Victim** during those times?

6 A Yes, I have.

7 Q And during those times, did you see a difference  
8 in the way **Victim** acted when it was --- when Antonio  
9 wasn't around?

10 A Yes.

11 Q How would he act?

12 A He acted nervous like he was real jumpy and on  
13 edge all the time.

14 Q Did it appear to you he was afraid of his mom?

15 MS. PINNOCK: Objection.

16 BY MR. LI:

17 Q From what you witnessed?

18 A From what I witnessed.

19 THE COURT: Rephrase the question.

20 BY MR. LI:

21 Q From what you witnessed and what you observed,  
22 did it appear to you that **Victim** was afraid of his  
23 mother?

24 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Overruled.

1 BY MR. LI:

2 Q Go ahead.

3 A Yes, it did, because like you could tell a  
4 difference when he wasn't around her versus when he  
5 was around her. Like when he would be around her, he  
6 would be nervous or he would be like ---

7 Q He would be asking for things?

8 A Yeah, he would ask for things, but not really.  
9 He would like ask her and if she said no or whatever,  
10 she would make him go stand back in the corner.

11 Q From what you observed, from what you witnessed,  
12 was he afraid of his dad?

13 A No.

14 Q Have you ever personally witnessed Antonio stand  
15 up to Courtney to get her to stop beating **Victim**?

16 A In one incident in particular, yes, I have.

17 Q Yes, sir. Go ahead and tell us about that.

18 A It was an incident where ---

19 Q Right first of all, where were you at?

20 A We were at Allen Benedict Court. She was staying  
21 in Apartment Q-7.

22 Q Okay.

23 A She had came and my fiancée had came in the  
24 house.

25 Q Okay.

1 A When he came in the house like he was on  
2 punishment for something.

3 Q Who was ---

4 A **Victim**.

5 Q **Victim** was going to punch you?

6 A No. He was on punishment for something.

7 Q Oh, he was on punishment?

8 A He was on punishment for something and when we  
9 came in the house, he saw Natalie come in. First  
10 thing he said --- like when he seen her come in the  
11 house, he was asking where I was at because they  
12 called me Black. And he's asking like, "Where Black.  
13 Where Black at?" When I came in the house, he was  
14 just like, you know, his face lit up. He went to run  
15 over there to come grab me because I would like play  
16 with him all the time, so when he went to run over  
17 there, Courtney started fussing at him. She was  
18 getting ready to punish him again and Antonio was  
19 like --- she told Antonio to say something to him.  
20 And Antonio really didn't say anything. He was like,  
21 "Boy, didn't I --- didn't I tell you --- come on, boy,  
22 let's go outside," like he was trying to divert the  
23 situation from **Victim** getting in trouble. He was like,  
24 "He already on punishment, just come on boy. Let's go  
25 outside."

1 Q I got you. You've had a chance to be around when  
2 Courtney and Antonio were both at the home, correct?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Have you ever seen Courtney get mad at Antonio  
5 for not hitting **Victim**?

6 A Yes, I have.

7 Q What were some of the things that she would say?

8 A Well, she ---

9 Q What would she say to Antonio?

10 A She told Antonio that --- well, she wanted  
11 Antonio to punish him because he had used the bathroom  
12 on the floor, and Antonio wouldn't do it. He was like  
13 he just went upstairs and he was upstairs. I don't  
14 know what he was telling **Victim**, but when they was  
15 coming back downstairs and Courtney told Antonio, she  
16 was like, "Oh, you ain't going to spank him? You  
17 ain't no man. You ain't no man. He going to be a  
18 punk just like you. You ain't no man."

19 Q What does the word punk mean in your ..

20 A Like to me it means like he is less than a man  
21 like he is going to be a cry baby or a little girl.

22 Q Okay. Have you ever witnessed a time when **Victim**  
23 was beat with a cable cord and Antonio wasn't home?

24 A Yes, I have. I didn't physically see the  
25 beating.



1 Q Okay.

2 A But I heard the beating.

3 Q Because where was it?

4 A It was upstairs and me and Natalie was  
5 downstairs.

6 Q Was this in Dixiana?

7 A No, this was Allen Benedict Court with the cable  
8 cord.

9 Q Okay.

10 A And Dixiana was the hanger.

11 Q Okay, and so you heard **Victim** getting beaten ---

12 A Yeah.

13 Q --- with the cord?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And Antonio wasn't at home?

16 A He wasn't at home.

17 Q Okay. Have you ever witnessed **Victim** trying to run  
18 away from Courtney when she was trying to hit him?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Describe that.

21 A She would be fussing at him. When she was  
22 fussing at him, she would tell him to go upstairs,  
23 that she was going to cut his butt. When she sent him  
24 upstairs like you could hear him like running and  
25 scuffling and she was fussing saying, "Huh-uh. Come

1 here. Bring your ass here." He would like come ---  
2 like you could tell he was going to her, but when she  
3 would spank him or whatever, you could hear him  
4 crying.

5 Q Have you ever seen --- have you ever witnessed  
6 Courtney ask Antonio to hold him down to help her?

7 A I never physically seen him.

8 Q Okay. That's fine. Now, I want to take you to,  
9 I guess, a different subject. What was the  
10 relationship like between --- from what you could  
11 observe, what was the relationship like between  
12 Courtney and Antonio from the time that you've known  
13 them?

14 A From the time I've known him, it was a strained  
15 and it was ---

16 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor. Relevance.

17 THE COURT: Approach.

18 (WHEREUPON, a bench conference was held in the  
19 presence, but not within hearing of the jury.)

20 THE COURT: The objection is overruled.

21 BY MR. LI:

22 Q In terms of what you have witnessed and what you  
23 could observe from Antonio and Courtney, was  
24 Courtney --- would you describe Courtney as the man of  
25 the household?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And Antonio as more of the ---

3 A He was more like the mom or she treated him more  
4 like he was her child.

5 Q Okay. And that's --- can you go into a little  
6 bit more detail as to --- well, can you count the  
7 number of times that you just personally witnessed  
8 Antonio being kicked out of the home?

9 A It happened so frequently that it was like  
10 countless times. I can't count them on my hands how  
11 many times because it happened so many times.

12 Q And between April of 2012 and December of 2012,  
13 what was the longest period of time that you can  
14 remember Antonio being kicked out of the house for?

15 A That I can remember, it was like a couple of  
16 weeks.

17 Q Okay. Did it matter what time of year it was?

18 A No, it didn't.

19 Q Can you tell us about the time with the coat?

20 A She had --- I don't know what the reason was that  
21 she had put him out, but it was cold outside, and he  
22 was saying that he was cold. We had saw him and he  
23 was coming up.

24 Q This was at Allen Benedict Court?

25 A Yes, this was Allen Benedict Court and he said

1 that he was cold, so I had a hoodie in the back of the  
2 car and Natalie gave him a hoodie.

3 Q And what was the weather like outside?

4 A It was cold and also because it was nighttime.

5 Q As far as you know, from what you know and what  
6 you've seen and observed, has Antonio ever kicked  
7 Courtney out?

8 A Oh, no.

9 Q Who would you say wore the pants in the family?

10 A Courtney.

11 Q And what was Antonio's job in the home when he  
12 was there?

13 A When he was there, he mostly did a lot of the  
14 cooking and like different stuff with the kids.

15 Q Has Antonio ever talked to you about moving out?

16 A Yes, he had. We were over at Ms. Gladys' house  
17 one day. It was just me and him sitting down talking.  
18 Antonio, he would come and talk to me about stuff like  
19 guys do when they get together, and one day he kind of  
20 like pulled me to the side. He was asking me if I  
21 could help him get a job where I worked at or  
22 whatever.

23 Q Right.

24 A But I knew that with his education level, you  
25 know, he probably wouldn't have been able to get a job

1   there, so I told him about a few other places that  
2   might ---

3   Q     I want to stop you there.

4   A     Okay.

5           MS. WALKER: I'd like the witness will be able to  
6   finish his answer, Judge.

7   BY MR. LI:

8   Q     Okay.

9   A     I know of a few other places that might hire him  
10   because he's done that type of stuff before and I was  
11   telling him. He asked me if he would get the  
12   applications if I would fill it out for him or help  
13   him fill it out. And he was also asking me about  
14   apartments and stuff like that. I was explaining to  
15   him like a lot of places if he didn't have a job, that  
16   he wouldn't be able to get an apartment there.

17   Q     And let me ask you this. Was there something in  
18   Antonio's background that might have prevented him  
19   from getting a job at the place you work at now?

20   A     His level of education.

21   Q     And why did he ask you for help with his  
22   application?

23   A     Because he couldn't really read it, couldn't read  
24   the application and stuff that well.

25   Q     And you said that you've had a chance to hang

1 around all the kids?

2 A Yes.

3 Q How would you describe **Girl Mi**?

4 A Like I said, she is a tough cookie. Anything a  
5 little boy could do, she could do ten times better.

6 Q I guess I don't have that many more questions for  
7 you, but, Charles, from what you've seen, what you  
8 know about Antonio, what would you say matters most  
9 just from you observed?

10 A Just from what I observed, it was his kids and  
11 Courtney. You know, he loved Courtney like no matter  
12 what Courtney would act like --- like if Courtney  
13 would do whatever, X, Y, Z, like put him out,  
14 whatever, he always came back. He always said, "I  
15 love my baby mama."

16 Q Have you ever seen Antonio hit any of his kids  
17 before?

18 A I've never seen him hit any.

19 Q Have you ever seen Antonio hit his kids with a  
20 weapon?

21 A No, like I said, Antonio was like threatening him  
22 telling him he was going to spank him, but you know he  
23 never --- I never seen him do it.

24 Q Have you ever seen Antonio hold down any of his  
25 kids while somebody else hit his kids?

1 A No, I have never seen that.

2 Q And you've been around him a lot?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Have you ever seen Antonio just sit there and do  
5 nothing while Courtney was beating up on **Victim**?

6 A I've never physically seen that either.

7 Q Did you love **Victim**?

8 A Yes, I did.

9 Q Would you spend time with him?

10 A Yes, I would. Any free time that I got I would.

11 Q Was there a period of time when **Victim** lived with  
12 you?

13 A Yes, there was.

14 Q How was that?

15 A It was fun. Because **Victim**, he was a real loving  
16 child, but anything he wanted or anything that he  
17 asked me for, I would give it to him because its like  
18 with him, he just like from the first day I met him,  
19 like I just --- you just --- there's just something  
20 about him that draws you to him.

21 Q Right. What kind of clothing did he like?

22 A Anything that his daddy had. Like, he liked the  
23 baggy shorts and liked the hip hop clothes. He didn't  
24 like --- if you dressed him like you put like I wear,  
25 alternative clothes is what they call it, like skinny

1 leg jeans or stuff like that, **Victim** didn't like that.  
2 When he went and picked out his clothes, like he  
3 picked out the baggy jeans, and the t-shirts and stuff  
4 like that.

5 Q He didn't like hats?

6 A Oh, he loved hats. One time in particular, we  
7 were in Wal-Mart and he was like --- he had picked out  
8 his clothes. While he was picking out his clothes, he  
9 looked at me and he goes, "I need a hat to match my  
10 outfit. I need a hat. I need a hat." I told him, I  
11 said, "You go over there, whatever matches that you  
12 see, you just bring it back to me. He just grabbed a  
13 whole handful of hats. He brought them back. We put  
14 them in the buggy and I paid for them.

15 Q What was your fondest memory of Antonio and **Victim**?

16 A One day he was going to meet his mom. Me and  
17 Natalie, I was getting off work. Me and Natalie was  
18 pulling up on Allen Benedict Court and we saw him and  
19 Antonio walking out of the house and they were dressed  
20 alike. Antonio had on like these baggy jeans and **Victim**  
21 had on his --- Antonio had on some baggie jean shorts  
22 and **Victim** had like the same type of shorts on that was  
23 baggy. He had them sagging. Antonio had on like a  
24 black shirt with red writing. **Victim** had on the same  
25 type of shirt, but it was --- the colors were



1 reversed. His shirt was red with black writing and  
2 **Victim** had on a hat and Antonio didn't. They looked  
3 like they were dressed like twins. I told Natalie, I  
4 said, "Look there at those twins walking out of the  
5 house."

6 Q And you've had a chance to spend time with not  
7 just Courtney and Antonio. You've had a chance to  
8 spend time with all the other relatives, as well?

9 A Yes, I have.

10 Q And others, Courtney's other sisters?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And you've had a chance to spend time with  
13 Crystal Thompson?

14 A Yes, I have.

15 Q Would you say that you know them fairly well?

16 A Yes.

17 Q What is Crystal Thompson's reputation for telling  
18 the truth?

19 A It's not very good.

20 MR. LI: No further questions.

21 THE COURT: Cross?

22 MS. WALKER: Thank you, Judge.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

24 BY MS. WALKER:

25 Q You saw **Victim** get abused a lot; is that correct?

1 A Yes.

2 Q When did you call DSS?

3 A We called DSS.

4 Q No, when did you call DSS?

5 A Physically call DSS?

6 Q Or unphysically call them, however you want?

7 A Well, ma'am, my wife called DSS. I'm not on  
8 trial here.

9 Q I'm just asking.

10 A Yes.

11 Q You talked about a lot of abuse that you  
12 witnessed of this child, right?

13 A Yes.

14 Q The child at that you loved?

15 A Yes.

16 Q When did you call DSS?

17 A I didn't call DSS.

18 Q When did you call the sheriff's department?

19 A My wife called the sheriff's department. We were  
20 together.

21 Q I'm just going to ask you about what you did.  
22 We're going to talk about the things that you did,  
23 okay?

24 A Yes.

25 Q When did you call the sheriff's department?

1 A I didn't.

2 Q When was the last time you spoke with Antonio?

3 A When was the last --- I hadn't spoken to Antonio  
4 in a while.

5 Q I'm just asking you when the last time was, do  
6 you recall?

7 A Easter.

8 Q And he talked about moving out, right?

9 A Yes, he did.

10 Q And you were going to help him get a job?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And you were going to help him fill out those job  
13 applications?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And when did you all fill out those job  
16 application?

17 A Well, we didn't. I worked all the time, so I was  
18 waiting on him to get the applications.

19 Q So he didn't show the initiative to get the  
20 applications?

21 A That's not what I'm saying.

22 Q I'm sorry. I don't want to put words in your  
23 mouth. Just tell me what your saying.

24 A What I'm saying is he would have to be able to  
25 get there to get the job applications. Somebody would

1 have had to physically take him there so he could get  
2 the job applications. He didn't have a car. He  
3 didn't have a driver's license.

4 Q Would you have taken him if he asked?

5 A If I wasn't at work, yes, I would have.

6 Q Y'all are pretty close?

7 A Yes. .

8 Q So the job application thing never happened?

9 A It didn't, no.

10 Q And the apartment that he was going to move into,  
11 did you ever try to help him get some sort of  
12 assistance in moving into an apartment if he didn't  
13 have a job? Or did he ever ask for that kind of help?

14 A He didn't ask me for that kind of help.

15 Q How often were you at the home on Beaverbrook,  
16 the last home that they all shared together?

17 A I was never at the home on Beaverbrook. Every  
18 time that we would see Antonio, we would be at  
19 Ms. Gladys' house or at Antonio's house when they were  
20 living at Allen Benedict Court.

21 Q So you didn't visit the Beaverbrook residence?

22 A No, I had not.

23 Q And you said that you've never witnessed Antonio  
24 do anything in anyway to harm **Victim**?

25 A No, I have never seen him do that.

1 Q And you said he loved his son?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And I think you testified that he wouldn't do  
4 anything to harm **Victim**, right?

5 A No, he always threatened his kids, but he never  
6 would do nothing and they knew that.

7 Q My question is, you said he would never do  
8 anything to harm his kids, right?

9 A No, he wouldn't.

10 Q Let me ask you, were you aware of **Victim**'s last  
11 days?

12 A Was I aware of his last days?

13 Q Did you know this he was alone with his father?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q Did you know that he was dying at the time and  
16 could have been saved?

17 MR. LI: Your Honor, I have an objection.

18 MS. WALKER: He ---

19 THE COURT: Say the rule.

20 MR. LI: Asking him to speculate, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Overruled.

22 BY MS. WALKER:

23 Q Did you know that he was dying in those last days  
24 and could have been saved if anyone had taken him to  
25 the hospital?

1 A I wasn't there, so I ---

2 Q I'm just asking if you knew that. Did you know  
3 that?

4 A No.

5 Q If his father was the one with him and didn't do  
6 that, would it change your opinion of whether or not  
7 the child had been harmed?

8 A I can't say that because I wasn't there. I don't  
9 know. I'm not a doctor, so I don't know.

10 Q You've witnessed Courtney actually beat **Victim** with  
11 a hanger, didn't you?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q Tell me about that.

14 A We were at my home on --- in Dixiana, and I was  
15 going to the Dollar General and he wanted to come with  
16 me. I sent him in the house to get his shoes. When I  
17 sent him in the house to get his shoes, he was crying  
18 because he thought I was going to leave. Then when he  
19 went in the house --- he was crying because he thought  
20 I was going to leave him. Courtney was like fussing  
21 at him, cursing at him, telling him that he wasn't  
22 going no fucking where. When she told him that, he  
23 start crying even harder. When I was coming back in  
24 the house, I heard him crying. I came back in the  
25 house. She was hitting him with a hanger. I laid

1 across him so she wouldn't hit him. I told her if I  
2 ever seen her hitting him like that again that I was  
3 going to call the cops and she was going to jail.

4 Q But you didn't call the cops for that incident.

5 A I didn't call the cops, no.

6 Q **Victim** wasn't even your son, but you laid your body  
7 across him to absorb those blows, right?

8 A Yeah.

9 Q You said his father wouldn't have been around  
10 when she would be abusing, verbally or physically,  
11 abusing **Victim**?

12 A That's not what I said. That wasn't what you  
13 asked you asked.

14 Q I'm not trying to cross you up or put words in  
15 your mouth. What did you say?

16 A I said there's times that he was there. Times  
17 that he wasn't there.

18 Q Did he lay his body across **Victim**, as well, like  
19 you did?

20 A No, but he would say something to her. There's  
21 been times I have physically witnessed him saying  
22 something to her or take him outside to divert the  
23 situation.

24 Q I'm talking about the physical intervention like  
25 you did. Did you ever see his father do that?

1 A I see him stop her, like basically to divert the  
2 situation by taking him outside or telling her that  
3 that wasn't right.

4 Q Did you ever see or know of him to call and ask  
5 for the police or DSS to come stop the mother from  
6 doing these things to his son?

7 A Well, no. It was common knowledge that she would  
8 always say that if he took --- if he had called DSS,  
9 that they would take all their kids, not just one.

10 Q So sacrifice one kid to keep the others?

11 A I didn't say that either.

12 Q I'm just trying to understand what you're saying.

13 A What I'm saying is, you asked me if I physically  
14 seen him do anything. I have never physically seen  
15 him.

16 Q Right. You said because if they --- they were  
17 going to take all the kids as opposed to just taking  
18 one?

19 A Yeah, he loved his kids so she would use that as  
20 a way to say that.

21 Q So sacrifice the one child to keep the others in  
22 the house?

23 A That's not what I said either. That's not what I  
24 said. He was --- from my observation --- from my  
25 observation and what I seen, it was like he was scared



1 of losing his kids period or losing Courtney.

2 Q He was scared of losing of Courtney so he was  
3 willing to put up with the abuse?

4 A That's not what I said either.

5 Q Okay. You and Antonio are pretty close, right?

6 A We --- I mean, we're like --- that's my wife's  
7 sister's husband, boyfriend, whatever, so we would  
8 always be around each other.

9 Q So that's a yes or a no, or ---

10 A That's a yes.

11 Q Okay. And you have three charges pending in the  
12 solicitor's office?

13 A Yes, I do.

14 Q And they're all for financial transaction card  
15 theft, financial transaction card fraud, and criminal  
16 conspiracy, right?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And those are still pending?

19 A Yes, they are, but what does that have to do with  
20 this trial?

21 THE COURT: Mr. Robinson, you don't get to ask  
22 the questions.

23 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'm sorry.

24 BY MS. WALKER:

25 Q But we haven't promised you anything in exchange

1 for your testimony?

2 A No, they haven't.

3 Q And they haven't promised you anything either,  
4 right?

5 A No, they haven't.

6 Q So your charges aren't going away with this  
7 testimony?

8 A No.

9 Q That's what this has to do with this trial.

10 A Oh, okay.

11 THE COURT: Cross?

12 MS. PINNOCK: May it please the Court, Your  
13 Honor.

14 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

15 BY MS. PINNOCK:

16 Q Mr. Robinson, you kept repeating over and over  
17 that for Antonio, his kids was his number one  
18 priority, right?

19 A Right.

20 Q That's what matters most?

21 A Yes.

22 Q At one point you even said you saw him and **Victim**  
23 **█** looking like twins?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And that stood out to you?

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q Now, did you live with them on Beaverbrook?
- 3 A No, I haven't.
- 4 Q You never even went there?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q You weren't there on June 29<sup>th</sup>?
- 7 A No, I was not.
- 8 Q You weren't there on June 30<sup>th</sup>?
- 9 A No, I was not.
- 10 Q You weren't there on July 1<sup>st</sup>?
- 11 A No, I was not.
- 12 Q You were not there when he left his son lying in  
13 a puddle of pee in the house by himself, were you?
- 14 A No, I was not.
- 15 Q And you said the last time you saw --- or that  
16 you talked to Mr. Guinyard was Easter?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q This past Easter or the one before?
- 19 A The Easter before they had gotten --- well, not  
20 Easter that just passed because they weren't around.
- 21 Q Okay, and that was the last time you saw him,  
22 when everybody was over at Natalie's house?
- 23 A We were at Ms. Gladys' house.
- 24 Q Everybody was at Ms. Gladys' house?
- 25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay, but again, you were not at the house in the  
2 days leading up to [REDACTED] Victim's death?

3 A No, I was not.

4 Q You were not there since February when they moved  
5 into that house?

6 A No, I was not.

7 MS. PINNOCK: Beg the Court's indulgence.

8 (Pause.)

9 MS. PINNOCK: That's all I have. Thank you.

10 THE COURT: Redirect?

11 MR. LI: Very briefly, Your Honor.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION:

13 BY MR. LI:

14 Q Were you aware that there was a pipe in this  
15 case?

16 A No, I was not.

17 THE COURT: A what?

18 MR. LI: A pipe. A shower rod in this case.

19 THE WITNESS: No, I was not.

20 BY MR. LI:

21 Q Were you aware that Antonio's blood was found on  
22 the pipe?

23 A No, I was not.

24 Q Do you think Antonio would ever use that pipe to  
25 beat his son?

1 THE CLERK: Okay.

2 THE COURT: Okay. You can bring them in.

3 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
4 12:17 p.m.)

5 THE BAILIFF: The jury is present, Your Honor.

6 MR. LI: The defense calls Gladys Thompson.

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand.

9 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. May it please  
10 the Court.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Yes, sir.

12 GLADYS THOMPSON,

13 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION:

15 BY MR. LI:

16 Q Ms. Thompson, for the record, you were subpoenaed  
17 to be here today?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q I subpoenaed you?

20 A Yes, sir, I don't want to be here. None of that.

21 Q Gladys, can you please state your full name for  
22 the record?

23 A I'm Gladys Dean Thompson.

24 Q Gladys what?

25 A Gladys Dean Thompson.

1 Q And where do you live?

2 A I live at 1810 Allen Benedict Court Apartment  
3 W-2.

4 Q Okay, at some point in your life did you use to  
5 live with Courtney and Antonio?

6 A Yes, sir, three years-and-a-half.

7 Q Do you remember what apartment numbers they were?

8 A Q-F-7.

9 Q And did you ever live with them in N-1?

10 A Yes, in N-1.

11 Q And what kind of apartments are they, Allen  
12 Benedict Court Apartments?

13 A They are an apartment complexes.

14 Q Pretty close together?

15 A Side by side.

16 Q People know other people's business?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q Okay. Were you there when --- were you there the  
19 first day **Victim** came back from DSS?

20 A Yes, I were.

21 Q Do you remember that day?

22 A I remember him coming home, yes, sir.

23 Q Do you remember trying to do something special  
24 for him that day?

25 A Yes, sir, they had him a little party. I went

1 and bought him some cupcakes. I couldn't put frosting  
2 on them, but I put little stickers on them and I just  
3 remember him being so happy.

4 Q Do you remember what he did with those stickers?

5 A Eat, them.

6 Q He tried to do what with them?

7 A He tried to eat them.

8 Q And during the past couple of years, have you had  
9 a chance to get to know Antonio Guinyard well?

10 A Senior?

11 Q Senior, yes.

12 A Yes, I have.

13 Q You've lived with him?

14 A Three years-and-a-half.

15 Q You've had a chance to see and interact with his  
16 children?

17 A Yes, I have.

18 Q And you've had a chance to see both parents  
19 interact?

20 A Yes, I have.

21 Q How would you describe the way Antonio interacted  
22 with his children?

23 A He treated his son real --- he treated all his  
24 kids --- he loved all his kids. He treated all his  
25 kids fairly. He loved his son and he would play with

1 him and he would take him to get his hair cut.

2 Q Did he ever play basketball?

3 A Yes, yes.

4 Q Can you tell us about that time?

5 A He was sitting in the front room. Courtney  
6 wasn't there, it was me and Antonio at the time. We  
7 was sitting there playing, and his grandmother had  
8 brought him a basketball hoop.

9 (WHEREUPON, a cell phone rang.)

10 THE WITNESS: Excuse me.

11 THE COURT: Is it off?

12 THE WITNESS: No, sir.

13 THE BAILIFF: Make sure it's off.

14 MR. LI: Turn it off. Turn it off.

15 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. Oh.

16 BY MR. LI:

17 Q Ms. Gladys, will you tell us about that time with  
18 the basketball?

19 A Him and Victim was --- we was all downstairs in the  
20 front room. I was in the front room. His  
21 grandmother, Ms. Patricia Guinyard, had brought him a  
22 basketball hoop. He and his father was playing  
23 basketball. You know, Victim he was a sweet little boy.  
24 He was like --- Antonio was like, "Okay, Victim. I got  
25 one and you got one." Victim said, "I got two, but you



1 lost one," and he was, you know, laughing. He took  
2 the basketball goal and he put it over to himself and  
3 then he said, "No, dad, I got two."

4 Q Did he ever cook for his children?

5 A Yes, he did. That was his job.

6 Q That was his job?

7 A To cook for them kids.

8 Q Do you remember Courtney cooking for the family?

9 A Yes, I have.

10 Q Have you ever witnessed Antonio not give **Victim**  
11 food or water?

12 A No, I haven't.

13 Q Have you ever seen him get mad when **Victim** would  
14 ask somebody else for water or food?

15 A No, I haven't. He would --- I mean, he would ask  
16 me or he would go ask his daddy.

17 Q Okay. So you've never seen Antonio get mad at  
18 anybody else or get mad at **Victim** for him asking for  
19 food or water?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q Have you seen Courtney get mad at other people?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q Have you seen Courtney get mad at other people  
24 for giving **Victim** water?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Have you seen her get mad at **Victim** himself?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Have you ever seen Courtney get mad at Antonio  
4 for giving **Victim** something to eat?

5 A Yes, I have.

6 Q Was there a time during Halloween?

7 A Yes, sir, all the kids had candy and they had  
8 came --- he wanted to go --- he wanted to go out for  
9 Halloween. All the other kids went and Antonio asked  
10 why she wouldn't let **Victim** go. She got mad. We got a  
11 community service out there in our apartment  
12 complexes.

13 Q Yes, ma'am.

14 A My daughter, Natalie, had brought him a little  
15 Halloween bag of candy. She got mad. I used to get  
16 him stuff, and she would get mad, but he was my  
17 grandson.

18 Q Do you remember a time about Oodles of Noodles?

19 A Do I remember the time?

20 Q When you gave him Oodles of Noodles?

21 A Yes, sir, I had to take him upstairs.

22 Q Tell us about that, take us through that  
23 incident.

24 A Courtney would get mad when, you know, when I  
25 tried to feed him. She was like --- I just tried to

1 explain to her, he's a baby. Oh, he knows what he is  
2 doing. I was sneaking food upstairs. It got me  
3 kicked out once or twice, but, I mean, that's my  
4 grandson.

5 Q Right.

6 A If I had ---

7 Q And where did you have to take the food?

8 A Upstairs in the room I was sleeping in.

9 Q How did you make the excuse to go upstairs?

10 A I made it seem like it was mine.

11 Q Who did you have to make that to?

12 A I had to make it seem like it was mine so  
13 Courtney that was --- at the time, I had no other  
14 place, you know, so I had to put up with it.

15 Q I understand. Have you ever seen Antonio try to  
16 sneak food to **Victim**?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Was there an incident where you actually got mad,  
19 kind of in a joking way, with Antonio about a Subway  
20 sandwich?

21 A Oh, yes, sir.

22 Q Tell me about that?

23 A It was --- Courtney, she got mad and like lots of  
24 times, she got mad at cuss me out. I would just walk  
25 out. I wouldn't stand there and argue and see if it

1 came to an end or a finish because I knew sooner or  
2 later that I was going to be part of their argument  
3 and, you know ---

4 Q Wait, wait, we don't need to get into that. Tell  
5 us when Antonio went to the store and --- did he buy  
6 sandwich items for yourself, but did he do something  
7 for **Victim**?

8 A Oh, yeah, he would buy food for the children and  
9 for me.

10 Q Did you notice a difference between the way  
11 Antonio and Courtney treated **Victim**?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q How would you describe that?

14 A Antonio treated him like his father. Courtney,  
15 she was hard on him and you could tell because he  
16 would be scared to go ask Courtney for anything. When  
17 she wasn't there, he would come to me or he would go  
18 his father. He felt comfortable asking me or his  
19 father. I mean, that's my daughter, but I'm going to  
20 tell the truth. He was scared of her.

21 Q And I know I'm jumping ahead of myself a little  
22 bit, but have you seen a difference in **Victim** when his  
23 mother is there and when his mother is not there?

24 A Yes, I have.

25 Q And we'll get back to that in a second. I just

1 wanted to remind you of that.

2 Have you seen Antonio interact with some of his  
3 other kids before, as well?

4 A Yes, I have, some of my other grandkids.

5 Q Who are some of your grandkids?

6 A **Girl Mik**, **Girl K**. Oh, y'all got to excuse me. I  
7 got so many grandchildren. I got like 18.

8 Q **Girl Mi**?

9 A **Girl Mi**.

10 Q **Girl M**?

11 A **Girl M**.

12 Q **Girl Z**.

13 A And **Girl Z**.

14 Q Were any of the kids scared of Antonio?

15 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Stop. What's the question?

17 MR. LI: I'm going to ask her from what you've  
18 witnessed, did it appear that any of the other  
19 children were afraid of Antonio.

20 THE COURT: Sustained.

21 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Were afraid of Antonio?

23 MR. LI: Antonio, yes.

24 THE COURT: Based on her observations, she can  
25 answer that. Your objection is overruled. I'm sorry,

1 I misunderstood you.

2 BY MR. LI:

3 Q Based on what you've seen and your observations  
4 and what you witnessed, did the other children appear  
5 to be scared of Antonio?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Have you seen them do things to Antonio before?

8 A They --- I used to tell him Antonio, you need to  
9 stop them --- they used to wear him out. He would  
10 just sit there. They would tie him up. **Girl Mi** be  
11 trying to feed them. They takes his food. I never  
12 saw him get mad. I used to say stop your children  
13 from playing with you. Sometimes he would be so tired  
14 there at night and just want to lay down and **Girl Mi**  
15 just wakes him up.

16 Q Do you remember a time when **Girl Mi** got lotion?

17 A Yes. Put lotion in his ---

18 Q Tell us about that.

19 A Antonio was there to eat one day. He was like  
20 Ms. Gladys is there some kept catsup in the  
21 refrigerator, and I say that yes there was. When he  
22 went to get the catsup, **Girl Mi** put lotion on his  
23 French Fries. He couldn't eat it. He just started  
24 laughing.

25 Q Do you remember a time when he woke up and he was

1 missing hair?

2 A Yes, sir, **Girl Mi**, she cut like two or three of  
3 his dreads.

4 Q Did he get mad?

5 A No. He didn't get mad. She cut mine, too.

6 Q Do you remember a time when someone tried to put  
7 Pampers on his feet?

8 A **Girl Mi**, yes.

9 Q So you remember many of those times, right, and  
10 you've seen **Victim** take advantage of Antonio, as well?

11 A Yeah, he felt comfortable around his father. He  
12 was more lively and more happy around his father.

13 Q Have you ever seen Antonio get mad to a point  
14 where he would hit his children?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Now, between the time of April 2012 and  
17 December 2012, do you remember a period of time where  
18 Antonio wasn't in the home?

19 A Yes, sir. The most he left, was three months.

20 Q And during that time --- so he was not allowed to  
21 stay at the house for three months?

22 A No, he wasn't allowed to stay there, but I used  
23 to open the back door for him so he could come eat and  
24 change his clothes. He is like a son of mine.

25 Q Right.

1 A He's been around me almost as long as my kids  
2 have.

3 Q And you would just kind of sneak him in?

4 A Oh, yeah, I let him come in and change his  
5 clothes, give him a cigarette, let him eat, let him  
6 spend time with the children.

7 Q Did you notice --- during that time, just to talk  
8 about it now, did you notice a difference between the  
9 way **Victim** would act when his mother was around and when  
10 his father was around?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q How would you describe --- from what you  
13 witnessed, how would you describe **Victim**'s behavior?

14 A When he was with his mother, he would just sit in  
15 one spot and hold his head down, play with his nails.  
16 He would look up at Courtney to wait until Courtney  
17 walk off, and he would go to his daddy and tell his  
18 daddy that he want this, he want that. Courtney,  
19 that's my daughter, but he's my grandson and I'm just  
20 here to tell the truth. I say to Courtney, he is  
21 scared of you, but he is my grandson. She would argue  
22 with me and fussing with me. She would like ignore  
23 me.

24 Q And the times when you would sneak Antonio in the  
25 home, Courtney wouldn't be at home, right?



1 A No.

2 Q That's how you would sneak him?

3 A Yeah.

4 Q How was **Victim**'s behavior when it was just you and  
5 Antonio around?

6 A He laughed. He will talk to me. He will talk to  
7 his father. He was like --- he was a happy little  
8 boy. He ran up and down the steps. He played. He did  
9 everything and it was a difference.

10 Q Was there a difference of where he wanted to  
11 sleep?

12 A Yeah.

13 Q Tell us about that.

14 A If Courtney at home, he wants to sleep with me.  
15 But if Courtney not at home, he was going to sleep  
16 with his daddy.

17 Q From what you --- just from what you've seen and  
18 what you observed, would you say that he was happier?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Have you ever seen Antonio get mad at Courtney  
21 for the way she treated **Victim**?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q Do you remember a time downstairs with the cable  
24 cord?

25 A Yes, sir.

1 Q Will you tell us about that?

2 A She would --- Courtney like hit him once or twice  
3 with a cable cord and he ran to his daddy. I don't  
4 feel that it was an incident, but Antonio took his  
5 hand and put his hand on like **Victim**'s back and the  
6 cable caught Antonio's hand.

7 Q And what was his reaction?

8 A Antonio?

9 Q Yes, Antonio, what was his reaction?

10 A He told her, he said, "Courtney stop beating him  
11 like that. Why are you beating him like that?" He  
12 was put out again.

13 Q Okay. And you said he was what?

14 A He was put out.

15 Q Okay. Do you remember **Victim** being chased by  
16 Courtney?

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q Would she ever ask you to help hold **Victim** down?

19 A One time she asked me to --- excuse me, but one  
20 time she asked me would I help her hold him. I told  
21 her, "Hell no, not me."

22 Q Have you ever witnessed her asking Antonio to  
23 help hold **Victim** while she hit him?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Did he do it?

1 A No. He would tell her he wasn't going to do it  
2 because she had already beat him.

3 Q What would she say to Antonio?

4 A Just that it was her children and her house and  
5 that he can just get the hell out.

6 Q What would he say --- would she get mad at him  
7 for not beating his kids?

8 A Yeah, but just **Victim**.

9 Q Just **Victim**?

10 A Yeah.

11 Q What would she say about that? How would she  
12 describe what **Victim** would be when he grew up?

13 A He was going to be gay. He was going to be a  
14 punk and that's maybe what she used, and she would  
15 say, "See Antonio, I told you. He's going to be a  
16 little punk. You need to chastise your son."

17 Q You need to what?

18 A Chastise his son.

19 Q Chastise his son. Okay. I know we talked  
20 about --- was there more than one --- was there just  
21 one cable cord incident or was it multiple incidents?

22 A I can recall two.

23 Q Two. Do you ever remember a time when you and  
24 Antonio did something about the cable cords?

25 A Courtney wasn't there. Antonio cut them upstairs

1 and I cut them downstairs. We was like in the living  
2 room and Antonio said that she is going to get mad we  
3 cleaned them and I said that I don't care. I'm getting  
4 them up out of here.

5 Q So what do you mean by cleaning the cable cords?

6 A We cut them all the way to the end. When the  
7 cable come in and the part that was where they drill  
8 holes in the floor, and we cut them all the way to the  
9 end and then we pushed them all back in the holes.

10 Q And Antonio helped you?

11 A Uh-huh.

12 Q But he asked you what you thought?

13 A He asked me did I think Courtney was going to get  
14 mad. I told him that I don't care. I just got tired  
15 of sitting feeling helpless.

16 Q Has Courtney ever talked to you about what would  
17 happen if you or anyone else called DSS?

18 A She threatened to jump on me one time and ---

19 MS. PINNOCK: Objection, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Sustained.

21 MS. PINNOCK: Move to strike.

22 THE COURT: Disregard the testimony.

23 MR. LI: Oh, I'm sorry.

24 BY MR. LI:

25 Q What was the relationship between, from what you

1 have witnessed and from you being around them, what  
2 was the relationship between Courtney and Antonio  
3 like? What was their relationship?

4 A I felt like Courtney was more in control of  
5 Antonio than him being a man to be in control, and you  
6 got to --- I mean, like I said, I can relate to it  
7 because it's like --- I had sources to move out  
8 because I'm a woman. He didn't have them sources, so  
9 it was like she was mostly in control. It was like,  
10 you know, she knew his situation, so, you know, when  
11 he get ready to put out, take my shoes off, take my  
12 shirt off. He was in a messed up situation.

13 Q Did it appear to you that Antonio loved his kids?

14 A Yes, sir, all of his kids.

15 Q Did he love Courtney?

16 A Yes, he did, a lot.

17 Q Can you tell us about the time where --- Antonio  
18 was put on a bus to Atlanta?

19 A His mom and them had put him on a bus to Atlanta,  
20 and about --- he didn't stay that long. It probably  
21 was about a week or a couple of days. I came  
22 downstairs. He was sitting on the chair. I said,  
23 "Antonio you came back down here?" He said, "Ms.  
24 Gladys, I love my baby mama and my children."

25 Q Can you count the number of times Antonio was put

1 out of the house, without going in any detail? Can  
2 you count the number of times?

3 A No, sir, but it's been numerous times.

4 Q And were any of those times when you were at the  
5 house?

6 A Yes, I were.

7 Q Any of those times that you witnessed Courtney  
8 beat **Victim** while Antonio was gone?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Would it be fair to say that Courtney wore the  
11 pants in it family?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Did it seem like Antonio depended on Courtney?

14 A Yes, he did, and I do think a little too much.

15 Q What was Antonio's job in the home?

16 A He would cook, clean the children, help me with  
17 the children. When it was me and him, Antonio took  
18 the baby to WIC.

19 Q To where?

20 A To WIC, the program to get milk and stuff for the  
21 kids. Me and him done that together.

22 Q And do you personally know if Antonio --- from  
23 any of your interactions with him, do you know if he  
24 has trouble reading or writing?

25 A Yes, I do.

1 Q Can you tell us about a time when he asked you to  
2 help him fill out an application?

3 A His food stamp application. Courtney, she used  
4 to help him, but when somebody says they're going to  
5 help you, but at the same time they throwing it up in  
6 your face you know what I'm saying, and I don't agree  
7 with that so I helped him. She was like, "You always  
8 need my help. You can't read. You just --- "

9 THE COURT: Whoa.

10 MR. LI: I'm going to stop you there.

11 THE COURT: Just answer the question directly.

12 BY MR. LI:

13 Q Have you ever helped Antonio fill out things?

14 A Once.

15 Q Once?

16 A One time, yes, sir.

17 Q Have you ever witnessed --- well, that's --- now  
18 I'm going to take you to the night of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013,  
19 okay. Do you remember when Courtney and Antonio came  
20 back to your house after the police station?

21 A Yes, I do.

22 Q Can you describe the way Antonio was acting at  
23 your home at Allen Benedict Court?

24 A Him and Courtney was tore up together. Courtney  
25 was crying. He was crying. Well, he looked at my

1 fiancée and Natalie and Charles, but he just came  
2 straight to me. He laid his head on my shoulder. He  
3 said, "Ms. Gladys, I didn't do nothing." I told him,  
4 I said, "Antonio, don't worry about it. Everybody  
5 knows you wouldn't beat them children like that." He  
6 just kept crying and my fiancée and Charles took him  
7 to the store to, you know, calm him down. He walked  
8 with them.

9 Q Did Antonio stay with y'all the whole night or  
10 did he walk off somewhere else?

11 A They stayed with me that whole night until the  
12 next morning.

13 Q And what was --- Antonio's demeanor, the whole  
14 time, how would you describe his demeanor? Was he  
15 sad?

16 A He was sad; he was beyond sad. He was tore up.  
17 He was nervous.

18 Q And how about --- what was the reaction from  
19 Courtney?

20 A She was crying. She fell down on my lap, and she  
21 just kept saying, "Mama, I know my baby is back there  
22 in your room," Like I told Courtney, "Courtney, don't  
23 worry, just wait until the autopsy comes back. That's  
24 going to really tell what happened." They left that  
25 morning. They left right after Investigate Holdorf



1 had called me, I believe.

2 Q Okay.

3 A They left.

4 Q Just the last couple of questions. Do you love  
5 Victim?

6 A Yes, I do, dearly.

7 Q Do you miss Victim?

8 A I miss him every day, all day, all night.

9 Q What is your fondest memory of Victim?

10 A Girl Mi, Courtney's daughter, we were --- I  
11 would take them downstairs, I would feed them  
12 breakfast. I did everything for my grandkids. I do  
13 it all. He would tell --- I would tell Girl Mi,  
14 "Don't you do that." He would be like, "Grandma, you  
15 better tell Girl Mi to listen to you because she is  
16 got to learn today." I said, "Yeah, she is going to  
17 learn today."

18 Q Why is she --- where did he get that phrase from?  
19 You got to learn today? Do you remember that?

20 A I think he got it from a comedy show because that  
21 was --- he would tell Girl Mi that, you know, you  
22 better listen to my grandma. You going to learn  
23 today, Girl Mi. I was like, "Yes, you going to learn  
24 today, too."

25 Q What's the fondest memory you have of Antonio and

1 **Victim?**

2 A Oh, we was sitting on the back porch one day and  
3 me and Antonio, we were drinking a cold beer, but  
4 Courtney get so mad. We took the beer and put it in  
5 a soda can. I said, "**Victim**, go take the soda can and  
6 take the bag and put them in the trash can." He done  
7 smelled the soda can. He said, "Grandma, you all  
8 drinking beer." I said, "Oh, Lord, I'm going to get  
9 put out again."

10 Q Gladys, I'm going to change the subject a little  
11 bit more. Who are your daughters?

12 A Natalie, Maria, Crystal and Courtney.

13 Q Would you say that you know Crystal Thompson  
14 fairly well?

15 A All my life. I raised her.

16 Q What can you tell us about Crystal Thompson's  
17 reputation for telling the truth?

18 A She is a compulsive liar.

19 MR. LI: Thank you. No further questions.

20 THE COURT: Cross?

21 MS. McDUFFIE: No questions, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Cross?

23 MS. PINNOCK: Very briefly, Your Honor.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION:

25 BY MS. PINNOCK:

1 Q Ms. Thompson, some of the things you testified  
2 about, you said that you had to sneak food upstairs?

3 A Yes, ma'am.

4 Q That's when you lived at Allen Benedict Court?

5 A That's when I lived at Allen Benedict Court with  
6 Courtney.

7 Q That was not over on Beaverbrook?

8 A I never stayed at Beaverbrook with a Courtney. I  
9 keep saying that. I keep telling that to everybody  
10 that I never stayed at Beaverbrook.

11 Q So what timeframe are we talking about that you  
12 are sneaking food upstairs?

13 A When I'm staying with Courtney at 1810 Allen  
14 Benedict Court, Apartment Q-7.

15 Q Ma'am?

16 A When.

17 Q When?

18 A During the time he first came home. He came home  
19 April.

20 Q So April 2012?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q The cable cord incident you talked about, again  
23 something happened upstairs. That was at Allen  
24 Benedict Court?

25 A That was at Allen Benedict Court. Everything I

1 witnessed was at Allen Benedict Court. I never  
2 stayed --- I went to Courtney's house one time at  
3 Beaverbrook when I went there to pick them up for  
4 church.

5 Q Okay. And you were present when everybody was  
6 hanging out at, I believe, your house on Easter?

7 A Yes, ma'am, it was my house.

8 Q Everybody was there?

9 A Yes, ma'am.

10 Q And you testified that Antonio treated **Victim** like  
11 a father should?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q He loved him?

14 A Yes, he did.

15 Q He left him laying in a puddle of urine in his  
16 room, you are aware of that, right?

17 A In urine? No, no, have not --- no, I'm not aware  
18 of that.

19 MS. PINNOCK: Thank you.

20 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

21 THE COURT: Redirect.

22 MR. LI: Nothing further.

23 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. Have a nice day.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

25 THE COURT: All right. Call your next witness.

1 lunch and then turned them over.

2 (Pause.)

3 THE COURT: All right, ready?

4 MR. LI: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Do you want to put him up there?

6 MR. LI: I may ask him to come off the stand.

7 Can we unshackle him for his testimony?

8 THE COURT: Are you okay with that?

9 THE DEPUTY: That's fine.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Bring them in.

11 (WHEREUPON, the jury entered the courtroom at  
12 2:18 p.m.)

13 THE BAILIFF: All jurors are accounted for, Your  
14 Honor.

15 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. Burgess.  
16 Mr. Li, you may continue.

17 MR. LI: Thank you, Your Honor. The defense  
18 calls Mr. Antonio Guinyard.

19 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Guinyard, please come  
20 forward and be sworn.

21 ANTONIO GUINYARD,  
22 after being duly sworn, testified as follows:

23 THE CLERK: Please have a seat and state your  
24 name for the record.

25 THE WITNESS: Robert Antonio Guinyard, Sr.