

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Horry County

Honorable Steven H. John, Circuit Court Judge

RECEIVED

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SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

TERRELL FREEMAN,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO 2018-000851

RECORD ON APPEAL

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**THE FOLLOWING EXHIBIT IS ON FILE WITH THIS COURT:
STATE'S EXHIBIT NO. 17 (RECORDING OF SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE FROM
MOTEL)**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF HORRY)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,) **TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD**

April 23-27, 2018

Plaintiff,)

vs.)

NICHOLAS JACOB MCIVER,) 2016-GS-26-05556, 05557, 05558

Defendant.)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,)

Plaintiff,)

vs.)

2017-GS-26-02606, 02607, 02609

TERRELL FREEMAN,)

Defendant.)

B E F O R E:

Honorable Steven H. John
Horry County Courthouse
Conway, South Carolina

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State v. McIver and Freeman
VOIR DIRE

13

1 **APRIL 23, 2018 - DAY ONE**

2 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury Venire enters courtroom.)

3 VOIR DIRE:

4 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we're going
5 to start the case of the State of South Carolina versus
6 Nicholas Jacob McIver and Terrell Freeman. Now, these
7 defendants have been charged by the State of South Carolina
8 with several offenses. How that goes is the state charges the
9 defendants, an indictment is issued. Now the indictment for
10 that crime is issued and served on the defendant. In this
11 particular matter, the defendants have pled not guilty to
12 those indictments. Now, the indictments are the allegations
13 of the state. They are not evidence, cannot be considered by
14 you as evidence in the case. I am going to read to you
15 certain information contained in the indictments for the only
16 or sole purpose of seeing whether or not any potential juror
17 has any information about this particular matter or they need
18 to bring to the Court's attention some matter involved
19 regarding this particular case.

20 Now ---

21 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may we approach; may we approach
22 briefly?

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
25 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury venire.)

State v. McIver and Freeman
VOIR DIRE

14

COURT'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 1

MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen. Now, regarding this particular matter, I told you that the state has charged the defendants, Nicholas McIver and Terrell Freeman with certain offenses to which they have pled not guilty. The state has charged the defendant Terrell Freeman with the crimes of murder, kidnapping, possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime, and grand larceny valued at 2,000 to 10,000. The state has also charged the defendant, Nicholas McIver with the crimes of murder, kidnapping, possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime, and grand larceny.

Now, regarding this particular matter, and I'll start with the indictments against Mr. McIver, and again, I'm only reading these to you, understanding they are mere allegations, not facts or evidence. The state has charged that Nicholas Jacob McIver along or in combination with another, did in Horry County, on or about July 9th, 2016, willfully, feloniously, and intentionally killed the victim, Amanda Fisher, with malice aforethought, either expressed or implied, by means of shooting and the victim did die as a proximate result thereof on or about July 9th, 2016 in Horry County in violation of the Code of Laws, State of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

State v. McIver and Freeman
VOIR DIRE

15

1 The state has also charged that the defendant, Nicholas
2 Jacob McIver, did in Horry County, on or about July 9th, 2016,
3 unlawfully seize, confine, inveigle, decoy, kidnap, abduct or
4 carry away one, Amanda Fisher, with authority of law and again
5 in violation of the Code of Laws of the State of South
6 Carolina, 1976, as amended.

7 The state has also charged that Nicholas Jacob McIver,
8 did in Horry County, on or about July 9th, 2016, possess a
9 firearm or visibly displayed what appeared to be a firearm
10 during the commission or attempted commission of a violent
11 crime again in violation of the Codes of Laws of the State of
12 South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

13 And finally, the state charges that the defendant,
14 Nicholas Jacob McIver, did in Horry County, on or about July
15 9th, 2016, take and carry away the personal goods of Amanda
16 Fisher valued at more than 2,000 but less than \$10,000
17 described as follows: 2012 Chevrolet Malibu with the intent
18 to deprive the owner permanently of such property and convert
19 the goods to his own use, again in violation of Code of Laws
20 the State of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

21 The state has in similar indictments, charged the
22 defendant, that the defendant, Terrell Freeman, did in Horry
23 County, on or about July 9th, 2016, willfully, feloniously,
24 intentionally killed the victim, Amanda Fisher, with malice
25 aforethought, either expressed or implied, by means of a

State v. McIver and Freeman
VOIR DIRE

16

1 gunshot. The victim did die as the proximate result thereof
2 or about July 9th, 2016 in Horry County, again in violation of
3 the Code of Laws of the State of South Carolina, 1976, as
4 amended.

5 The state has charged that Terrell Freeman, did in Horry
6 County, on or about July 9th, 2016, unlawfully seize, confine,
7 inveigle, decoy, kidnap, abduct or carry away one Amanda
8 Fisher without authority of law and again in violation of the
9 Code of Laws, State of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

10 The state has also charged that the defendant, Terrell
11 Freeman, did in Horry County, on or about July 9th, 2016,
12 possess a firearm or visibly display what appeared to be a
13 firearm during the commission or attempted commission of a
14 violent crime again in violation of the Code of Laws of the
15 State of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

16 And finally that the defendant, Terrell Freeman, did in
17 Horry County, on or about July 9th, 2016, take and carry away
18 the personal goods of Amanda Fisher valued at more than 2,000
19 but less than \$10,000 described as follows: A 2012 Chevrolet
20 Malibu with intent to deprive the owner permanently of such
21 property and convert the goods to some use again in violation
22 of the Code of Laws of the State of South Carolina, 1976, as
23 amended.

24 Is there any member of the potential jury that knows
25 anything about this particular case, has any information about

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. SPRATLIN: And, Your Honor, this has not been filed
2 in the clerk of court's office.

3 THE COURT: Right. Okay. And that's fine and that's
4 just gonna be an exhibit obviously that will not be going to
5 the jury as with the other exhibits.

6 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, sir, Your Honor

7 THE COURT: Since you marked the other one's Court's
8 Exhibit. We might as well be consistent and mark this one as
9 2. Okay?

10 COURT'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 2

11 MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

12 THE COURT: Okay. All right. All right. Now, Mr.
13 Bellamy, you had asked other than the matter about the hand-
14 of-one charge, is there anything else from the defendant
15 McIver, at this time?

16 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: From the defendant Freeman?

18 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, if I could just put on the
19 record real fast, I had filed -- or I was gonna ask the Court
20 for a motion in limine regarding the victim in this case being
21 a witness in the murder case up in Charlotte-Mecklenburg
22 County. I believe the state has agreed that that's
23 appropriate as stated in chambers in a pre-conference. I did
24 not plan on bringing forth that evidence, so I would just like
25 to place that on the record.

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BY THE COURT

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1 THE COURT: Is that correct, Solicitor?

2 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

4 Anything else from the defendant Freeman?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, and I'm sorry, I misspoke.

7 Also, which had been previously discussed in chambers, there
8 is a statement by Co-defendant Freeman that has been made that
9 because of *Bruton* issues, that will not be in the case in
10 chief as well as it would relate to my client.

11 THE COURT: Now, is that correct, Solicitor?

12 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, that's correct, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: All right. And as I understand it,
14 gentlemen, that only unless and until the defendant intends to
15 testify will we take up that issue regarding the *Jackson v.*
16 *Denno* matter; is that correct, gentlemen? Any objection to
17 that?

18 MR. OSKIN: None from the state, Your Honor.

19 MR. SPRATLIN: Not on behalf of Defendant Freeman, Your
20 Honor.

21 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right. Very good. All right. So, with
23 that, you wanted me to tell you regarding the hand-of-one
24 charge that I would use. I will read that to you. Also, I'll
25 too you that I have in the past and it will obviously be

State v. McIver and Freeman
BY THE COURT

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1 dependent upon the facts that are developed in this particular
2 matter, but in conjunction with the hand-of-one charge, I've
3 also had instructed the jury about mere presence. So, I'm
4 gonna read both of them to you understanding that obviously
5 I've not heard the evidence and not decided what the charge is
6 gonna be to the jury, but just so that if I did use that, I
7 would be using it. So, mere presence says, mere presence
8 scene is not sufficient to prove someone guilty of a crime.
9 The defendant's presence where a crime is being committed or
10 mere association with the person who commits a crime does not
11 make a defendant an accomplice or an aider and abettor of the
12 person committing the crime. The burden is on the state to
13 prove every element of the crime charged. If you find, after
14 reviewing all of the evidence that the state has proved that
15 the defendant was only present at the scene of a crime and
16 that they have not proved beyond a reasonable doubt any other
17 participation in the crime then you must find the defendant
18 not guilty. The law is that proof at the scene of the crime
19 is not sufficient to find someone guilty.

20 Hand of one. If a crime is committed by two or more
21 persons, who are acting together in committing a crime, the
22 act of one is the act of all. A person who joins with another
23 to commit an unlawful act is criminally responsible for
24 everything done by the other person, which happens as a
25 probable or natural consequence of the acts done in carrying

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BY THE COURT

50

1 out the common plan and purpose. The act of one is the act of
2 all or, as it is sometimes said, the hand of one is the hand
3 of all. Prior knowledge that a crime is going to be committed
4 without more, is not sufficient to make a person guilty of
5 that crime. Mere knowledge that another person is going to
6 commit a crime, even if the defendant is present when the
7 crime is committed, is not sufficient to convict the defendant
8 as a principle. Guilt as a principle is shown by actual or
9 constructive presence at the scene as a result of prior
10 arrangement. The state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt
11 by competent evidence, the theory of the hand of one is the
12 hand of all.

13 The principle in a crime is one who either actually
14 commits the crime or who is present aiding, abetting, or
15 assisting in committing the crime. When a person does an act
16 in the presence of and with the assistance of another, the act
17 is done by both. Where two or more, acting with a common plan
18 or intent, are present at the commission of a crime, it does
19 not matter who actually commits the crime; all are guilty.
20 The hand of one is the hand of all.

21 Present at the commission of a crime means to be
22 sufficiently near to aid, abet, and assist in the commission
23 of a crime. Mere presence at the scene of a crime is not
24 sufficient to convict one as a principle on the theory of
25 aiding and abetting.

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BY THE COURT

51

1 That's the intention of the Court regarding hand-of-one
2 and mere presence. So, if there is anything else that y'all
3 want to suggest regarding any charge, obviously you need to
4 submit that to the Court for my consideration from the state
5 or either defendant. All right?

6 All right. And, gentlemen, for your information, the
7 jury has selected Juror Number 79, Juror Number 79, as the
8 foreperson.

9 With that, we'll break until 2:30.

10 Thank you very much.

11 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Tell the jury to be back at 2:30, please.

13 (To Deputies) So, y'all just make sure that they are kept
14 separate and apart. Okay?

15 DEPUTY: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.

17 All right. I'll see y'all at 2:30 then.

18 Thank you very much.

19 RECESS

20 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

21 **(On the Record.)**

22 BY THE COURT:

23 THE COURT: All right. The first thing, Juror Number 79,
24 Ms. Creel, you are the foreperson. Please go down to the end,
25 if you would, please, ma'am.

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1 And the two alternates, y'all are occupying the two end
2 seats, correct? All right. So, those are the only assigned
3 seats. The foreperson and two alternates, that's where y'all
4 always have to sit when you come back from the jury room. The
5 rest of you ladies and gentlemen, just kind of fill in
6 wherever it is you happen to be walking into the courtroom.

7 All right. The very first thing that's gonna happen in
8 this matter is the clerk's representative, is going to
9 administer your oath to you, so, if you would all please stand
10 at this time.

11 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury duly sworn.)

12 THE COURT: All right. Is there any member of the jury
13 panel that did not affirmatively take the oath as just given
14 by the clerk's representative? If so, please stand.

15 (REPORTER'S NOTE: No response.)

16 THE COURT: No juror having stood, I find the jury
17 properly sworn in this matter.

18 All right, ladies and gentlemen, I'm sure you're
19 collectively sitting there and having some question as to what
20 your job is and what you're going to be doing in this
21 particular case. In essence, you are going to be the judges
22 of the facts of this case. I will not indicate to you in any
23 fashion what I think the facts of this case are. It will not
24 be my job and my responsibility; it will be your job and your
25 responsibility to evaluate the facts and evidence, the

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1 testimony, the evidence presented in this matter, and then
2 ultimately to decide whether or not the state has proven the
3 guilt of the defendants beyond a reasonable doubt. Now, I
4 told you and read to you the indictments, the charges against
5 the two defendants, and reminding you again, those indictments
6 are merely the charging documents, the documents which bring
7 the matter to court. They're not evidence, they can't be
8 considered by you as evidence. That will come from the
9 witness stand and maybe some type of documentary or physical
10 evidence introduced by the state.

11 But to these indictments, the defendants have pled not
12 guilty. Now, each of the defendants, Mr. McIver and Mr.
13 Freeman, they are charged with the crimes of murder,
14 kidnapping, possession of a weapon during the commission of a
15 violent crime, and grand larceny value of 2,000 to 10,000.
16 Each one of those is a separate charge. Each of them has
17 distinct elements of law. There will be different facts that
18 will be presented by the state regarding those particular
19 matters. When you ultimately at the end render your
20 collective decision in this matter, you will have decided four
21 cases against Mr. McIver and four cases against Mr. Freeman.
22 And I'll remind you about this at the very end, but your
23 unanimous verdict on each one of the four charges against each
24 defendant, they don't have to be the same, they don't have to
25 be consistent with each other. Each one of them, as I told

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1 you, has separate facts and separate elements of law and
2 you're gonna have to evaluate each one of them as against each
3 defendant.

4 So, you're trying two cases in one and four charges
5 against each defendant in this matter, and the verdict form
6 will reflect that. At the very end, they'll be -- have four
7 verdict forms as to Mr. McIver and four verdict forms as to
8 Mr. Freeman that you'll have to render a separate decision on
9 each one of them.

10 Again, the defendants have pled not guilty to the
11 indictments. What did that do? That immediately put the
12 burden of proof on the State of South Carolina to prove the
13 defendants guilty of the crimes charged beyond a reasonable
14 doubt. The defendants, at the time the indictments were drawn
15 against them and served on the defendants, they were presumed
16 innocent; they're presumed innocent; they are always presumed
17 innocent unless and until you, the jury, collectively believe
18 the state has proven the guilt of the defendant on the crime
19 charged beyond a reasonable doubt.

20 It's going to be your job, ladies and gentlemen, based
21 upon the facts and evidence presented in this case, to
22 determine and to decide whether the state has met that burden
23 to prove the defendants guilty, beyond a reasonable doubt.
24 The defendants have nothing to show to you. The defendants
25 have nothing to prove to you. It is the state's burden on

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1 each and every one of the charges that it has levied or
2 brought against each defendant.

3 In your evaluation of the facts and evidence, you being
4 the judges of the facts, you will be called upon to judge the
5 credibility and the believability of the witnesses that come
6 before you and testify under oath. You're thinking about how
7 do I judge somebody's credibility and believability; you do it
8 every single day of your life. When somebody tells you
9 something, you are automatically in your own mind judging
10 whether or not you believe them. You use your good common
11 sense. You use your good judgment that you use in conducting
12 your own affairs. That's what we're asking you to do here
13 during the course of this trial. Use your good common sense,
14 apply it to the facts and the evidence, and then at the very
15 end look at all the facts and evidence and see if you believe
16 the state proved the defendant guilty of that crime that he's
17 been charged with, beyond a reasonable doubt.

18 How the case will proceed. After these opening
19 statements by the attorneys, we'll have the presentation of
20 witnesses. They'll come before you and testify as to certain
21 things that they know. After that, we'll have the closing
22 arguments of the attorneys, then I will charge the law. I'm
23 will give you the law that you will apply to the facts and
24 evidence you've heard in this case, and then I'll submit the
25 case to you for your deliberations and your unanimous decision

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1 on each and every one of the charges against both of the
2 defendants.

3 I am gonna ask that you do not discuss the case until I
4 give it to you at the very end. There would be, with some, a
5 tendency maybe to after one witness believe a certain thing,
6 and if that's expressed, some people find it hard to then go
7 back and say oh goodness, the very next witness, I've changed
8 my mind and I now believe something else. So, you keep that
9 to yourself. When you've heard all of the evidence, you know
10 the law that you got to apply to the facts and evidence you've
11 heard, then you're able to fully discuss it among yourselves
12 and reach your unanimous decision in this matter.

13 The -- I talked about the opening statements by the
14 attorneys and the closing arguments. Please remember they're
15 important. They're each side's -- at the very beginning, the
16 opening statement, their presentation to you of what they
17 think is going to happen during the course of the trial. The
18 closing arguments are their comments on the evidence. But
19 understand, that's not evidence. Evidence is what comes from
20 witnesses testifying to you under oath. Evidence might be
21 some kind of documentary or physical evidence. That's the
22 evidence that you must base your decision upon.

23 During the course of trial if for some reason the
24 attorneys raise some objection or motion to the Court, please
25 remember, if I deal with it in your presence, I don't send you

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1 back to the jury room, so I can more fully discuss it with the
2 lawyers, about one of my duties, that is governing the conduct
3 of the trial, how the trial will be conducted. But, if
4 something is objected to, please remember, I'm not talking
5 about credibility and believability of witnesses. I'm just
6 saying, yes, it's proper for the jury to hear or, no, it's not
7 proper for the jury to hear and then you give it whatever
8 consideration or weight you want to give it. I'm just saying
9 yes, you can hear it; or no, you can't. I'm not gonna invade
10 your province as to the facts and the evidence; you being the
11 judges of the facts and evidence in this case.

12 We're asking you and, understandably, understand that
13 we're asking you to do something that you're not trained, you
14 didn't go to law school; we appreciate it. What you bring to
15 the courtroom is something extremely important, your common
16 experiences, your experiences in your own life, your common
17 sense. That's what we need for you to use to evaluate the
18 facts and evidence in this case and render a verdict based
19 upon the facts and evidence, and your decision of whether or
20 not the state has proved the defendants guilty beyond a
21 reasonable doubt. And I know, I'm confident that you
22 collectively will do that.

23 Solicitor?

24 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor, if it may please the
25 Court?

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OPENING BY OSKIN

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1 OPENING BY MR. OSKIN:

2 Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

3 Around 11:15 in the North Myrtle Beach section of Horry
4 County on July 9th, 2016, Kenneth Thompson was visiting from
5 North Carolina, what he thought was gonna be a quiet lunch by
6 himself. Shortly after he gets out of his car, he hears a
7 loud bang. I think he quoted it as a kapow. He hears that to
8 his right. He thinks a tire popped. As he's adjusting his
9 view, he sees two men pulling out a woman's body out of white
10 Chevy Malibu car. What was gonna be a quiet lunch by Mr.
11 Thompson for himself, quickly turned into him being a witness
12 to a murder.

13 That woman that was pulled from her vehicle was Amanda
14 Fisher. And just 10 hours prior to that, she was in the
15 Myrtle Beach area with her cousin, Tabetha Oxendine, for the
16 night. Nicholas McIver and Terrell Freeman were also in
17 Myrtle Beach that night. At some point, the four individuals
18 meet. They hang out through that night until early in the
19 morning. It's time for Ms. Oxendine to get back to her kids
20 in Shalotte area. So, they all ride together in Amanda's
21 vehicle to the Shalotte area. They take -- they drop Tabetha
22 off. They make a stop at Amanda's -- let me back up a second.
23 Amanda also had -- her family has a residence in the North
24 Carolina area as well, and they make a stop there. She told
25 her family she was gonna go to the beach that day. And from

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1 the time she left her family's residence in North Carolina
2 until the time she was supposed to go back to Myrtle Beach,
3 something horrible happened, her killing.

4 After these defendants are seen dumping her body in the
5 parking lot, leaving her for dead, they returned to the Myrtle
6 Beach area. They were staying at a motel called the Lancer.
7 Once they get to that Lancer motel, they're seen leaving that
8 parking lot, Defendant Freeman driving the truck that they got
9 to Myrtle Beach from in the first place, and the defendant
10 McIver driving the -- Amanda Fisher's Malibu.

11 After they depart Myrtle Beach -- I'm not sure you're
12 familiar with the routes between Myrtle Beach and Charlotte;
13 there's a couple of different ways to get there. Defendant
14 McIver takes the road less traveled to get back to Charlotte
15 and that's a back road through small country towns throughout.
16 We know this because he's seen on video surveillance stopping
17 in Bennettsville, South Carolina, then he's stopping in a town
18 called Marshville, North Carolina, it's roughly 30 miles
19 outside of the Charlotte area. He uses the victim's debit
20 card there to make small purchases. You'll see video
21 surveillance of him in those stores. You'll see video
22 surveillance of her car leaving the Bennettsville parking lot.

23 From the time he leaves Marshville, he returns to
24 Charlotte area, there's a road there called Sally Lane.
25 Specifically, there's a section of Charlotte called Idlewood

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1 and Sally Lane is a spot not far from where one of his
2 girlfriends lives. He gives her a call to meet him there and
3 once he gets there, he burns the vehicle's car -- or he burns
4 the victim's car. He burns Ms. Amanda's car. He's seen by an
5 eyewitness doing this.

6 From there, we're standing before you today. I expect
7 these defendants to be on trial for murder, kidnapping, grand
8 larceny, and possession of a weapon during a violent crime.
9 These defendants are charged under the hand-of-one-hand-of-all
10 theory. In a nutshell, that means the act of one is the act
11 of all. In this case, you can expect to hear from officers
12 who responded to the scene in North Myrtle Beach. You'll hear
13 from Mr. Thompson, whose point of view I gave at the beginning
14 of this opening. You'll hear from the store clerks, who can
15 verify that Mr. McIver was in those stores, the transactions
16 that he made, and you'll hear from witnesses who saw them burn
17 that vehicle.

18 As a solicitor, it's mine and Solicitor DeBusk's burden
19 to prove their guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Reasonable
20 doubt is the proof that will leave you, the jury, firmly
21 convinced of both of their guilt. It's not an insurmountable
22 burden and it's certainly not an impossible burden. It's a
23 very high burden. It's a burden Solicitor DeBusk and I take
24 very seriously and we're prepared to meet it in this case.

25 Murder is defined in our state as the intentional killing

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1 of another with malice aforethought, whether it's expressed or
2 implied. Murder in South Carolina doesn't have to have
3 premeditation, but it can. That's the timing and
4 aforethought.

5 Kidnapping is the unlawful seizure, confining of another.
6 There's a couple of provisions to what defines kidnapping. In
7 our state statute, it's not always the high profile amber
8 alerts scenarios you see. Holding someone against their will
9 is sufficient for kidnapping in the State of South Carolina.

10 Grand larceny, this might be a little bit more what it
11 sounds like. Grand larceny is the taking of another's goods
12 and converting it to your own use. Here it's value over
13 \$2,000 and less than \$10,000. That's the value that Amanda
14 Fisher's white Chevy Malibu was valued at, which is why it's
15 that specific range of grand larceny.

16 Possession of a weapon during a violent crime. Again,
17 that's what it sounds like, that means they were in possession
18 of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime. Here
19 you have two violent crimes committed; murder and kidnapping.

20 You're gonna hear testimony in this trial that there was
21 what's called a contact wound to Amanda Fisher's head, roughly
22 right here above her right ear, exit wound goes out this way.
23 There's malice aforethought. That's the manner of death and
24 you take that into account with the same circumstances that
25 her body was left there. Her body was left there to die.

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1 These defendants couldn't get out of there fast enough, but
2 they did stay in constant contact with each other before,
3 during the commission of this murder, and until they got back
4 to the Charlotte area.

5 Kidnapping, again, that gun to her head was the unlawful
6 seizure, confining of her in her vehicle. We have that met in
7 this case.

8 Possession of a weapon during a violent crime, again, gun
9 wound, exit wound, possession of a weapon during a violent
10 crime.

11 And grand larceny would be as I previously said, it would
12 be the conversion of someone's goods for their own use,
13 essentially depriving the owner of its use. And you're gonna
14 see video surveillance of where McIver was driving the
15 victim's vehicle from that Bennettsville police station to
16 further prove that.

17 A couple of things I need you to pay attention to during
18 this trial. There's gonna be some geographic things that
19 might be slightly confusing if you're not too familiar with
20 this area. I'm assuming you're residents, I'm assuming you
21 came here for a reason, if you haven't lived here your whole
22 life. You have Myrtle Beach, that's where both the victim in
23 this case and the defendants were staying. The victim and her
24 cousin, Tabettha Oxendine, were staying at a hotel called the
25 Holiday Sands North. That's on Ocean Boulevard in the Myrtle

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1 Beach section of Horry County. You have the K&W at North
2 Myrtle Beach. Now, that's not the north end of Myrtle Beach,
3 that's the actual city, North Myrtle Beach, before you get to
4 the bridge up there going into Little River, there's a K&W and
5 that's where Ms. Fisher was shot and dumped in the parking
6 lot. You have a town in North Carolina called Shallotte,
7 sounds a lot like Charlotte. You've probably heard of
8 Charlotte before, so you know it's not Shallotte. It's
9 spelled different and it's as obvious as it sounds, but it's
10 important to reiterate this and you'll see maps to that
11 effect. You'll see maps that show the distance between North
12 Myrtle Beach -- you'll see where these incidents happened.
13 You'll see North Myrtle Beach, you'll see Myrtle Beach, you'll
14 see the routes they took to go home, you'll see the gas
15 stations they stopped at on maps to further add visual aides
16 to the towns and items mentioned in this case.

17 You're gonna hear from the autopsy doctor to back up what
18 I'm telling you here as far as malice aforethought to that
19 contact wound, to that entry point, to how Ms. Fisher met her
20 demise at the hands of these two defendants.

21 At the conclusion of this case, Senior Solicitor DeBusk
22 will stand in front of you and he'll ask that you return a
23 just verdict. I'll ask the same thing of you now and I'll ask
24 that you pay attention throughout this trial, and at the end
25 of it, your decision -- after the evidence you review, after

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1 the evidence that you've seen, taken in its totality, you'll
2 be confident in your decision to find both of these defendants
3 guilty of murder, kidnapping, possession of a weapon during a
4 violent crime, and grand larceny.

5 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bellamy?

6 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 OPENING BY BELLAMY:

9 MR. BELLAMY: Mr. Solicitor, Mr. Spratlin, Madam
10 Forelady, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, back in July of
11 2016, these folks sitting over here -- my client's
12 grandmother, mother and fiancé -- came to me and asked me to
13 represent Nicholas McIver. After much deliberation, I agreed
14 to it.

15 Folks, as I listened to the solicitor's opening remarks
16 -- again, nothing he says or I say or Mr. Spratlin says is
17 evidence -- but the one thing that struck me in a murder case
18 where there's a single gunshot, we know only one person pulled
19 the trigger, you didn't hear anything about who in that car
20 shot, and I think that's important for the 14 ultimately 12 of
21 you. And I'm gonna talk to you a little bit later on about
22 the why I don't think you know and what may not have been done
23 in the investigation to give you a better idea.

24 But, folks, the gentleman out here and I don't recall his
25 name, the stepfather of Ms. Fisher, he deserves to know who

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1 pulled that trigger. Equally, there's two people sitting at
2 this table, Mr. Freeman and Mr. McIver. One of them did not
3 shoot. No question about it, that one needs to be -- to know,
4 too.

5 Now, folks, Mr. Spratlin and I are seated together at
6 this big long table and we had to arrangements for that,
7 usually, we got two small tables. He and I, you may have seen
8 the jury selection and other times we may speak to each other,
9 but these are separate defendants, who have -- may have
10 separate defenses. We are not a team of big table versus the
11 little table. Your verdict can be different in each case for
12 each defendant. So, just because we're seated there and may
13 speak to each other, quite frankly, all of us colleagues work
14 together, know each other, so, we're gonna do that for all
15 kinds of reasons. So, please understand that while we're
16 seated there, it's not a team necessarily approach.

17 Now, the other thing I want to say is there may be
18 evidence elicited by me, the solicitor or Mr. Spratlin about
19 Ms. Fisher's conduct during the 12 or so hours she was with
20 these two gentlemen. It might involve activities that some
21 people may find objectionable and I do it -- if I bring those
22 things out, I tell you it involves many drugs, sex, or other
23 things, not to disparage her as a person or her character or
24 to suggest that anything she may have done in any way caused
25 this to happen. But I may do it to give you the context of

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1 what was the interactions of these four people. To let you
2 know there was no force, coercion, tricks, anything of that
3 nature, that this was a fully voluntary participation by
4 everybody, four people who didn't know each other and a random
5 meeting on the boulevard boardwalk in the City of Myrtle
6 Beach.

7 Now, let me also say this, and I agree with a lot, maybe
8 not all of what the solicitor says is factual in this case.
9 There may be some things we are gonna disagree on, but the
10 basic resuscitation is right. And I will tell you as I stand
11 here today, on the charge of grand larceny, my client's
12 guilty. I don't think in the 28 years I've practiced law,
13 I've ever stood up in front of a jury whose gonna try my
14 client and said my client was guilty of a charge; I've never
15 done that. But he is; ain't no question about it, he is.
16 And, he's also guilty of some, what I believe are other
17 charges that he's not charged with. He's guilty of
18 participating after the fact by using her credit card, driving
19 off in her car, and other things, and there's a charge for
20 that called accessory after the fact, but that's not we're
21 here for today, but he's guilty of that, and he may very well
22 have another day in court and should be punished for that.

23 So, we're not gonna contest -- and there's gonna be
24 videotapes of most of this stuff. As you can imagine this day
25 and time, there are videos everywhere.

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1 Now, back to who shot and why we may not have the
2 evidence that y'all should have. In the course of this, keep
3 it in mind, I or my client bears no responsibility for
4 bringing any of it. This is the state's burden as I
5 understand it. But I ask questions of law enforcement
6 officers on cross examination about why you didn't do this, or
7 you should've done this, or something of that nature, and
8 please, please, don't think I'm being disrespectful to law
9 enforcement. I have as much respect for law enforcement as
10 anybody. My father spent 40 years as a policeman. And when I
11 became a lawyer, a lot of these policemen I had to cross
12 examine were his friends. And I talked to him, I said, how do
13 I do that? These people know you and know me. He said, do
14 your job, Scott, whatever it may be, be respectful, don't make
15 it personal. So, if I do that, please don't take that as
16 disrespect at all.

17 Now, the solicitor has indicated that -- and again, I
18 don't think you're gonna have any evidence of who did this,
19 but they rely on the concept of law of the hand of all -- the
20 hand of one is the hand of all and it is a theory in the law,
21 which His Honor will instruct you on at some point at the end.
22 There's also another concept that they didn't mention to you,
23 which is called mere presence. That is a mere presence at a
24 scene where someone commits a crime does not make you guilty
25 of what they did. But, go back to the hand of one. It

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1 requires -- and if I get this law wrong, you listen to Judge
2 John, not me -- that there be knowledge that a crime was gonna
3 be committed, but not just that, that's not even enough, and
4 the agreement to participate in some conspiracy or common plan
5 to do some criminal activity. So, I know it's gonna happen
6 and I'm gonna do something to help you before the fact, before
7 the fact. Not accurate, because there's no question my client
8 did things after, which is a separate crime, but I don't
9 believe we'll hear evidence before. Sometimes, we lawyers, we
10 come up with a theory of our case and we try to fit the facts
11 to it. I suggest to you, I suggest to you, it should work the
12 opposite, the facts dictate what happened, not our theory and
13 then we try to fit what fits in an ignore what doesn't.

14 I want to give you just a couple examples of mere
15 presence and hand of one. It may help you as you're listening
16 to this evidence. I don't want to talk too long, but I can't
17 help it. Someone gets a call from their best friend or
18 brother, hey, come pick me up, I need a ride from my ex-
19 wife's, I got to give her something for my children or do what
20 whatever. So, there's video of him picking him up somewhere
21 and receipts where they stopped at Taco Bell or here or there.
22 So, you've got good evidence and then maybe some surveillance
23 at somebody's house that has them pulling up. Man gets out,
24 goes to the porch, he and his wife maybe getting along, and
25 unbeknownst to the man in the car, he shoots and kills her or

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1 kills her anyway, and he runs back and the person in the car
2 sees it, knows it happened, but he drives off with him anyhow
3 for reasons sufficient to himself whether it's love, fear, or
4 whatever it is and he helps him get away. Maybe helps dispose
5 of things. That person is not guilty for murder. They're
6 guilty of something, but without knowledge and participation
7 in the before, that's mere presence. The after is a separate
8 crime and I asked you to look for that evidence before, not an
9 inference or assuming, but actual evidence of something before
10 the fact.

11 Now, folks, I want to talk to you about a couple of legal
12 principals His Honor has talked to you about which is
13 presumption of innocence -- presumption of innocence, I've
14 heard that for 20 some years. Nice phrase, it sounds good,
15 that sort of thing, but quite frankly, the average person --
16 if I -- when I go to church, the ladies who keep the nursery,
17 they'll read about a case and ask me because they know I do
18 this, they'll say, well you know they did it, Scott, you know
19 they did it. They've read a little article or seen something
20 on T.V. or go to a Shrine meeting and my buddies will tell me
21 the same thing. And I've actually sat on the big panel like
22 y'all and heard people talking -- this was years ago, like
23 gosh, wonder what that man did, he looks like he did this.
24 So, I say human nature is -- and it's no disparaging remark on
25 any of you or anybody, we kinda just have that. Well, he's

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1 charged, the prosecutor is over here saying or here trying it,
2 the Judge is gonna let them do it; there must be something to
3 it. But that's not what it is. That's not what it is.
4 You've got to presume they're innocent.

5 I had a conversation with a friend of mine and he said
6 well, Scott, as a juror shouldn't I be in the middle -- and if
7 we use this railing as innocent, I don't know, and right here
8 at this speaker -- and that's what that is, by the way, so if
9 you touch it -- guilty; shouldn't I be in the middle, Scott.
10 Shouldn't I be neutral because I don't know the parties, don't
11 know the facts. That's what they make sure of when we
12 question them about who knows what. And I thought about that
13 I said, well, yeah, kind of -- you know. Came back and had
14 another conversation, I said, this is how you presume someone
15 innocent when you don't obviously know anything about it. I
16 said, I told him, I said conjure up in your mind somebody in
17 your life who you have the most confidence, trust, you know,
18 maybe it's your wife or husband, maybe it's not, maybe it's a
19 child friend, preacher, parent, grandparent, that you have the
20 most confidence in. For me it would be my grandma, you took
21 care of me, and you get a call and say I got one -- she's been
22 dead 25 years, and said she stole a pack of gum when she was
23 25. I'd look at you and say, that's a lie, my grandma ain't
24 stole, because I know her. I have that much confidence and
25 faith in her. That's how you presume someone innocent. And I

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1 am not gonna believe it until you take me from here to there.
2 And if fact, along that journey, I'm gonna fight you because I
3 just -- I'm just not gonna believe it unless you prove it with
4 real evidence. That's presumption of innocence. That's where
5 you must start.

6 Now, burden of proof, the Judge has described it. Burden
7 is a big word. It's not required but it should -- burden is a
8 heavy word and it also means the defendant never has to paint
9 you a picture of what happened, never has to clarify any
10 issue; that's for the state. That's for the state to bring it
11 to you. That's their burden. The defendant never has to
12 testify, the defendant never has to present any evidence, and
13 the reason these two concepts, I suggest, were put into our
14 system of justice is that the government has a lot of power,
15 resources, money, but the average everyday citizen don't
16 necessarily have that. So, we settle up so we're presumed
17 innocent and make the state prove it, not just say it with an
18 indictment, but prove it with actual evidence.

19 Now, the last thing I want to talk to you about, a little
20 bit about the facts is when you hear these facts and look at
21 the totality of the circumstances and I'm not gonna through
22 all the facts, they'll aptly bear themselves out, you're gonna
23 need to ask yourself was this a planned event or was it some
24 horrible, random act that took place July 4th week in the
25 middle of the day, in an open parking lot on Business 17, but

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1 everything leading up to this was perfectly fine. And then
2 somebody, being under the influence, anger, combination
3 thereof, lost it. I suggest to you that is what the evidence
4 is gonna suggest clearly. And I suggest that it's important
5 to know who pulled that trigger.

6 I thank you for your time this week. I'm sure not many
7 of you really want to be here but you're a vital part of our
8 system. On behalf of my client, his mother, grandmother,
9 fiancé, and all the other family members here this week, I
10 thank you very much.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

12 MR. SPRATLIN: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

14 OPENING BY SPRATLIN:

15 MR. SPRATLIN: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

16 Life can change in an instant. That's a saying we've all
17 heard probably a thousands of times during our lives. We've
18 heard it so often because it's true. In the matter of
19 seconds, in the matter of minutes, your life can dramatically
20 change. You can get struck by a car, you can get hit by
21 lightning, you can get shot, but you can also in a matter of
22 seconds in this get wrongfully accused of a crime you didn't
23 commit. And, ladies and gentlemen, that is the situation that
24 my client, Terrell Freeman, finds himself charged with four
25 crimes of which he didn't do.

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1 Now, as you've already heard, my name is Martin Spratlin.
2 And as Mr. Bellamy said, I'm here representing Terrell Freeman
3 and only Terrell Freeman. That's one thing me and Mr. Bellamy
4 agree on. I do not represent Nicholas McIver. He does not
5 represent Terrell Freeman. Terrell Freeman is my client.
6 Nicholas McIver is his.

7 I'm not gonna go back through everything you've already
8 heard. Because one thing that's kind of unusual about this
9 case, not so much unusual, but kind of an anomaly, is there's
10 multiple codefendants. There's two people sitting there on
11 trial. So, by matter of course, somebody has to go first,
12 somebody has to go second; and I have to go second. So, I'm
13 gonna be the person you hear a lot of times third. You're
14 probably gonna hear from the state, they're gonna question a
15 witness; you're gonna hear from Mr. Bellamy, he's gonna
16 question a witness; and you're gonna hear from me and I'm
17 gonna question the witness. Much like this opening statement;
18 you've already heard from the state, you've already heard from
19 Mr. Bellamy, and now it's my time. You might be getting a
20 little tired about now, you've heard everybody talk. But one
21 thing I'm gonna ask -- and I'm gonna try to waste your time.
22 I'm gonna try not to rehash everything both the other
23 attorneys who have questioned people say, but when I do ask
24 questions, I ask that you pay attention as if I am the first
25 one asking the questions, as if I am the first one examining

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1 that witness and that is because that is what it means to be a
2 fair and impartial juror. That is what it means to give my
3 client his fair day in court and that's what we're here for.

4 Now, the first thing I want to make sure all of you
5 understand regarding the evidence in this case, you are not
6 gonna hear any evidence from the state that my client pulled
7 out a gun and shot Ms. Fisher, because that's not what
8 happened. You're also not going to hear that my client,
9 Terrell Freeman, agreed to commit any crime with anybody that
10 resulted in Ms. Fisher winding up getting shot.

11 A lot of the facts in this case are not gonna be in
12 dispute like Mr. Bellamy said. And I'm not gonna go back
13 through all of them but there is no doubt that my client,
14 Nicholas McIver, Tabetha Oxendine, the cousin of the victim in
15 this case, Amanda Fisher, and the victim were all -- met at
16 the boardwalk in Myrtle Beach and spent the night partying
17 together. And there's no doubt that all four of them drove
18 back up to North Carolina the next day. No doubt that Tabetha
19 Oxendine got out of the car. No doubt that the three
20 remaining people in the car drove back. And my heart goes out
21 to Ms. Fisher's family, but there's also no doubt that in the
22 parking lot of K&W, she was shot. But I'll submit to you at
23 the end of this trial, you're also gonna have no reason to
24 believe that my client did it.

25 The state talked about hand of one, hand of all. So,

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1 there's two people in the car, one person shot, they both must
2 all be guilty. That's not the way the law works; that's not
3 the way the justice system works. That's not how of this
4 works. You don't get convicted of murder, you don't get
5 convicted of kidnapping, you don't get convicted of possession
6 of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime, you
7 don't get convicted of grand larceny because you're there.
8 You get it because you did something to help further it. You
9 either did it or you helped further it. And you're not gonna
10 hear any evidence that in the instant that that gun went off,
11 in the instant Ms. Fisher was murdered, in the instant that
12 all of that happened that my client did anything.

13 Now, like Mr. Bellamy said -- I know Mr. Bellamy said
14 that he'd never done this before, I have. I have stood up
15 before a jury before and said my client did something wrong.
16 You're gonna hear about what my client did after the instant
17 Ms. Fisher lost her life, after that gun went off. You're
18 gonna hear that he didn't go to the police. You're gonna hear
19 that he actually helped Nicholas McIver, drove Nicholas
20 McIver's truck back up to North Carolina while Nicholas
21 McIver, not my client, drove the victim's car. Like Mr.
22 Bellamy said, when he was talking about his client, I submit
23 to you that this evidence is gonna show that my client,
24 Terrell Freeman, he did something wrong, and that -- like Mr.
25 Bellamy said accurately makes him an accessory after the fact,

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1 does not make him a principal. Driving a truck up to North
2 Carolina, talking to somebody on the phone, does not make you
3 a murderer, does not make you a kidnapper, does not make you
4 have a gun during the commission of a violent crime, and
5 doesn't mean he stole the woman's car.

6 The state, I suspect -- and I don't know, I'm not sure
7 what their case is. I've reviewed all the reports, read
8 through everything. They're going to look at all these things
9 and they're gonna ask you to look at all these things my
10 client did, the things they can prove he did after the fact.
11 After that instant in time where his life was changed, Ms.
12 Fisher's life was changed. They're gonna ask you to look at
13 all those things they can show. They say that he did it, but
14 what they're not gonna be able to show you, ladies and
15 gentlemen, is one piece of evidence that shows that my client
16 had any reason to want to harm Ms. Fisher, let alone kill her.
17 They're not gonna be able to show any monetary gain that my
18 client was supposed to gain with Ms. Fisher being shot.
19 They're not gonna be able to show any person -- you see my
20 client had only known Ms. Fisher for a matter of hours.
21 You're gonna hear about that, how they just met at the
22 boardwalk the night before. He didn't know any of her family,
23 had no intimate relationship with her, had no animosity
24 towards her, no reason in the world to want her to see any
25 harm. And they're not gonna be able to show you that he did.

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1 Now, motive is not required. There is no requirement
2 that you have motive. But, sitting there in the jury, you
3 might be asking why, and we're trying to figure out what
4 happened, you might want to know why and what motive people
5 had, what intent they have. Why would my client have done
6 this? There's no reason and they're not gonna be able to show
7 you any reason. Being an accessory after the fact, does not
8 mean you're guilty of murder, it doesn't make you guilty of
9 kidnapping; it just doesn't.

10 Mr. Bellamy did a very good job explaining to you what
11 the hand of one, hand of all means. And I submit to you,
12 ladies and gentlemen, at the end of this trial, when you are
13 sitting there having to make a decision, whose blood or whose
14 hands are the blood of Amanda Fisher is on, you're gonna see
15 that the hand of one hand of all does not make it on my
16 clients. And for that reason, after you hear all of the
17 evidence, after you have had a chance to watch every witness
18 testify from that witness stand, every piece of paper that's
19 entered into evidence, you've had a chance to review every
20 photograph, every videotape, every whatever else they present,
21 you're still not gonna see that my client did anything in the
22 instant when Ms. Fisher lost her life, and he most certainly
23 did not do anything to help further Ms. Fisher getting to that
24 instance. And for that reason, I will be asking you to find
25 him not guilty at the close of all the evidence.

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BY THE COURT

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1 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

2 BY THE COURT:

3 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, to
4 accommodate the state and the defense, we will stop for the
5 day and we will resume tomorrow morning. We'll start the
6 evidentiary portion of the trial tomorrow morning at 9:30.
7 The bailiff will have you come a little bit early. I'm sure
8 the clerk's office will have something for you in the jury
9 room.

10 I want you to remember, you go home, you see your
11 husband, wife, boyfriend, girlfriend, person down the street,
12 if they happen to know you're on a jury, that's fine, but you
13 can't talk to them about it. Remember, I told you, I don't
14 want y'all talking about this case until I give it to you at
15 the very end. Also remember what I told you at the beginning
16 downstairs, you're not researchers, you're not investigators,
17 do not look up anything. You must decide this case solely and
18 completely on the facts and evidence you've heard in this
19 courtroom and from no other source.

20 So, with that, I'll excuse you and see you back and we'll
21 start the trial tomorrow morning at 9:30. Thank you very
22 much.

23 Everyone else remain seated while the jury retires.

24 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
25 place outside the presence of the jury.)

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BY THE COURT

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1 this incident.

2 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

3 MR. DEBUSK: For the record -- for the record, Your
4 Honor, our method of proving it would have been a parole
5 officer from, from North Carolina, and that could have caused
6 prejudice to the defendant. That's why we've entered into
7 this stipulation, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. Very good. All right. Thank
9 you.

10 All right. So, I assume the defendant McIver has no
11 objection to it then?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Well, we would like the parole officer to
13 come, but since they've stipulated, I don't think we could
14 force them.

15 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.

16 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

17 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, your first witness
18 please.

19 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, first the state would like to
20 enter by stipulation, State's Exhibit 6, which is the phone
21 number of Terrell Freeman entered into stipulation with the
22 defense, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

24 MR. DEBUSK: Also, we have State's Exhibits 5 and 6 --
25 I'm sorry, 4 and 5, orientation maps that we are also

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BY THE COURT

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1 stipulating as to the entry.

2 THE COURT: All right. From the -- your client, Mr.
3 Bellamy, any objection to that?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor, we have no position on
5 the first item, but those two ---

6 THE COURT: 4 and 5?

7 MR. BELLAMY: We do not object.

8 THE COURT: And as I understand it, State's Exhibit 6,
9 Mr. Spratlin, that that was the stipulation you had with the
10 state that that phone number is your client's phone number at
11 that time?

12 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor, that's the stipulation
13 and I have no objection to the two maps that the solicitor
14 has. I've had a chance to review them and determine that they
15 are true and accurate.

16 THE COURT: All right. Very good. So, State's Exhibit 6
17 is in evidence as a stipulation and then State's 4 and 5 are
18 in evidence without objection.

19 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 4, 5, AND 6

20 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

21 THE COURT: You may proceed, sir.

22 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor. The state calls
23 Kenneth Thompson.

24 THE COURT: Please come around, all the way around up
25 here and meet the clerk's representative right up here, sir.

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1 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
2 hand on the Bible.

3 KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON, HAVING BEEN
4 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

5 MR. THOMPSON: Kenneth Wayne Thompson, T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N.

6 THE COURT: Go ahead, sir.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: Mr. Thompson, what's your occupation?

9 A: I'm a retired teacher.

10 Q: Okay. You live in Horry County?

11 A: No, I live in Brunswick County, North Carolina.

12 Q: Okay. So, not far off?

13 A: Right.

14 Q: Okay. Are you familiar with the K&W Cafeteria in North
15 Myrtle Beach?

16 A: Oh, most definitely, yes.

17 Q: Okay. Were you there on July 9th of 2016?

18 A: I was.

19 Q: Had you ever been there before?

20 A: Oh, yeah, lots of times.

21 Q: On this large map, where it's labeled K&W Cafeteria; is
22 that the one you go to?

23 A: That is the one.

24 Q: Why were you there on July 9th?

25 A: I had left my home and was just going to North Myrtle

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- 1 Beach just for the day just to be doing something different,
2 and I was hungry, so I pulled into K&W to go get a meal.
3 Q: Okay. Was anyone with you?
4 A: No, I was by myself.
5 Q: About what time was it; do you recall?
6 A: It was around 11 o'clock.
7 Q: And where did you park when you arrived?
8 A: I parked near the Highway 17 close to a tree that was
9 there for some shade.
10 Q: I'm gonna show you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
11 2 and ask if you recognize that.
12 A: I sure do.
13 Q: What is that?
14 A: That's the area where the K&W is and the other buildings
15 that are close by and Highway 17.
16 Q: So, it's right on Highway 17?
17 A: Yes, right at Highway 17.
18 Q: Did you enter K&W from Highway 17?
19 A: Yes.
20 Q: Can you see the area where you parked on that?
21 A: Yes.
22 Q: Can you indicate by maybe drawing a small circle with a
23 black dot, if it will show.
24 A: Okay. Let me get my bearings here. Okay.
25 Q: Okay.

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1 Your Honor, we'd move State's 2 into evidence.

2 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

3 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection on behalf of Defendant
6 Freeman, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. So, it's in evidence without
8 objection.

9 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 2

10 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

11 THE COURT: You may proceed.

12 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may I publish State's 2 to the
13 jury?

14 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

15 BY MR. DEBUSK:

16 Q: What color is your car, Mr. Thompson?

17 A: It's a very bright color.

18 Q: A very bright color?

19 A: Very bright.

20 Q: It would be visible?

21 A: Definitely.

22 Q: Why did you park so far from the door?

23 A: I don't what my car scratched up. And I'm proud of my
24 car and I normally do that, no matter where I'm at. I park
25 far away and I love to walk.

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1 Q: So, what happened after you parked?

2 A: Well, when I parked the car, I sat there for just a few
3 minutes in the car and then I got out, and I heard a popping
4 sound. And I thought, oh, it's something happened on 17, so I
5 immediately looked out toward Highway 17 and saw nothing was
6 unusual. Traffic was flowing normally. And then I turned and
7 was gonna go into the K&W Cafeteria.

8 Q: What happened then?

9 A: Then I looked and I saw -- I saw a man pulling a lady out
10 of the car by her arm, head first, and another gentleman,
11 another man on the other side pushing and it was then that I
12 realized that the popping sound that I had heard was not out
13 on 17, it was right there in the parking lot, and there was a
14 young lady that was dumped out like a bag of garbage onto the
15 pavement. And at that particular moment, being a man of
16 faith, something told me run, and I ran as fast as I could
17 thinking I would be the next one that would be shot.

18 Q: Where did you go?

19 A: I hid behind the K&W Cafeteria and, when I got to that
20 point, I turned and looked and the white car was gone.

21 Q: Did you inform anybody of what happened?

22 A: I did. I went inside the K&W trying to use my cell phone
23 and I could not dial the numbers on my cell phone. So, I ran
24 inside and there was a gentleman in there, and I said someone
25 has been shot in the parking lot at the K&W.

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1 Q: Did they call 911?

2 A: They called 911, yes.

3 Q: Did you or them speak to 911?

4 A: No, I did not speak to 911. I spoke to the officers that
5 were there.

6 Q: Let's step back for a minute.

7 A: Okay.

8 Q: You saw a white car; is that correct?

9 A: That's correct.

10 Q: I will show you State's Exhibit 1 and ask if you
11 recognize that?

12 A: That's the car.

13 Q: Does that look like the car that you saw?

14 A: That looks just like the car, yeah.

15 Q: Okay.

16 Your Honor, we would move State's 1 as an exhibit. At
17 this point, as demonstrative exhibit.

18 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right. So, it's in evidence.

23 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 1

24 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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1 Q: Where was the lady that was being pulled out of the car;
2 was she in the passenger seat, in the driver's seat?

3 A: She was in the driver's seat.

4 Q: What could you tell about her? Hair color, anything like
5 that?

6 A: She was heavy set, kind of light-colored hair.

7 Q: Where did they -- where did she end up? She was out of
8 the car?

9 A: She was out of the car laying on the pavement, yes. Like
10 I said, like a -- she was thrown out like a bag of garbage.

11 Q: Let me show you State's Exhibit 3 and ask if you
12 recognize that?

13 A: That is her.

14 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, State's 3 moved into evidence.

15 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, subject to the previous
16 objection.

17 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

18 Same, Mr. Spratlin?

19 MR. SPRATLIN: Same, Your Honor, subject to the previous
20 objection.

21 THE COURT: All right. So, it's State's 3 is in evidence
22 over the objection of the defendants.

23 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 3

24 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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1 Q: Mr. Thompson, what can you remember about the individual
2 you saw outside of the car?

3 A: He was a black male, appeared to have short hair. It
4 could've been pulled back but I was not focused on him; I was
5 focused on the young lady that was being pulled out of the
6 car.

7 Q: Did he have light-colored skin or dark-colored skin?

8 A: I would say maybe medium, medium color.

9 Q: Okay. How about the individual that was inside the car?

10 A: The gentleman that was pushing on the inside, I did not
11 see because I could tell that it was someone through the glass
12 but I could not tell much about the details of him.

13 Q: Was that person in the front seat or the back seat?

14 A: Front.

15 Q: Okay. In the parking lot, where was the white car when
16 you saw it, relative to your car?

17 A: The white car was probably about 25 to 30 feet from where
18 I was standing.

19 Q: So you were close?

20 A: Very close.

21 Q: Okay. Was the woman talking or fighting in any way?

22 A: No, I did not see her move.

23 Q: Did you see the car leave?

24 A: No, because I was running for my life and, when I hid
25 behind the K&W, I looked back and it was gone?

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- 1 Q: So, you couldn't tell if it went north or south?
- 2 A: No, I sure couldn't. I was just glad it was gone.
- 3 Q: This is probably pretty obvious, but were you frightened?
- 4 A: One hundred percent frightened for my life.
- 5 Q: Were there many people in the K&W that morning?
- 6 A: Very few, it had just opened I think about 11 o'clock.
- 7 Q: And ultimately did the police come by?
- 8 A: Oh, yes; yes, they did.
- 9 Q: Did you talk to them?
- 10 A: I did.
- 11 Q: Give a statement?
- 12 A: I did.
- 13 Q: The people you saw in the car, the person pulling the
- 14 lady out on the pavement or the person inside, had you ever
- 15 seen any of them before?
- 16 A: Never.
- 17 Q: When did you find out what happened to the lady that they
- 18 pulled out the car?
- 19 A: When did I find out? Someone came in the cafeteria and
- 20 they talked with me and I realized then that she had passed
- 21 and I wanted to go back and the officers said don't go back.
- 22 Q: All right. Please answer any questions the defense has.
- 23 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bellamy?
- 24 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court?
- 25 CROSS EXAMINATION OF KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON BY MR. BELLAMY:

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1 Q: Mr. Thompson, and I understand, obviously, you don't want
2 to be here and certainly didn't want to be in that parking lot
3 of the K&W July the 9th, but I do feel it necessary to ask you
4 some questions, if I may.

5 State's, the one that shows the parking lot. Let me show
6 you again, if you would, what's been marked as State's 2,
7 which is the parking lot of K&W, correct?

8 A: Correct, yes.

9 Q: Okay.

10 THE COURT: You need to speak up, sir, so that everybody
11 can hear you.

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: And you have marked with a pen where your car would have
14 been, correct?

15 A: Right, and I came in here.

16 Q: Okay. Now, this photograph doesn't reflect that day,
17 does it?

18 A: No.

19 Q: But this is just a generic photograph of someday where
20 the parking lot ---

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: If you could and I don't know -- Solicitor DeBusk, do you
23 have a pen that will write on that?

24 You have marked where your car was, correct?

25 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response).

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1 THE COURT: You need to ---

2 Q: Answer out yes or no.

3 THE COURT: Sir, you have to say ---

4 A: Yes.

5 THE COURT: --- yes or no because uh-huh, the court
6 reporter doesn't know what that is.

7 A: Yes.

8 BY MR. BELLAMY:

9 Q: Would you likewise mark where the white car that you say
10 you saw in the parking lot?

11 A: Okay. About right here.

12 Q: And ---

13 A: And I was coming diagonally to go into the cafeteria.
14 So, I would've been right in front of it ---

15 Q: Okay.

16 A: --- had I continued that way.

17 Q: All right. Would you put an X where you would have been
18 standing at the moment -- I know you say you looked to the
19 road first?

20 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response), yes.

21 Q: And you're back towards walking into the entrance, put an
22 X where you would've been approximately standing when you
23 would've seen the white car. And that would've been
24 approximately 25 feet away?

25 A: Approximately.

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1 MR. BELLAMY: And, Your Honor, if I may publish this back
2 to the jury.

3 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

4 MR. BELLAMY: Noticing the X where he was ---

5 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy, you can't testify.

6 MR. BELLAMY: Sorry about that, Judge.

7 BY MR. BELLAMY:

8 Q: Now, Mr. Thompson, you gave a statement that day to law
9 enforcement, correct?

10 A: Correct.

11 Q: Okay. Now, in that statement to -- I believe it was
12 Officer Rose or one of the other officers and they've done a
13 report here. They indicate that you did see that the vehicle
14 went southbound on 17 or that's what they noted in their
15 report. So, you don't recall that?

16 A: No, sir; I don't know which direction it went.

17 Q: Okay. So, if the officer put that in their report, they
18 didn't get it from you?

19 A: No.

20 Q: Okay. Now, would it be fair to say that you were very
21 upset that day?

22 A: Naturally.

23 Q: And I understand. And there would be -- the state has a
24 videotape of the body camera of talking to you where you were
25 extremely upset?

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1 A: Right, never experienced anything like that in my life.

2 Q: And the police, because you were so upset, gave you a
3 form to fill out when you calmed down; did they not?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: All right. And do you recognize what this is?

6 A: I do, I have a copy.

7 Q: Okay. And that is what?

8 A: That's my voluntary statement.

9 Q: Okay. And this would have been prepared on the 10th of
10 July, correct?

11 A: That is correct.

12 Q: And in this statement, you reference someone outside of
13 the car pulling the person out?

14 A: That's correct.

15 Q: And when you referenced the other person, you say the
16 other male seemed -- and these are your words because you
17 wrote it -- to help push. So, you weren't sure what the
18 person in the car was doing?

19 A: It was visible through the glass that someone was trying
20 to push someone out.

21 Q: Well, I'm asking you this question. Did you use the word
22 seemed?

23 A: I believe it's correct on there, yes.

24 Q: Do you need to see this?

25 A: I would like to, but I'm sure it's correct.

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1 Q: Okay. If you want to refresh your memory on the word
2 that you used that ---

3 A: Thank you. The other male, I'm not sure of skin color,
4 seemed to be helping to push her out, yes.

5 Q: So, you're not sure. You're definitely sure on what the
6 person outside was doing, but it seemed ---

7 A: She was being pushed out of the car and pulled out of the
8 car.

9 Q: But again, you used the word seemed ---

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: So, we'll move on. Now, you're looking through the front
12 glass of the car?

13 A: To see whom?

14 Q: To see what was going on within the car.

15 A: Well, yes. Yes. Except for the lady that was already
16 being pulled out of the car.

17 Q: I gotcha. But you're -- the car would've been facing
18 you, the front of the car, correct?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: Okay. So, as you're looking in the car, you cannot
21 identify the race of the person in the car, correct?

22 A: Not the one in the car, no.

23 Q: All right.

24 A: That's what I stated, I think, in my statement.

25 Q: That's correct. But now, do you know if the windows of

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1 the car were up or down?

2 A: I was not looking at the side because the door was open
3 and they were pulling her out, and I did not notice the
4 window. My thought was not on the window.

5 Q: Did you hear any sounds of glass breaking?

6 A: No.

7 Q: Did you see any glass in the parking lot?

8 A: No.

9 Q: Did the person who you saw in the front seat of the car
10 ever get out of the car?

11 A: Which one? You're talking ---

12 Q: Well, the person who was in the front passenger seat, did
13 they ever get out of the car?

14 A: I did not see him get out of the car because I ran.

15 Q: Did you see the car as it pulled into the parking lot?

16 A: No.

17 Q: Did you observe or hear any squealing of tires or
18 anything unusual?

19 A: No.

20 Q: And would you characterize the way the car was parked as
21 normally in an appropriate space, not oblong or anything of
22 that nature?

23 A: Normal.

24 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence, Your Honor?

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

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1 BY MR. BELLAMY:

2 Q: Thank you, Mr. Thompson. Answer any questions, Mr. --
3 excuse me -- Mr. Spratlin may have for you.

4 THE COURT: Cross examination?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 CROSS EXAMINATION OF KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON BY MR. SPRATLIN:

7 Q: Good morning, Mr. Thompson; how are you?

8 A: Good morning.

9 Q: I'm Martin Spratlin. I'm just gonna have a couple of
10 questions for you.

11 A: Okay.

12 Q: I'll try not to rehash everything you already said. Now,
13 I know you said that the first time you kinda thought that
14 anything was amiss or wrong was when you heard a loud bang,
15 right?

16 A: A popping sound; that's the way it's in my statement.

17 Q: And you initially thought that that was a tire blowing on
18 Highway 17, correct?

19 A: Yes, I had no idea what it was but that was my guess.

20 Q: And so your initial focus after hearing the loud popping
21 sound was on Highway 17?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: All right. It was only after you saw the man and the
24 woman being pulled out of the car that you realized what had
25 happened

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1 A: And that was about 10 or 20 seconds later.

2 Q: Okay. Before you heard that loud popping sound, did you
3 hear any argument?

4 A: No.

5 Q: Did you hear any kind of sort of a fight?

6 A: No.

7 Q: Did you hear any indication that anyone was in distress?

8 A: No, or I would've run before I did.

9 Q: Now, once you realized what had happened, you were pretty
10 scared, right?

11 A: Oh, yeah.

12 Q: Terrified?

13 A: You would be, too.

14 Q: Oh, yes, sir, a hundred percent I would be.

15 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response).

16 Q: So terrified that you -- instinct took over and you ran?

17 A: I'm a religious man, so I believe God protected me that
18 day.

19 Q: And you ran, as anybody would, in the opposite direction
20 of the entrance?

21 A: Instead of going diagonally into the K&W, I went the
22 opposite direction and hid behind the K&W.

23 Q: Now, I know you said you weren't really able to see a
24 whole lot about the individual that was in the front seat of
25 the car, right?

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KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Right.

2 Q: And there was a windshield there, your view of him was
3 obscured, right?

4 A: It was obscured to a certain point, but I mean, you could
5 tell someone was inside.

6 Q: Yes, sir.

7 A: With a portion of their body, the leg probably, outside.

8 Q: Yes, sir. And, and you were obviously scared so you were
9 running the other way, so you weren't sitting there taking a
10 mental picture of this scene, right?

11 A: Absolutely not.

12 Q: Now, I believe when Mr. DeBusk was asking you questions,
13 the individual outside of the car, you said he was a black
14 male with -- and I believe you stated either short hair or it
15 could've been pulled back?

16 A: Could've been. My focus was not on him; it was on the
17 young lady.

18 Q: Yes, sir. So, you couldn't really give a good
19 description of who the individual was on the outside of the
20 car either, right?

21 A: To a certain extent, I could tell that it was a black
22 male and that his hair was short or pulled back.

23 Q: Could you tell anything about what he was wearing?

24 A: No, I didn't pay attention to what he was wearing.

25 Q: Could you tell if -- if you saw his hair, was he wearing

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1 a hat?

2 A: No.

3 Q: Not wearing a hat, you're sure of that?

4 A: I'm fairly sure that I didn't see a hat.

5 Q: No hat. Okay. Now, you only hear one shot, right?

6 A: I only heard one sound, yes.

7 Q: One sound. Didn't hear a gun go off twice?

8 A: No.

9 Q: Didn't hear multiple gunshots?

10 A: No.

11 Q: Just one shot?

12 A: One.

13 Q: And one incident, one shot?

14 A: It was one -- one noise, one sound, one shot.

15 MR. SPRATLIN: I beg the Court's indulgence?

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 MR. SPRATLIN: No further questions, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Any redirect?

19 MR. DEBUSK: Briefly, Your Honor.

20 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Mr. Thompson?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: The person that was inside the car, just to be clear for
24 the jury, were they trying to push the person -- the lady out
25 of the car or were they not?

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KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON - RECROSS BY BELLAMY

1 A: They were trying to push the lady out of the car. I
2 could just see just a brief vision of someone in there doing
3 that.

4 Q: And the person outside the car, you said had medium tone
5 skin?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And appeared to have short hair?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: You didn't see dreadlocks or braids or anything?

10 A: I didn't see dreadlocks, no.

11 Q: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Anything on that question, Mr. Bellamy?

13 MR. BELLAMY: Just briefly.

14 RECROSS EXAMINATION OF KENNETH WAYNE THOMPSON BY MR. BELLAMY:

15 Q: You can identify what he was doing in the car, the person
16 who was in the passenger seat, but you can't tell anything
17 else about him, color of skin, clothing, or anything; is that
18 what you're telling us?

19 A: Yeah, that's what I'm telling you, but ---

20 Q: Okay.

21 A: Okay.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

23 MR. SPRATLIN: No questions, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, do you wish the
25 witness to be excused?

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1 MR. DEBUSK: We want him released from his subpoena, Your
2 Honor. He may stay and watch for a while if he ---

3 THE COURT: All right. Any objection to the witness
4 being release, Mr. Bellamy?

5 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

7 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right, sir, you are released from your
9 subpoena; you may go or stay as you choose. Thank you very
10 much.

11 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Your next witness, Solicitor?

13 MR. DEBUSK: The state calls Reggie Benton.

14 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Benton, come all the way
15 around up here and meet the clerk's representative right up
16 here.

17 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
18 hand on the Bible.

19 REGGIE BENTON, HAVING BEEN SWORN

20 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

21 MR. BENTON: My full name is Reggie Benton, B-E-N-T-O-N.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF REGGIE BENTON BY MR. DEBUSK:

23 Q: Mr. Benton, what's your occupation?

24 A: My occupation now, I'm food and beverage manager at OD
25 Beach Club.

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REGGIE BENTON - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: How about in July of 2016, what were you doing back then?

2 A: I was the general manager of K&W Cafeteria.

3 Q: On State's Exhibit 4, is that the location marked as K&W
4 there?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: That's 1621 Highway 17?

7 A: North Myrtle Beach, yes, sir.

8 Q: Also what's shown as State's Exhibit 2?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: When you turn out of the K&W parking lot onto 17, can you
11 go south on 17?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Can you go north?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: So, anybody that turns out has to go south?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Were you working at K&W on July 9th of 2016?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: What time did y'all open?

20 A: We open at 11 o'clock.

21 Q: You're not open for breakfast?

22 A: No, sir.

23 Q: So, you open for lunch?

24 A: Lunch; yes, sir.

25 Q: Okay. What were your duties when you were opening the

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REGGIE BENTON - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 store as general manager?

2 A: We're just preparing to get open and making sure the
3 food's getting ready to get out, checking the bathrooms, doing
4 a little bit of everything to make sure, you know, we get open
5 and everything's looking good.

6 Q: Okay. Did an incident in the parking lot come to your
7 attention that day?

8 A: Yes, sir; it did.

9 Q: About what time?

10 A: It was probably right around opening time.

11 Q: How did you hear about it?

12 A: I got a first manager that -- they's a little beeper at
13 the cash stand and he beeped for me and I went up to the cash
14 stand, and he told me that there was a gentleman up here and
15 he said there was a lady laying out in the parking lot out
16 there.

17 Q: Did you go out and see?

18 A: Sure, I did.

19 Q: What did you see?

20 A: I seen a lady laying out there on the parking lot with
21 her face down, blood up on her head.

22 Q: State's Exhibit 2, roughly where in the parking lot was
23 that? Is there any indication on that area where that
24 happened?

25 A: About right there where that -- right there where that

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1 circle is right up in there?

2 Q: Around the white car?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: I'll show you State's Exhibit 3 and ask if you recognize
5 that.

6 A: That's the lady.

7 Q: Is that the position you saw her in?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: What was her condition when you approached her?

10 A: She just looked like somebody had throwed her out on the
11 ground there face down, blood out her head.

12 Q: Did you see any movement?

13 A: While I was standing there I seen a little twitch, looked
14 like a muscle twitched.

15 Q: So, she was moving, but was she talking and conscious?

16 A: No, sir. They wasn't no -- nothing going on. I just --
17 I did make the statement to her, ma'am, if you can hear me,
18 they's help on the way. That's the way I told her. I just
19 felt like I needed to say something to her.

20 Q: So, you thought there was enough spark of life that you
21 tried to speak to her?

22 A: Yeah, I was hoping they was. For me to know, no, sir, I
23 can't -- I don't know whether ---

24 Q: She didn't talk to you?

25 A: No, sir.

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REGGIE BENTON - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Did she respond when you talked to her?

2 A: No, sir.

3 Q: Did you or anyone else call 911?

4 A: I'm pretty sure that Garrett was the one that called 911.
5 He was the manager that was in -- at the cash stand.

6 Q: He was the one that buzzed you about the ---

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: How long did it take the police to arrive?

9 A: It took a few minutes, not a long time, but it took a few
10 minutes for them to get there.

11 Q: You're general manager, so you would know if they had any
12 cameras on K&W that day, right?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: Was there any showing that section of the parking lot?

15 A: No, sir.

16 Q: So, we wouldn't have a surveillance camera to show that?

17 A: No, sir.

18 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions the defense has.

19 THE COURT: Cross examination?

20 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

21 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

22 CROSS EXAMINATION OF REGGIE BENTON BY MR. BELLAMY:

23 Q: Mr. Benton, you were inside when whatever happened
24 happened?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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REGGIE BENTON - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Did you ever talk to Mr. Thompson ---

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: --- the gentleman who was in the parking lot?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Did he tell you ---

6 MR. SPRATLIN: Objection, Your Honor.

7 MR. BELLAMY: I believe he's already testified to this
8 point.

9 THE COURT: Ask the question and then I'll --

10 BY MR. BELLAMY:

11 Q: Did Mr. Thompson tell you which way the car left when it
12 left the parking lot?

13 A: No, sir.

14 THE COURT: Is there an objection to that?

15 MR. BELLAMY: Oh, I'm sorry.

16 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: You may answer it. Go ahead and answer it
18 again.

19 A: No, sir.

20 BY MR. BELLAMY:

21 Q: Okay. How long do you think it was before police -- did
22 EMS get there first or the police?

23 A: Sir, that's, you know, that's ---

24 Q: Or you might've been back inside?

25 A: I probably went back in -- I know I went back inside

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1 after that happened and then I went back out later after
2 everybody started arriving. So, it's ---

3 Q: The -- let me look at this photograph one second. You
4 indicated if you left K&W to go on 17, you can only turn --
5 would it be right?

6 A: Yes, sir, going south.

7 Q: Because there's a median that separates the northbound
8 land.

9 A: Exactly, yes, sir.

10 Q: Do you recall what the weather was like that day?

11 A: Sir, I'm -- the best I can remember, it was a clear day.

12 Q: Okay. And this was the Saturday of 4th of July week?

13 A: It was a Saturday; yes, sir.

14 Q: And it was July the 9th, the 4th being the previous
15 Monday; so it was the Saturday after July 4th week?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Would you characterize that 4th of July week is the
18 probably the busiest week tourist-wise of the whole year?

19 A: Yes, sir, one of the busiest weeks of the summer for us.

20 Q: Okay. So, and this area, there's motels on each side ---

21 A: Yes, sir, and Outback right beside us.

22 Q: So, there's a lot going on there, would you say?

23 A: Yes, sir, they's times when there's a lot going on, yes,
24 sir.

25 Q: And this would've been about 11:15 in the morning,

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REGGIE BENTON - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 correct?

2 A: Around 11 o'clock.

3 Q: Eleven o'clock, so y'all were open or opening?

4 A: Getting ready to open, yes, sir.

5 Q: As were other businesses around you?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: So, this is not an isolated area at all, is it?

8 A: No, sir.

9 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. BELLAMY:

12 Q: Thank you, Mr. Benton. Answer any questions Mr. Spratlin
13 may have or the solicitor.

14 A: Okay.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

16 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 CROSS EXAMINATION OF REGGIE BENTON BY MR. SPRATLIN:

18 Q: Good morning, Mr. Benton?

19 A: Good morning.

20 Q: Hope you're doing well. Now, you said that and just to
21 kind of follow up on some of Mr. Bellamy's previous questions
22 to you. You said that y'all were just getting ready to open,
23 right?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: Do you remember if you were actually open when the person

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1 came in or were you just still about to open?

2 A: Sir, I'm gonna say it was right there at the opening
3 time. The doors were open. I know the doors were open.

4 Q: Okay. And preparing to open, there's a lot of staff
5 that's required to be there ahead of time, correct?

6 A: Sure.

7 Q: So, the parking lot would have had cars in it, correct?

8 A: They would've been in the back of the parking lot.

9 Q: So, there would -- but there would've been cars parked in
10 the lot?

11 A: Normally, there's a few cars. Once we get open -- if
12 they would've been in an opening at the front of the parking
13 lot, they would've probably on average would've been two or
14 three cars out there.

15 Q: Okay. And you said that when you went out there, you saw
16 a twitch, right?

17 A: Right. I walked out there and, while I was out there, I
18 seen a twitch, yes, sir.

19 Q: Okay. But you can't say whether that was just a muscle
20 twitch or anything like that?

21 A: I'm gonna say it was probably a muscle twitch; that's
22 what I'm gonna say it was.

23 Q: Saw no other signs of life?

24 A: Not from my point, no, sir.

25 Q: Okay. Thank you. No other questions.

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: Redirect?

3 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor, we would ask that the -- Mr.
4 Benton be released from his subpoena.

5 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

6 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

8 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right, sir, you are released from your
10 subpoena and may go back to your regular activities.

11 MR. BENTON: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Next witness, please?

13 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor, the state would next
14 call Officer Aaron Jones with the North Myrtle Beach Police
15 Department.

16 THE COURT: All right. All right, officer, come all the
17 way around up here and meet the clerk's representative,
18 please.

19 MR. OSKIN: He's in the back, Your Honor. I apologize.

20 THE COURT: All right, officer, all the way up here,
21 please.

22 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
23 hand on the Bible.

24 AARON JONES, HAVING BEEN SWORN

25 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

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AARON JONES - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 MR. JONES: Aaron Jones, J-O-N-E-S, my last name.

2 THE COURT: Go ahead, solicitor.

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF AARON JONES BY MR. OSKIN:

4 Q: Officer Jones, good morning, sir. Who is your current
5 employer?

6 A: City of North Myrtle Beach.

7 Q: How long have you been employed there?

8 A: Eleven years.

9 Q: All right. Is that in the Law Enforcement Division of
10 Department of Public Safety?

11 A: That is right.

12 Q: Okay. Do you have prior law enforcement experience
13 before your 11 years with North Myrtle?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: What's your assignment?

16 A: Traffic, I'm with the traffic division.

17 Q: And how long have you been in that assignment?

18 A: Approximately five years now.

19 Q: All right. Will you please briefly describe to this jury
20 some of your work duties in that assignment, sir?

21 A: As a traffic division -- in the traffic division, I'm
22 over a motor unit. We handle traffic enforcement, reconstruct
23 collisions, fatal wrecks, just normal traffic duties, speeding
24 complaints in the neighborhoods.

25 Q: And you were in that same assignment in July of 2016?

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1 A: That is right; yes, sir.

2 Q: All right. Do you remember roughly the date of July 9th
3 of 2016?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: All right. Did you respond to the shooting at the K&W
6 parking lot in North Myrtle Beach?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Were you the first officer on scene?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: All right. As part of your response, as part of some of
11 your duties, do you activate lights and sirens for your car
12 when you're responding to a scene?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: Did you do that this day?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 MR. OSKIN: If I could get this marked please, ma'am.

17 If I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

18 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

19 BY MR. OSKIN:

20 Q: Officer Jones, I'm showing you what's been pre-marked as
21 State's Exhibit Number 7, do you recognize that?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: What is that?

24 A: This is a in-car video of my response to the -- this,
25 this -- the incident location that day. That's my initials on

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1 the back.

2 Q: Were you able to view that disc?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: And is that why you initialed it, sir?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: And that's an accurate reflection of your response to the
7 scene that day?

8 A: It is.

9 MR. OSKIN: Your Honor, Court's indulgence as we set up
10 the television?

11 THE COURT: And what exhibit is that, please?

12 MR. OSKIN: This is State's Exhibit Number 7.

13 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bellamy, regarding State's 7,
14 do you reserve your previous objection; is that the one?

15 MR. BELLAMY: Judge, I believe this is a separate
16 exhibit.

17 THE COURT: A separate one. All right. Very good.

18 MR. BELLAMY: I believe what they were referring to
19 earlier was a body cam video.

20 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

21 MR. BELLAMY: I would note my same objection as to
22 relevance.

23 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

24 And, Mr. Spratlin?

25 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: All right. Very good. I'm gonna allow it
2 into evidence.

3 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 7

4 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

5 THE COURT: You may proceed. You may publish to the
6 jury.

7 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, may I move around?

8 THE COURT: Certainly. Both of you may.

9 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 BY MR. OSKIN:

11 Q: And Officer Jones, just to be clear, I know we've got a
12 lot of people moving around and standing up. There's been no
13 additions, deletions, subtractions from that video?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: It's the full in-car video?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 MS. OSKIN: Your Honor, we will publish to the jury at
18 this time.

19 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

20 Once it starts playing, if there's any problem with you
21 viewing it, I need for y'all to let me know.

22 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 7 published. No audio.)

23 BY MR. OSKIN:

24 Q: Officer Jones, what that video showed, that showed you
25 responding from the Department of Public Safety of North

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1 Myrtle Beach?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: You drove roughly two miles north on Kings Highway up to
4 the K&W?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: That's all within the City of North Myrtle Beach?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: And the City of North Myrtle Beach is within what county?

9 A: Horry County.

10 Q: Therefore, giving jurisdiction to your department for
11 this response?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: As, as first responder to the scene, did you canvas the
14 area for any surveillance footage?

15 A: I did; yes, sir.

16 Q: Were you able to find any?

17 A: I spoke to the manager of the K&W, the neighboring or
18 adjacent -- or the adjacent building which is the Outback
19 Steakhouse.

20 Q: Right.

21 A: And the video didn't show the areas where the actual
22 incident took place.

23 Q: Okay. So, no surveillance was recovered ---

24 A: No, sir.

25 Q: --- with regards to the shooting?

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1 A: No, sir.

2 Q: Officer Jones, how did you enter the K&W, from which
3 road?

4 A: Old Highway 17, which is behind the building as it faces
5 U.S. 17. K&W is sandwiched in between U.S. 17 and the old
6 Highway 17. I took Old Highway 17 to come up to the rear of
7 the building.

8 Q: Okay. Do those roads end up connecting back to each
9 other?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Okay. Nothing further from the state at this time.
12 Please answer any questions from Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Spratlin.

13 THE COURT: Cross examination, Mr. Bellamy?

14 MR. BELLAMY: If it please the Court, Your Honor.

15 CROSS EXAMINATION OF AARON JONES BY MR. BELLAMY:

16 Q: Officer Jones, I believe the solicitor covered this, but
17 you were at the Department of Public Safety when you left,
18 correct?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: And I did not see because I couldn't see even if I had my
21 glasses, about what time did you depart the Department of
22 Public Safety?

23 A: The call came out at roughly 11:16 and probably a minute
24 thereafter, within 30 seconds of hearing it, I was able to get
25 in my car and leave.

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1 Q: Okay. And it appears, I was able to get close enough at
2 the end that it was 11:21 when it stopped?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: So, it would have taken you five minutes? It didn't look
5 like -- seem like it was five minutes there, but you got the
6 call about 11:15?

7 A: 15, 16 somewhere in there, yes, sir.

8 Q: Okay. The other thing I would note in the video, this
9 was July the 9th, correct?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: That's the week of July 4th, July 4th being within that
12 week period of time, the previous Monday?

13 A: The previous, yes, sir.

14 Q: Would you say that's a busy time of the year in North
15 Myrtle Beach?

16 A: Yes, sir, typically.

17 Q: The busiest, quite frankly. And we saw on your video a
18 lot of cars?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: Heading south and north that you're trying to navigate.

21 Are there traffic cameras in the City of North Myrtle Beach on
22 those lights like there at Main Street, where the Edge Parkway
23 is and all the other lights, aren't there traffic cameras
24 there?

25 A: I believe there is one at Main Street, but that's

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1 operated by DOT.

2 Q: Okay. But there are cameras on these lights in North
3 Myrtle Beach?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Okay. And when you say you looked for video, that was
6 from K&W and the two adjacent properties, but what you were
7 looking for is something that would depict what happened in
8 the parking lot, correct?

9 A: Yeah, that was my main concern at that point in time;
10 yes, sir.

11 Q: I gotcha. Do you know -- and if you don't, you don't --
12 if there were any other businesses or these traffic cameras
13 that were viewed?

14 A: I'm not -- I'm not certain, no, sir.

15 Q: And if you don't know, you don't know.

16 Court's indulgence?

17 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

18 BY MR. BELLAMY:

19 Q: Thank you, Officer Jones, answer any more questions.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 CROSS EXAMINATION OF AARON JONES BY MR. SPRATLIN:

23 Q: Good morning, Officer Jones.

24 A: Good morning.

25 Q: I don't have a whole lot of questions for you, but I do

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1 have a couple. Now, you said that when you went to the -- I
2 think you said was it the Outback Steakhouse or ---
3 A: The Outback, which is right next to it, yes, sir.
4 Q: They did not have any camera that showed that area of the
5 parking lot ---
6 A: That area, no, sir.
7 Q: So, you weren't able to find any evidence that actually
8 showed what occurred during this incident?
9 A: I wasn't able to find anything on the video that that --
10 no, sir.
11 Q: Okay. And I think Mr. Bellamy already asked this, but
12 you -- you didn't check any of the traffic cameras heading in
13 or out from K&W or heading down 17 or anything like that,
14 right?
15 A: No, sir.
16 Q: All right. Thank you. No further questions.
17 THE COURT: Any redirect?
18 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor. We would
19 ask that Officer Jones be released from his subpoena.
20 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?
21 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.
22 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?
23 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.
24 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
25 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

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1 MR. JONES: Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Next witness, please.

3 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor. The state would next
4 call Sergeant Carrie Rose, North Myrtle Beach Police
5 Department.

6 Your Honor, for the Court's awareness, there will be
7 video footage from this officer as well.

8 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

9 Come all the way around up front, please.

10 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
11 hand on the Bible.

12 CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE, HAVING BEEN
13 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

14 CLERK: State your name for the record.

15 MS. ROSE: My name is Caroline Alexina Rose.

16 THE COURT: Spell all those names, please, ma'am.

17 MS. ROSE: Caroline is C-A-R-O-L-I-N-E; My middle name is
18 A-L-E-X-I-N-A; last name Rose, R-O-S-E.

19 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

20 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE BY MR. OSKIN:

22 Q: Sergeant Rose, who is your current employer?

23 A: City of North Myrtle Beach Department of Public Safety.

24 Q: All right. And how long have you been employed there?

25 A: Just over 16 years.

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1 Q: Do you have any prior law enforcement experience prior to
2 North Myrtle Beach?

3 A: I do not.

4 Q: What's your current assignment, ma'am?

5 A: Currently, I'm the Administrative Sergeant of the
6 Communications and Detention Division at the department.

7 Q: What are -- what are some of the duties of your
8 assignment?

9 A: Currently, I make administrative decisions in terms of
10 scheduling and staffing for the detention facility as well as
11 maintaining and making sure there's maintenance on the
12 technology we have in our communications and 911 center.

13 Q: Were you in that same assignment July of 2016?

14 A: I was not.

15 Q: All right. What assignment were you in, ma'am?

16 A: I was the Day Shift Patrol Sergeant for the North
17 District of the City of North Myrtle Beach.

18 Q: All right. And what would those duties include?

19 A: I was the supervisor of, depending on the day, roughly
20 six officers, who were assigned the North District of North
21 Myrtle Beach.

22 Q: What's in that North District of North Myrtle Beach?

23 A: The North District starts about 6th Avenue South, which
24 is in the middle of North Myrtle Beach and every area north of
25 that, which would include Cherry Grove, Ocean Drive Beach, and

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1 the business sector along 17.

2 Q: Is the K&W Restaurant within North Myrtle Beach, is that
3 in the North District of the city?

4 A: It is.

5 Q: Okay. Do you remember the date of July 9th?

6 A: Very well.

7 Q: Okay. Did you have the chance to respond to a shooting
8 where the victim was at K&W parking lot?

9 A: I did.

10 Q: All right. Did you arrive on scene for that; did you
11 respond to the scene?

12 A: Yes, I did.

13 Q: What did you see once you arrived on scene?

14 A: The parking lot was -- there weren't many vehicles there.
15 I drove north on 17, so, I kinda had to do a U-turn to come
16 back into the parking lot, how you would access the building.
17 I saw Officer Jones was there and when I moved closer to the
18 business, on the front of the parking lot, I saw a body of a
19 woman laying there with a man standing over her. At that
20 time, we were called for the particular incident, which was a
21 woman lying in the parking lot and it was immediately apparent
22 where she was.

23 Q: Did you see a cell phone on her?

24 A: I did.

25 Q: Did you -- were you involved in further investigation of

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1 that phone itself?

2 A: We utilized the phone and what we're capable of doing to
3 help identify the woman in the parking lot.

4 Q: Was that cell phone located near the victim in this case?

5 A: Yes, it was located between her legs on the ground.

6 Q: All right. Did you identify who the cell phone belonged
7 to?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: All right. How was the name identified?

10 A: The -- we couldn't find any other items that would
11 identify our victim, so the cell phone had the locking
12 feature, so we couldn't readily access any information on the
13 phone. So, we used the phone to call 911, which allows her
14 emergency access from any phone and that connected us with
15 Horry County 911, and they gave us the telephone number for
16 the phone. With that information, I utilized one of the MDTs,
17 which is the mobile data terminal or the computers you see in
18 police cars to start investigation into the phone number. I
19 utilized a service that we have access to, it's called TLO,
20 and it's a data base that is run by Transunion, which is a
21 credit bureau and it contains court records, it contains asset
22 records, property, vehicles, businesses, that we use to -- and
23 phone numbers, that we can use to identify a phone number
24 associated with a person. Initially, TLO did not connect the
25 phone number we had on the phone to Ms. Fisher, but I actually

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1 did the good old-fashioned Google search of the phone number
2 and it came up associated to Amanda Fisher, and I then put the
3 name into TLO and then it did connect that phone number with a
4 high percentage -- there's a percentage of association on TLO
5 that said this was very likely belonging to this woman.

6 Q: And was the name of Amanda Fisher, was that -- ended up
7 being the confirmed deceased in this case?

8 A: Yes, it was.

9 Q: As part of your employment obligations, do you wear a
10 body cam when you're on duty?

11 A: Yes, I do.

12 Q: Were you wearing one that day?

13 A: Yes, I was.

14 Q: Do you remember turning it on, did you turn it on when
15 you arrived to the scene that day?

16 A: Yes, I did.

17 MS. OSKIN: I'll return this, Ms. Dixie, that's Number 7
18 and I'll ask that you pre-mark this.

19 Your Honor, Court's indulgence as we set up the
20 television.

21 COURT REPORTER: State's 8.

22 THE COURT: What number is that?

23 COURT REPORTER: 8.

24 THE COURT: 8?

25 COURT REPORTER: State's 8.

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1 MR. OSKIN: May I approach the witness, Your Honor?

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, permission to move about?

4 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

5 BY MR. OSKIN:

6 Q: Sergeant Rose, I'll ask if you recognize what's been
7 marked as State's Exhibit 8?

8 A: Yes, I do.

9 Q: What is that?

10 A: This is a disc that contains the footage from my body
11 camera on the date of the incident, July 9th.

12 Q: How do you know that that's yours?

13 A: I viewed it previously and initialed the back. It has my
14 initials on it.

15 Q: That's your body cam footage in its entirety?

16 A: It is.

17 Q: No material additions, deletions, subtractions from it?

18 A: No.

19 THE COURT: Is there any objection or renew or any
20 objections, Mr. Bellamy?

21 MR. BELLAMY: We would object as to its relevance to the
22 -- this case as to who shot or did what ---

23 THE COURT: All right, sir.

24 MR. BELLAMY: --- it's prejudicial value outweighs the
25 probative.

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1 THE COURT: All right, sir.

2 And Mr. Spratlin?

3 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, we would object subject to our
4 earlier objection.

5 THE COURT: Based upon the Court's prior ruling, I do
6 find the evidence to be proper in this matter and I will allow
7 it in evidence, you may publish it to the jury.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 8

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 8 published. Audio not
12 transcribed herein.)

13 BY MR. OSKIN:

14 Q: Sergeant Rose, I believe the body cam video showed a man
15 holding an umbrella over the victim in this case; is that
16 correct?

17 A: That's correct.

18 Q: Do you know who that man was?

19 A: I don't recall his name. He stated that he had just come
20 to the business to eat.

21 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor ---

22 BY MR. OSKIN:

23 Q: Don't tell me what anyone said, I apologize.

24 THE COURT: Just a second.

25 Q: So, you're unsure who the man with the umbrella was?

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1 A: I don't recall his name.

2 Q: All right. Did you get any excited utterances or present
3 sense impressions from the man with the umbrella?

4 A: No.

5 Q: Did you set up a crime scene after responding to that
6 scene?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: Okay. Did you secure the perimeter to keep extra
9 witnesses or extra people from coming to the scene?

10 A: As the -- sorry -- as the supervisor, that is my
11 responsibility is to secure the scene and delegated officers
12 to do that. The rolling area of the parking lot was quartered
13 off fairly quickly.

14 Q: You kept a crime scene log as well?

15 A: I asked an officer on scene to establish and maintain the
16 crime scene log.

17 Q: And the man with the umbrella, he had nothing to do with
18 this case or any further investigation?

19 A: Not while I was there.

20 Q: Was the man with the umbrella, was he just a bystander?

21 A: Yes.

22 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state at this time.

23 THE COURT: Cross examination, Mr. Bellamy?

24 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor, may it please the
25 Court?

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1 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

2 CROSS EXAMINATION OF CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE BY MR. BELLAMY:

3 Q: Officer Rose, the -- to clear up something I think -- let
4 me show you State's -- may I approach, Judge?

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

6 Q: State's 2 and ask if you recognize that photograph?

7 A: I recognize what it's a photo of.

8 Q: Okay. Well, what is it a photo of?

9 A: It's a overhead photograph of K&W parking lot as well as
10 the neighboring hotels.

11 Q: Okay. Does it fairly and accurately show the parking lot
12 at the K&W or at least the front portion of it that's on
13 Highway 17?

14 A: It does.

15 Q: Okay. And in that photograph, could you identify the
16 parking space that the car that Ms. Fisher would've been in,
17 where it would've been parked? Are you able to do that based
18 on your body cam video, when you come up, where she is, and
19 where the car would've been?

20 A: I can identify the vicinity.

21 Q: Would you know, based on where she is, which space the
22 car was in?

23 A: Possibly.

24 MR. BELLAMY: Would it be okay if she came down and
25 showed?

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1 THE COURT: Any objection from the state?

2 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right, sir. You may step down.

4 BY MR. BELLAMY:

5 Q: Would you come down, Officer Rose?

6 THE COURT: Make sure you stand in front of one of the
7 microphones.

8 Q: And if you would, Officer Rose, maybe do it in two
9 sections so everybody -- we'll do these six and then move
10 here, and I'll hold this and if you could just point to --
11 well, let me ask you first, point to where Highway 17 is?

12 A: This is Highway 17 up in the front.

13 Q: Okay. And going -- excuse me -- and going this way,
14 which way would you be going?

15 A: That upward direction would be north.

16 Q: Excuse me, this way.

17 A: Downward would be south.

18 Q: So, as you came out of the parking lot, you could only
19 turn right?

20 A: You would have to turn south, right.

21 Q: And if you were coming from North Carolina or say
22 Calabash area on Business 17, you would be in what lane of
23 traffic, you would be in this lane and traffic in this lane,
24 correct?

25 A: That side of the highway.

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1 Q: And you would've made a right into the parking lot,
2 correct, if you're coming from North Carolina?

3 A: Traveling south on 17, yes, you would have to take a
4 right.

5 Q: This way is south and this way is north, so if you're
6 traveling this way, if you're over here, you're going to North
7 Carolina?

8 A: You're traveling north, you're in the far lanes.

9 Q: And we have some circles and some X's, but in looking at
10 your video, and I've looked at a bunch of other ones too,
11 where -- which space of these -- and again, this is not
12 representative of that day, but can you tell us which space
13 that the car would've been parked in? Can everybody see, by
14 the way?

15 A: I can tell you the area.

16 Q: Okay.

17 A: It would be in this vicinity where there's a pre-existing
18 circle.

19 Q: Okay. Now, isn't it true, though, in looking at your
20 video, in fact it's the second space after this median, if you
21 look at your video, which I just did, you wouldn't disagree
22 with me if I said that, would you?

23 A: It was where, sir?

24 Q: You turned in here, heading south, that's the little
25 median here, parking spaces here, past this little median, it

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1 would be the second space pulling in and facing this way; the
2 car facing that way?

3 A: I would agree that her body was closer to the little
4 island than it is the building in that section of the parking
5 lot.

6 Q: So, it would've been in the space between the island and
7 that first line, correct?

8 A: In that vicinity, correct.

9 Q: And your video shows it, so which would've put the car in
10 the second space facing south if we're gonna point this out,
11 correct?

12 A: The vehicle had already left when I arrived on scene.

13 Q: I understand, but if there's a witness who says that the
14 car was facing him and the body is here, it would put the car
15 in the second space?

16 A: According to the witness, correct, uh-huh, (affirmative
17 response).

18 Q: Okay. And we'll move down here, Officer Rose, just real
19 quick, everybody's heard my questions but it would've been
20 past the second island, the second space is where the car
21 would've been, Ms. Fisher would've been in the first, correct?

22 A: In that vicinity, correct?

23 Q: Okay. All right. Thank you. You can go have to seat.

24 Now, you indicated -- did you take any measurements or do
25 you know of any measurements that were taken in terms of where

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1 Ms. Fisher, excuse me, where Ms. Fisher's body would've been
2 in relation to that island or any of these lines or marked
3 spaces; did you do any of that?

4 A: I did not take measurements at the scene.

5 Q: Did anybody that you know of?

6 A: While I was there, there were none taken.

7 Q: Okay. But if -- and if there were, there would be some
8 documented report of that, correct?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Okay. In addition to the cell phone, there was another
11 item, as she was face down, that was found, was there not?

12 A: There was.

13 Q: Very close to the cell phone?

14 A: Very close, yes.

15 Q: Between her legs there was a cell phone and what was that
16 other item?

17 A: A small copper, metal item.

18 Q: It would've been a bullet, correct?

19 A: I believe it was a bullet fragment.

20 Q: Did you take custody of that?

21 A: I did not.

22 Q: Do you know if anybody made any measurements as to
23 relation to where it was found as to where the car may've been
24 marked?

25 A: Not that I have observed.

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1 Q: Okay. And again, there would be a report if that had
2 been done?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Okay. Did you -- do you know -- did you or do you know
5 if anybody, while you were there, took possession of any of
6 the clothes that she may have had on to be tested or analyzed
7 at the scene?

8 A: While I was there, no.

9 Q: Okay. And again, if that was done at a later time, there
10 would be a report that would reflect that, correct?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: Now, did you find any glass or evidence that a bullet
13 may've struck any glass and was left behind?

14 A: No.

15 Q: So, no glass near Ms. Fisher or near the parking space
16 beside her?

17 A: No, not that I saw.

18 Q: Now, did you check for any video surveillance from any
19 other businesses in the area?

20 A: Personally, I did not.

21 Q: And there are businesses both north and south, lots of
22 them, of the K&W, correct?

23 A: Correct.

24 Q: And there are traffic lights certainly south of the K&W,
25 correct?

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: And you're aware that the car that was there and left
3 went south on 17, correct?

4 A: That's what the witness stated.

5 Q: Okay. That would've been Mr. Thompson, correct?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: Okay. So, he would have told you that? Mr. Thompson
8 told you and you put it in the report that the car went south
9 on Business 17, right?

10 A: I don't recall if he told me personally. I'd have to
11 watch the video again, but he made a statement to either
12 myself or another detective on scene. He was spoken to a
13 little bit later on more thoroughly.

14 Q: Okay. So, law enforcement and I believe your video and
15 again it's hard to see for me, but I think it was around 11:25
16 after you got on scene, correct? And the video will speak for
17 itself, so if I'm wrong, but is that an approximation?

18 A: It was 11:15ish, I think is when the call was. It
19 probably took me four to five minutes to get there, so...

20 Q: Okay. Do you know if any other officers checked
21 businesses south of the K&W for any surveillance of a
22 potential vehicle matching the description that -- you had a
23 vehicle description, correct?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Okay. Did you know if anyone -- I know you said you

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1 didn't, but if anybody else checked for video to see if that
2 car may have went or turned?

3 A: Yes, Officer Jones went to several of the surrounding
4 businesses to check video and one was Detrick's Carwash, which
5 is just south on Highway 17 from K&W.

6 Q: Okay. Do you know if anybody checked the traffic cameras
7 at these lights in North Myrtle Beach?

8 A: I'm not sure.

9 Q: Okay. But if it was done, there would be a report to
10 reflect that, correct?

11 A: It would probably be noted it if they were checked, yes,
12 sir.

13 Q: Okay. So, there would be a report for every video that
14 would have been checked and some analysis of whether there is
15 or isn't anything there, correct?

16 A: It would be reflected in a document or a statement that
17 businesses have been checked for relevant video.

18 Q: Gotcha. Are you aware that the subject vehicle ended up
19 in the City of Myrtle Beach?

20 A: I was advised the next day, I believe, by one of the
21 investigating detectives.

22 Q: Do you -- do you know if there is any report of checking
23 the surveillance cameras entering the City of Myrtle Beach?

24 A: I'm not aware if there are.

25 Q: Okay.

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1 A: Excuse me.

2 Q: You were the patrol sergeant, I believe, back in '16?

3 A: I was.

4 Q: Okay. You would agree with me when I say that July 9th,
5 that's a Saturday, correct?

6 A: I believe it was; it was the weekend, uh-huh,
7 (affirmative response).

8 Q: It was the weekend and that would be the July 4th week,
9 July 4th being the previous Monday or Tuesday, I believe,
10 correct?

11 A: I'd have to see a calendar, but it was right around
12 obviously the 4th of July, right after.

13 Q: And you would agree with me that is the busiest week of
14 the year for the Grand Strand?

15 A: It's very busy.

16 Q: Very busy. And we've seen some car cam and there's a lot
17 of traffic, and there's a lot of businesses around this K&W,
18 and there's a lot of activity, correct? This is not an
19 isolated area?

20 A: Specific to the business, it was very limited activity at
21 the time I got there.

22 Q: But this is an area that there's a lot of traffic on 17
23 and businesses that are open all around where we are, correct?

24 A: Yes, it's a high traffic area; it's on Highway 17.

25 Q: And this was in the front of the business, correct?

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1 A: It was.

2 Q: Okay. Did you receive any calls from any motorists of
3 any disturbances in any vehicles, any bad driving, crazy
4 driving, someone in distress in a white Malibu that day,
5 roughly 11:15 in the morning or before?

6 A: We did not.

7 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 BY MR. BELLAMY:

10 Q: Thank you, Sergeant Rose. Answer any more questions.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

12 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 CROSS EXAMINATION OF CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE BY MR. SPRATLIN:

14 Q: Good morning, Sergeant Rose. How are you?

15 A: Fine, how are you?

16 Q: I am good. A couple of quick questions for you. Now,
17 you spoke earlier about calling 911 to identify whose cell
18 phone that was you found on the scene, correct?

19 A: I did.

20 Q: And actually it was maybe directed an officer, and I'm
21 probably butchering this name, Vymislicky to do that, correct?

22 A: Yes, she had gloves on and I did not at the time, so she,
23 in terms of preserving the phone, I think it was just one
24 button you push, it's emergency or something along those lines
25 and she pushed it.

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CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: And she actually had to call 911 twice, right, or she had
2 to call 911 twice in front of you? The first time it didn't
3 connect; isn't that right?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: And then so the first time it didn't connect. The second
6 time called it connected?

7 A: It did.

8 Q: So, if the phone records of this phone show two phone
9 calls to 911, that would be right?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Okay. As the patrol sergeant, as the -- at the time that
12 you arrived on scene, you were in charge of the scene,
13 correct?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: And you pretty much remained in charge until the
16 detectives show up; is that correct?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: So, your job is to tell people what to do and where to
19 go?

20 A: Essentially, yes.

21 Q: Such as when you talked to, I believe it was Officer
22 Jones, and told him to go check out the Outback cameras; is
23 that correct?

24 A: That's correct.

25 Q: Okay. Mr. Bellamy already asked you, to your knowledge,

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CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 other business -- there was several other business around
2 there that maybe nobody checked or you're not aware if anybody
3 checked?

4 A: I'm not aware; I remained on scene.

5 Q: Okay. All right. When you spoke with Mr. Thompson or
6 just had any interaction with him, he seemed very upset,
7 correct?

8 A: He was very upset.

9 Q: In fact, normally -- in fact, you gave him a written
10 statement to complete at home and send to you, correct?

11 A: I don't believe I did.

12 Q: Okay. All right. But you didn't get a written statement
13 from him that day?

14 A: Personally, I did not collect one or ask for one.

15 Q: Okay. Because he was so upset that he didn't give a
16 written statement. It wasn't until the 9th -- it wasn't until
17 the next day that he gave a written statement; is that right?

18 A: I couldn't tell you.

19 Q: Okay. All right. Do you remember directing anybody to
20 give him forms so he could give you a statement; do you
21 remember doing that at all?

22 A: I may have.

23 Q: Okay. And as Mr. Bellamy already asked you, to your
24 knowledge, there's been no checking of any kind of traffic
25 cameras, or any sort of other cameras that were checked?

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CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: While I was there, Officer Jones checked several of the
2 businesses close to the K&W. What was checked beyond that, I
3 couldn't tell you.

4 Q: Okay. Because once the detectives showed up, that became
5 their responsibility?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And who was the head detective on that case?

8 A: Initially, Officer Vymislicky arrived on scene and then
9 the detective sergeant arrived on scene as well as several
10 others that work for our department. And after that,
11 Detective Lynam was established as the lead investigator.

12 Q: So, Owen Lynam, who is seated behind the state, he was
13 the head detective on this case, Owen Lynam was the head
14 detective?

15 A: Eventually, yes, he was.

16 Q: Okay.

17 A: Yeah, that decision was made.

18 Q: Okay. All right. Thanks. I'm just trying to figure out
19 who all the players are; that's all we're doing.

20 I appreciate it. Please answer any questions anyone may
21 have.

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: Redirect?

24 MR. OSKIN: Briefly, Your Honor.

25 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE BY MR. OSKIN:

State v. McIver and Freeman
CAROLINE ALEXINA ROSE - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Sergeant Rose, you're not a crime scene analyst, correct?

2 A: Not any more.

3 Q: Okay. Your job this date was patrol sergeant?

4 A: I was strictly patrol sergeant, yes.

5 Q: So, you established the scene, correct?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: You secured the scene?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Correct, that was your duty that day with regards to this
10 case?

11 A: It was to orchestrate everything that needed to be done,
12 yes.

13 Q: Okay. As far as Mr. Bellamy's question with you don't
14 know which direction they left or which direction they
15 could've left, there's only one way they can leave the K&W
16 parking lot; isn't that correct?

17 A: From the front, yes. Only -- south is the only legal way
18 to go but...

19 MR. OSKIN: Nothing further, Your Honor. Please excuse
20 the witness.

21 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

22 MR. BELLAMY: Just one second.

23 No, sir, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

25 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

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AMY VICKS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, you're released from your
2 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

3 MS. ROSE: Okay.

4 THE COURT: Next witness?

5 MR. DEBUSK: The state calls Detective Amy Vymislicky.

6 MR. BELLAMY: Judge, may we approach with the solicitor
7 for just a second?

8 THE COURT: Certainly.

9 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
10 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

11 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, come around and meet the
12 clerk's representative right over here, please.

13 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
14 hand on the Bible.

15 AMY VICKS, HAVING BEEN SWORN

16 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

17 THE COURT: Well, all right, ma'am. You need to state
18 your name at the time and now and spell both of them.

19 MS. VICKS: Okay. My name is Amy Vicks at this moment,
20 and it's V-I-C-K-S. At the time of the -- when the case
21 started, my name was Amy Vymislicky, and it's V-Y-M-I-S-L-I-C-
22 K-Y.

23 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

24 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF AMY VICKS BY MR. DEBUSK:

25 Q: Officer Vick -- Vicks?

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AMY VICKS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Congratulations, I guess you've been married since we've
3 last met?

4 A: Right.

5 Q: Who is your employer?

6 A: The City of North Myrtle Beach Department of Public
7 Safety.

8 Q: How long you been there?

9 A: Sixteen years.

10 Q: At this time, April of 2018, what's your -- what are your
11 duties?

12 A: At this time, I'm the code enforcement officer for the
13 city.

14 Q: Back in July of 2016, what were your duties then?

15 A: I was in the investigative unit; I was a detective.

16 Q: Did you respond to the K&W parking -- K&W Cafeteria in
17 North Myrtle Beach on July 9th of 2016?

18 A: I did.

19 Q: For what purpose?

20 A: We got called. I was the on-call detective at the time,
21 and I was already at the police department, it was on the
22 weekend, and they called me as a -- there was a shooting in
23 the parking lot of the K&W Cafeteria.

24 Q: When you arrived, what was your role?

25 A: I was the first on-scene detective.

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AMY VICKS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Okay. What did you do?

2 A: When I arrived on scene, I basically took photographs,
3 had it roped off with caution tape and crime scene tape, kinda
4 basically took photographs, talked to different people that
5 were on scene.

6 Q: And was it your role to, to, I guess memorialize the
7 crime scene?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Okay. And you took a number of pictures?

10 A: I took -- yes.

11 Q: I show you State's 10, 11, and 12, as well as State's 3
12 and ask if you recognize these?

13 A: Yes, I recognize all the photographs.

14 Q: What are they?

15 A: They are of the actual scene upon my arrival.

16 Q: So, we've already talked about State's 3. That shows the
17 victim, correct?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: When you arrived and took that picture, had there been
20 any efforts to treat her?

21 A: Not at that time, no.

22 Q: I mean, what is in the machine and the things that are on
23 ---

24 A: That was after I had arrived, the first responders
25 arrived to check for any vitals at that time.

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1 Q: First responders being EMS?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: Okay. And that's what -- their machinery?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: That wasn't there when you first arrived?

6 A: No.

7 Q: It was just victim laying there?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Where she's laying there, was there some evidence that
10 you collected at the scene?

11 A: I did. I collected a casing from a round.

12 Q: Okay. Is that reflected in State's Exhibit 10?

13 A: Yes.

14 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

15 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right. State's 10 is in evidence without
17 objection.

18 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 10

19 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

20 BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Now, is that part of a projectile?

22 A: Yes, sir. Yes.

23 Q: Is that the whole projectile or just part of it?

24 A: Just part of it.

25 Q: Would there also be a lead core that went with that

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AMY VICKS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 that's not present?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: I think that's what you call the jacket of the bullet?

4 A: Yes.

5 MR. DEBUSK: May I approach, Your Honor?

6 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: Now, on State's Exhibit 3 here, is that visible between
9 the victim's feet?

10 A: It was near her left calf.

11 Q: Okay. But that -- that was the casing and that's where
12 it was collected ---

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: --- after you arrived?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: Was there another piece of evidence between her legs or
17 her knees there?

18 A: Yes, there was her cell phone.

19 Q: Okay. Did you collect that cell phone?

20 A: We did collect the cell phone.

21 Q: What did you do with it?

22 A: Well, we were trying to -- Sergeant Rose was on scene
23 just prior to my arrival. When we saw the cell phone there,
24 we picked it up and we were trying to determine maybe what her
25 name was, so...

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1 Q: Did she have any ID or anything on her?

2 A: No, sir.

3 Q: No wallet, no purse?

4 A: No, sir.

5 Q: So, this phone was basically your best route?

6 A: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

7 Q: How did you go about determining?

8 A: Sergeant -- Sergeant Rose took the phone into her
9 possession at that time and went to her patrol car and started
10 doing a little bit of research.

11 Q: Okay.

12 A: And found out that who belonged to the phone.

13 Q: Basically, that phone provided the name?

14 A: Yes. Yes, sir.

15 Q: Was the victim Amanda Fisher?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Okay. State's 12 and 11, what do those show?

18 A: That is the actual crime scene of the K&W Cafeteria in
19 the City of North Myrtle Beach.

20 Q: Are those views of the parking lot?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 MR. BELLAMY: Judge, may we approach?

23 THE COURT: Is there an objection, Mr. Bellamy?

24 MR. BELLAMY: I do. May we approach just briefly?

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir. Bring those, please.

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1 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
2 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

3 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

5 BY MR. DEBUSK:

6 Q: Ms. Vymislicky, 11 and 12, were those taken the day of
7 the investigation?

8 A: No, I don't believe they were; they were taken after.

9 Q: Okay. When the parking lot was empty?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: So, the vehicles that responded and the vehicles that
12 were there at the time are not present in that photo?

13 A: No, they are not.

14 Q: But it does show the basic layout of the parking lot and
15 the buildings?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 MR. DEBUSK: And that's the purpose for this, Judge.

18 THE COURT: Is there any objection now, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: That's cleared it up. Thank you, Judge.

20 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right, sir. 11 and 12 are in evidence
22 without objection.

23 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 11 AND 12

24 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

25 THE COURT: You may proceed.

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1 MR. DEBUSK: May we publish, Your Honor?

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 BY MR. DEBUSK:

4 Q: Let's go to State's 9 and ask if you recognize that?

5 A: Yes, that is also the parking lot of the K&W from an
6 aerial view.

7 Q: How was that taken?

8 A: Cherry picker, like ---

9 Q: Okay. So, you brought a cherry picker out there cause it
10 gets high?

11 A: Yeah, uh-huh, (affirmative response), yes.

12 Q: Does the location where the victim's body was found and
13 depicted in, I think it was State's Exhibit 2, is that marked
14 on that?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: How is it marked?

17 A: It's marked with an orange paint circle.

18 Q: Okay. State's 9, was this taken the day it happened or
19 was this taken at a later date?

20 A: That was actually taken, I think, the following day.

21 Q: Okay. Again, the vehicles that responded and the body
22 and everything are not there?

23 A: Not there.

24 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

25 MR. BELLAMY: I'm sorry; no, sir, Your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Spratlin?

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. State's 9 is in evidence without
4 objection.

5 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 9

6 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

7 THE COURT: You may proceed.

8 BY MR. DEBUSK:

9 Q: And again, on State's 3 that shows the body, there's a
10 the parking -- parking lot line through that, correct?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: And where that orange circle is drawn on State's 9,
13 correct?

14 A: That's correct.

15 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish, Your Honor?

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 BY MR. DEBUSK:

18 Q: So, recorded the crime scene, you collected the cell
19 phone and the bullet casing, after photographing them. Did
20 you put in collection reports, chains of custody on those
21 items?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Okay. You marked the location -- was measurement
24 necessary after you marked the location and all that?

25 A: No, sir.

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AMY VICKS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: But you did memorialize the location in photographs and
2 everything?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Now, you have at least a partial projectile. To your
5 knowledge, were any firearms recovered in the investigation to
6 compare to that?

7 A: No, sir.

8 Q: So, you just have a projectile and nothing to compare it
9 to, correct?

10 A: That's correct.

11 Q: But you did collect the projectile and put it into
12 evidence?

13 A: Yes, I did.

14 Q: And that was depicted in the photograph?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: And again, it was just the jacket of the projectile, not
17 the lead?

18 A: That's correct.

19 Q: So, after photographing and memorializing the crime scene
20 and collecting these items and putting them in the reports and
21 collection, did you do anything further? Did you attend the
22 autopsy?

23 A: I did not attend the autopsy.

24 Q: Was a Myrtle Beach detective assigned to attend the
25 autopsy?

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AMY VICKS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: A North Myrtle Beach one, yes.

2 Q: North Myrtle Beach one?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Did you have any responsibilities with this investigation
5 after you memorialized the scene and went back and took the
6 pictures the next day?

7 A: Actually, after the autopsy, I -- I placed the victim's
8 jewelry and the victim's fingernails in evidence as well.

9 Q: And those were collected at the autopsy?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: And you just placed them into evidence, you weren't the
12 one that went to the autopsy?

13 A: That's correct.

14 Q: Now, these photographs we've shown today, those aren't
15 the only ones you took are they?

16 A: No.

17 Q: So, that's just a selected ---

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: --- set of them. You took many photographs?

20 A: I took a lot of photographs.

21 Q: Please answer any questions Defense may have.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

23 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

24 CROSS EXAMINATION OF AMY VICKS BY MR. BELLAMY:

25 Q: It's now Ms. Vicks?

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AMY VICKS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: Vicks is correct.

2 Q: Officer Vicks?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Give me just a second to -- Officer Vicks, you were doing
5 crime scene, taking photographs, taking things into custody,
6 correct?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: For them to be later analyzed and/or presented here in
9 court, correct?

10 A: That's correct.

11 Q: You indicated you did not attend the autopsy. What
12 detective or officer was assigned to that duty?

13 A: I believe Detective Sergeant Paul Sheets attended the
14 autopsy.

15 Q: Okay. Do you know if he took any photographs at that
16 autopsy?

17 A: I believe he did, yes.

18 Q: Okay. And did he -- what did he collect at that that he
19 turned over to you?

20 A: What I got was the jewelry and the fingernails.

21 Q: And those were placed into evidence?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: And then you collected the -- and you describe it here as
24 a bullet round?

25 A: Yes.

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AMY VICKS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Okay. And put it into evidence to be further analyzed?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: And was the jewelry gonna be analyzed or just given back
4 to Ms. Fisher's family?

5 A: I believe it was to be given back to Ms. Fisher's family.

6 Q: And the fingernails, were they gonna be analyzed?

7 A: I believe so.

8 Q: Okay. Detective Sheets, did he collect any of the
9 clothing from Ms. Fisher for it to be analyzed for blood
10 splatter or anything of that nature?

11 A: I am not positive, but I'm sure he probably did.

12 Q: Okay. But he didn't turn it over to you?

13 A: Not to me, no.

14 Q: And if it was collected and analyzed there would be a
15 report memorializing that, correct?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: Okay. Did you notice any glass in the area of the crime
18 scene?

19 A: Not that I recall.

20 Q: And so we're clear and I don't want to belabor it again,
21 but the car that Ms. Fisher would've been in would've been in
22 the second space after the second little grassy island,
23 correct?

24 A: Correct.

25 Q: And she would've been, you're seated in the car to the

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AMY VICKS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 left of it?

2 A: That's correct.

3 Q: Okay. And again, no measurements were done of where the
4 bullet was found or her body necessarily, but there are
5 photographs?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Okay. Also, you indicated you took the victim's -- Ms.
8 Fisher's phone into your custody into evidence?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: It was initially used through this system TLO, I don't --
11 that may be wrong, but somehow you were able to ascertain
12 whose phone it was?

13 A: That's correct.

14 Q: Then contact was made with some member of her family to
15 get the passcode, correct?

16 A: Yes, that was her mother.

17 Q: Okay. So, you had full access to her phone calls, missed
18 calls, texts, everything, correct?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: Did you do an analysis of the phone or somebody else with
21 the department?

22 A: Someone else would've done that.

23 Q: That would have been?

24 A: Detective Will Lynch.

25 Q: Will Lynch. Okay. So, he could give us the results when

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AMY VICKS - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 he testifies?

2 A: That's correct.

3 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Certainly.

5 BY MR. BELLAMY:

6 Q: Thank you, Officer Vicks, I have no further questions.

7 Answer any other questions.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

9 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 CROSS EXAMINATION OF AMY VICKS BY MR. SPRATLIN:

11 Q: Good morning, Officer Vicks.

12 A: Good morning.

13 Q: I won't rehash everything you've already been asked.

14 That's kinda one of the disadvantages of going third. A
15 couple of things I think important. When the -- you said
16 that the victim, you recovered jewelry from her, correct?

17 A: It was recovered at the time of the autopsy, yes.

18 Q: Okay. All right. So, there was jewelry on her person at
19 the time that she was autopsied?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: All right. That hadn't been taken obviously?

22 A: That's correct.

23 Q: And you said that when you got on scene, you didn't see
24 any indication that she was still alive, breathing, moving,
25 anything like that?

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AMY VICKS - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: No, sir.

2 Q: But you called EMS out or EMS arrived and was checking
3 her out whenever you were there?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: That's where the probes on her body came from?

6 A: That's correct.

7 Q: But you're not aware of any kind of lifesaving measures
8 EMS attempted to do or anything like that?

9 A: No.

10 Q: As far as you, when she laid in that parking lot, as soon
11 as she hit the ground, she had already passed?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Thank you, Detective Vicks. I think everybody else has
14 already covered everything.

15 THE COURT: All right. Redirect?

16 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF AMY VICKS BY MR. DEBUSK:

17 Q: If there had been glass at the scene, you would have
18 recorded that and collected it, correct?

19 A: That's correct.

20 Q: And photographed it?

21 A: Correct.

22 Q: So there was none?

23 A: No.

24 Q: Again the casing, I'm sorry, the jacket of the bullet,
25 the partial bullet that was found right next to her calf,

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AMY VICKS - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 right?

2 A: Yes, her left calf.

3 Q: Visible on that photo is a little sort of copper-colored
4 dot?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: And also in State's Exhibit 10?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: You collected her jewelry?

9 A: Detective Sheets would've collected the jewelry. I put
10 it into evidence.

11 Q: Was she bedecked with jewels?

12 A: No, sir.

13 Q: In fact, what did she have on? What am I showing you?

14 A: Two pairs of earrings and one gold ring.

15 Q: What was that that you were reading from? Just tell the
16 jury what you're looking at.

17 A: Oh, this is an evidence form that we fill out prior to
18 when we put it in an evidence bag, we attach this. It's an
19 evidence form and it's recorded by numbers.

20 Q: Is that a pair of earrings?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: No wallet?

23 A: Nope; no, sir.

24 Q: And the only way you were able identify her was through
25 the cell phone?

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BY THE COURT

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1 A: That's correct.

2 Q: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Any questions on those just asked? Mr.
4 Bellamy?

5 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

7 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. You wish the witness to be
9 excused?

10 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, you're released from your
12 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties. Thank you.

13 BY THE COURT:

14 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we're gonna
15 take a short break at this point in time. If you go to the
16 jury room, please remember don't talk about the case, don't
17 allow anybody to talk to you about it, and I'll speak to you
18 shortly. Just leave those on the rail. Okay. Thank you.

19 Go ahead and go to the jury room.

20 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
21 place outside the presence of the jury.)

22 THE COURT: Anything from the state before we take a
23 break?

24 MR. DEBUSK: Just for scheduling, Your Honor. Things are
25 moving along a little faster than I expected. I've got one

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BY THE COURT

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1 witness here for the rest of the morning and the rest of them
2 are traveling in from some ways away.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 MR. DEBUSK: They'll be here at 1:00, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Well, we'll -- I don't think
6 we'll be starting again at 1 o'clock, but we'll see if we
7 can't fashion a break such that we'll start as soon as we can.

8 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you.

9 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything else right now,
10 Mr. Bellamy?

11 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

13 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. Very good. We'll take a short
15 break for about 10 minutes or so. Okay?

16 RECESS

17 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

18 (On the Record.)

19 BY THE COURT:

20 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, you ready with your
21 next witness, please?

22 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

24 And, Mr. Bellamy, you ready?

25 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, Your Honor, just one thing I would

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BY THE COURT

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1 like to make the Court aware of. During the break, I became
2 aware that one of the witnesses for the state is in the
3 courtroom. I did not know she was here until we took the
4 break. She is on their witness list. I don't know whether
5 she was subpoenaed by them or not. The court had ordered
6 sequestration.

7 THE COURT: Well, who is the person?

8 MR. OSKIN: Tyquajua Wiggins, Your Honor.

9 MR. BELLAMY: Yeah, Tyquajua.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. BELLAMY: Upon speaking with the solicitor, they do
12 not intend to use her. I do not intend to use her. I'll let
13 Mr. Spratlin address if he does?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: I do not intend to use this witness.

15 MR. BELLAMY: And so, based upon that, I don't know that
16 she would be required to be sequestered, but then I'd let the
17 Court ---

18 THE COURT: Okay. Solicitor, you've got her on the
19 witness list. She is under the order of sequestration and
20 should not be in the courtroom.

21 MR. DEBUSK: We'd ask she be released, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: You're asking her to be released and you will
23 not be calling her as a witness?

24 MR. DEBUSK: Correct.

25 THE COURT: All right. And she is released from the

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1 order of sequestration. She should not have been in the
2 courtroom prior to this time.

3 All right. Anything else, Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

6 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Ask the jury to come in.

8 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

9 THE COURT: All right, solicitor, your next witness
10 please.

11 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor. The state calls
12 Michael Vann.

13 THE COURT: All right. Please come around, sir, and be
14 sworn and meet the clerk's representative right there.

15 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
16 hand on the Bible.

17 MICHAEL VANN, HAVING BEEN DULY
18 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

19 MR. VANN: Michael Vann, V-A-N-N.

20 THE COURT: Go ahead, solicitor.

21 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF MICHAEL VANN BY MR. DEBUSK:

23 Q: Mr. Vann, where do you live?

24 A: Stanley, North Carolina.

25 Q: Is that near ---

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- 1 A: That's west of Charlotte.
- 2 Q: What's your occupation?
- 3 A: I'm an electrician.
- 4 Q: Are you married?
- 5 A: Yes.
- 6 Q: Is your wife here with you today?
- 7 A: Yes, she is.
- 8 Q: Is the reason Amanda Fisher?
- 9 A: Yes.
- 10 Q: Who is Amanda Fisher?
- 11 A: She is my step-daughter.
- 12 Q: How long have you been step-father to Amanda?
- 13 A: For about 16 years.
- 14 Q: How old was Amanda when she died?
- 15 A: She was roughly about 29.
- 16 Q: So, she was not even a teenager yet when you ---
- 17 A: Yes, she was like 15, 14.
- 18 Q: Did she have any children?
- 19 A: No, she did not.
- 20 Q: Where did she lived for most of her life?
- 21 A: She had lived with her mother most of her life up in
- 22 Belmont, in Mount Holly area.
- 23 Q: That's again close to Charlotte?
- 24 A: Yeah, yes, that's west of Charlotte.
- 25 Q: Now, when she died, where was she living?

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1 A: She was staying down here in Shallotte; had her a place
2 down here cause she had moved down here to start a new life.

3 Q: [REDACTED] River View Drive sound familiar?

4 A: Yes, sir; yes, sir.

5 Q: Is that where she was living?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: What was that residence?

8 A: It was a single-wide mobile home trailer.

9 Q: What was it used for before Amanda lived there?

10 A: Before then it was just a vacation place for everybody
11 and she staying there for the time being and ---

12 Q: Sort of a transition home?

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: All right. State's Exhibit 15, do you recognize that?

15 A: Yes, I do.

16 Q: What is it?

17 A: That is the place.

18 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir.

20 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right. So, that's 15?

23 MR. DEBUSK: 15, yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. State's 15 is in evidence without
25 objection.

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STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 15

ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

THE COURT: You may proceed.

BY MR. DEBUSK:

Q: Well, we'll get back to that in a moment. Was Amanda working at that time?

A: Yes, she was.

Q: What did she do?

A: She was an in-home care, taking care of elderly people at their houses and doing whatever they needed done.

Q: Did she work through an agency?

A: Yes.

Q: So, she went where she was assigned?

A: Yes, yes.

Q: What kind of car did Amanda drive?

A: It was a Malibu, white four-door.

Q: Let me show you what's been marked -- or it's already admitted into evidence as State's Exhibit 1 and ask if you recognize that.

A: Yes, I do.

Q: What is it?

A: That is the car of Amanda Fisher.

Q: Do you know what happened to that car after Amanda was killed?

A: What we were told was that it was drove back to Charlotte

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1 ---

2 MR. BELLAMY: Objection, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

4 MR. BELLAMY: He's getting ready to say what he was told

5 and ---

6 BY MR. DEBUSK:

7 Q: Did you receive the car back?

8 A: No, sir, we did not receive the car back.

9 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 13 AND 14

10 MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

11 Q: Okay. Let me show you State's 13 and 14 and ask if you
12 recognize those.

13 A: Yes, sir; I do.

14 Q: What are they?

15 A: They are the car of the -- of Amanda Fisher.

16 Q: Okay. And it does have a license plate there, so you say
17 that is the license plate?

18 A: Yes. Yes, sir.

19 Q: Is that the condition you last saw it in?

20 A: No, sir.

21 Q: Okay. State's 13 and 14. Just to reiterate on State's
22 13, that is Amanda's tag number?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, we'll put these in with a
25 subsequent witness subject to further foundation.

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- 1 THE COURT: All right. Very good.
- 2 BY MR. DEBUSK:
- 3 Q: Who owned that car; was it Amanda or ---
- 4 A: It was her grandfather's.
- 5 Q: Her grandfather let her use that car?
- 6 A: Yes, sir.
- 7 Q: So, that was -- even though he owned it, that was
- 8 Amanda's car?
- 9 A: Yes, sir.
- 10 Q: Do know what the value of that car was?
- 11 A: It was approximately between 10 to 16,000.
- 12 Q: Okay. And it was -- her grandfather helped her buy it?
- 13 A: Yes, sir.
- 14 Q: For that amount?
- 15 A: Yes.
- 16 Q: How long had she had it, do you know?
- 17 A: Probably about a year and a half to two years.
- 18 Q: So, it probably would've depreciated a little bit?
- 19 A: Yes, a little bit.
- 20 Q: Did Amanda take good care of her car?
- 21 A: Oh, yes.
- 22 Q: Was she proud of it?
- 23 A: Yes, sir.
- 24 Q: Was it functional?
- 25 A: Yes.

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1 Q: Did the air conditioning work?

2 A: Yes, everything worked on it.

3 Q: When did you last see Amanda?

4 A: That Friday night, January the 8th -- I mean, July the
5 8th, I mean July the 8th.

6 Q: July the 8th?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: Okay. Where did you see her?

9 A: We saw her at our place.

10 Q: Okay. Did she articulate to you any plans that she had?

11 A: No, sir; she did not.

12 Q: Okay. Do you know where she went?

13 A: No, we found out that she went to Myrtle Beach. She had
14 called her mother and said that they were gonna go to Myrtle
15 Beach.

16 MR. BELLAMY: Objection, Judge. I believe it's gonna be
17 hearsay.

18 THE COURT: Don't -- all right. That's hearsay,
19 Solicitor.

20 BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Okay. Do you know who she was with?

22 A: Yes, she was with my niece.

23 Q: What's your niece's name?

24 A: Tabetha Oxendine.

25 Q: So, she and Tabetha went somewhere?

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- 1 A: Yes.
- 2 Q: Were you with your wife while she was gone?
- 3 A: Yes.
- 4 Q: Do you know that they had communication by phone?
- 5 A: Yes, I do.
- 6 Q: Okay. Do you know when the last time they communicated
- 7 by phone was?
- 8 A: They -- Saturday morning at 9:11.
- 9 Q: Okay. And why does that stick in your mind?
- 10 A: Because she had questioned us going back to the beach
- 11 that early.
- 12 Q: So, because it was that early?
- 13 A: Yes.
- 14 Q: Okay. Now, were you going -- what were you doing that
- 15 day?
- 16 A: I was driving that day to the beach.
- 17 Q: Where were you going?
- 18 A: To Holden Beach.
- 19 Q: Holden Beach?
- 20 A: Yes.
- 21 Q: Just in case someone is not familiar with the North
- 22 Carolina area, you were staying at the vacation house?
- 23 A: Yes, sir.
- 24 Q: Where is Holden Beach on that map?
- 25 A: It is directly about right here.

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- 1 Q: It's south of ---
- 2 A: Yes.
- 3 Q: Closest beach you can get to?
- 4 A: Yes, sir.
- 5 Q: Okay. What were you doing at the beach?
- 6 A: Just sitting out there playing.
- 7 Q: Beach stuff?
- 8 A: Yeah, beach stuff.
- 9 Q: How long did you stay out there?
- 10 A: We stayed out there until about 3 o'clock.
- 11 Q: Who was with you when you went to the beach?
- 12 A: My family was and my brother and his family was.
- 13 Q: How many of you?
- 14 A: Probably about six to seven of us.
- 15 Q: Were you all staying together at the ---
- 16 A: No, sir.
- 17 Q: But you were staying there?
- 18 A: Yeah, we were staying there.
- 19 Q: When you last spoke to Amanda at 9:11 ---
- 20 A: Yes, sir.
- 21 Q: --- any reason for concern at that point?
- 22 A: No, sir.
- 23 Q: When did you find out Amanda had been killed?
- 24 A: We got the phone call at about 4 o'clock, 4:30.
- 25 Q: Do you know who called?

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1 A: It was the coroner.

2 Q: Was this a surprise?

3 A: Yes, it was.

4 Q: Did there come a time when you met with the police?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: Who was -- who all was present when you met with the
7 police?

8 A: Me, my wife, and our youngest daughter, and we had called
9 -- my brother had come over with Tabetha and his wife.

10 Q: So, your brother brought Tabetha over?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: Okay. Did you tell the police what you knew about the
13 situation?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: Now, you and your wife went to the beach, you said about
16 9:00?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: And came back around 3:00?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: And it was you, your wife, and Amanda staying at the home
21 showing in State's 16, correct?

22 A: And our littlest daughter.

23 Q: Who was with you at the beach?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: While you were gone from your home at shown on State's 16

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1 ---

2 A: Uh-huh (affirmative response).

3 Q: --- do you know if anybody came back to the house?

4 A: When knew Amanda had said she was coming back to get some
5 clothes and a bathing suit and all that. She said she was
6 gonna spend the day at Myrtle Beach.

7 Q: Was there any evidence that she had come back?

8 A: Yes, there was a beer can sitting outside underneath the
9 carport.

10 Q: That had not been there when you left?

11 A: No, it was not there when we left. And when we went
12 inside, I went to the bathroom, the lid to the commode was
13 lifted up, and I've never left the one up before because of
14 all the women. So, we knew somebody else had been in there.

15 Q: Okay. So, somebody had been to your house while you were
16 gone?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 MR. DEBUSK: May I show State's Exhibit 15?

19 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

20 BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Did you and your family pass on information about card
22 use, credit card use to the police?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: You told them everything that had been sent to you by the
25 credit card companies?

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1 A: Yes, we did.

2 Q: And you passed it on to the police, correct?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: As of that date, had you ever heard of either of the
5 defendants in this case?

6 A: No, sir; I have not.

7 Q: Why had Amanda come down to live at the coast?

8 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, I didn't hear the question, I'm
9 sorry.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 BY MR. DEBUSK:

12 Q: Why did Amanda come down to live at the coast?

13 MR. BELLAMY: I would object, Your Honor. I think we
14 need to approach.

15 THE COURT: All right. That's fine.

16 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
17 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

18 BY MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Go ahead.

20 BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Mr. Vann, had, had Amanda moved down to Shallotte to
22 start her own life -- start a new life?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: Start her life over again. And she already had a job,
25 right?

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: At the time, she did not down here, but she was working

2 ---

3 Q: She was working with the home health agency?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: And she was wanting a place to stay?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: So, this was gonna be a permanent move?

8 A: Yes, sir; it was.

9 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions the defense might
10 have.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you. May it please the Court, Your
13 Honor?

14 CROSS EXAMINATION OF MICHAEL VANN BY MR. BELLAMY:

15 Q: Mr. Vann, and I know this is difficult and I apologize
16 for you being here. I've got a job to do and I've got to ask
17 you some questions. Okay?

18 A: I understand.

19 Q: So, you were down here, Ms. Fisher or Amanda, was living
20 here at this place y'all had until she could find her own
21 place?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: And but y'all -- because this was the week of July 4th,
24 y'all had come down for the whole week or ---

25 A: For the whole week.

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Okay. Was this the last Saturday and y'all were leaving
2 or ---

3 A: Yes, sir, we were leaving the next day.

4 Q: Okay. So, y'all had come the previous maybe weekend?

5 A: We started the following Friday night, Saturday.

6 Q: Okay. And you left home around what time did you say?

7 A: We left the place around 8:45 -- we left the place around
8 8:45, 8:50.

9 Q: Okay. And also, if you don't know, you don't know. Was
10 a passcode provided to Amanda's phone that was found; do you
11 know?

12 A: What do you mean a passcode to ---

13 Q: Well, Amanda's phone was recovered, correct?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: And in order to get -- most phones there's some kind of
16 code.

17 A: Right.

18 Q: That was given to the police so they could access
19 everything in the phone?

20 A: Yes, it was.

21 Q: Okay. And you testified I believe earlier that at 9:11 a
22 phone call was made to your wife's cell phone?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: And I assume that you remember that because you can -- we
25 can go in our phone and look at her call log and see, correct?

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Okay. And at that time, I believe Solicitor DeBusk asked
3 you if everything was fine; there was no reason to be
4 concerned about anything, was there?

5 A: Yes, sir; that's right.

6 Q: And Amanda was 29, she was grown?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: And indicated she was gonna get some clothes and go back
9 to Myrtle Beach?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: And that's at 9:11?

12 A: Yes, sir; it was.

13 Q: You also were aware that the night before -- what time
14 did you last see her on Friday evening?

15 A: I really can't say exactly what time. It was after
16 around 9:00 or so.

17 Q: Okay. At night?

18 A: Yes, sir, at night.

19 Q: And was there one of the two, Amanda or Tabetha's
20 birthday or do you know?

21 A: I think it was close to Tabetha's birthday, I think, or
22 something like that.

23 Q: Okay. So, it was to go have fun at the beach?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Okay. And was there any communication, I'm not asking

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 what was said, but via telephone, do you recall whether there
2 were any calls made to your phone or your wife's phone between
3 9 o'clock Friday and I know the one at 9:11 on Saturday
4 morning, was there any calls in there?

5 A: To my knowledge, I do not know.

6 Q: Did you receive any calls?

7 A: I did not receive any.

8 Q: And again, I'm not trying to ask you what was said, but
9 if there was calls. And you don't recall whether your wife
10 would have received any calls?

11 A: No, I could not say.

12 Q: But it's fair to say that there were no concerns over the
13 Friday and Saturday morning?

14 A: No, sir; there was not.

15 Q: And when you returned to your phone, it was roughly 3:00
16 P.M.?

17 A: Yeah, between -- we left the beach around 3:00, so it
18 takes about a little bit, so about 3:30.

19 Q: So, you would've got there ---

20 A: About 3:30.

21 Q: 3:30?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: And then it was within less than an hour you received
24 this phone call from law enforcement?

25 A: Yes, sir. Well, she -- yes.

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Okay. Or from the coroner you indicated?

2 A: Yes, yes.

3 Q: Now, you also indicated that there was an empty beer can
4 somewhere outside the home?

5 A: At the carport.

6 Q: At the carport. Did you ever turn that over to law
7 enforcement?

8 A: No, sir; I did not.

9 Q: What happened to it?

10 A: I threw it in the trash can.

11 Q: Did you try to retrieve it or tell the police -- the
12 police came ultimately to see you?

13 A: I think we mentioned that there was a beer can left out
14 there at the carport.

15 Q: Okay. And they would've come to see you the next day?

16 A: That afternoon they did.

17 Q: Oh, that same day?

18 A: Yes, that same day.

19 Q: And one of those detectives is, I believe, seated back
20 here, the gentlemen on my left -- your left?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: He's the one who came to see you?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: At least one. And you would have informed him of the
25 beer can?

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: And was it ever collected?

3 A: To my knowledge, I do not know.

4 Q: Okay. Now, the other indicator that you had, is that the
5 toilet seat was up, and living with or staying with a bunch of
6 women, you wouldn't have done that ---.

7 A: Right; yes, sir.

8 Q: --- for what it would bring you. Let me -- let me ask
9 you this, inside the house, did you -- was there anything
10 missing, taken, stolen, anything?

11 A: Not to our knowledge, no, there was nothing messed with.

12 Q: Any signs of disruption, tables knocked over, lamps
13 knocked over?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: Any signs of forced entry or anything of that?

16 A: No, sir.

17 Q: Now, let me -- Your Honor, may I ask him to step down for
18 a second?

19 THE COURT: Certainly.

20 BY MR. BELLAMY:

21 Q: Well, let me first ask him if he can identify this before
22 I ask him. Mr. Mann, can you identify this as the area
23 between K&W, your home, and Ms. Oxendine, where she would've
24 been staying?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: You recognize that?

2 A: I recognize that area, yes.

3 Q: Okay. Could you come down please, step down for just a
4 second?

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir, you can. Just make sure you stand
6 in front of one of the microphones.

7 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, may I reposition myself?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you.

10 BY MR. BELLAMY:

11 Q: Thank you. Can everybody see sufficiently?

12 This is where Ms. -- do you know where Ms. Oxendine
13 lives; she's your niece, correct?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: You know where she was staying?

16 A: That where she was staying at, yes, sir.

17 Q: Okay. What is the approximate distance between these
18 two?

19 A: It took us about 10 minutes, 5 minutes to 10 minutes to
20 get there.

21 Q: From here to here?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Okay. And what kind of roads do you go through, two-
24 lane, dirt road, interstate?

25 A: It's an asphalt road, two-lane roads.

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Two-lane roads?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Is there a town in between the two?

4 A: When you come up here to 17 and go down 17 a little ways
5 and then turn on the left.

6 Q: And what road is that, the two-lane road?

7 A: That's a two-lane road that goes down there to it.

8 Q: A lot of houses on that road?

9 A: It's a -- trailers.

10 Q: So, to come from here to here, that would've been the way
11 they would've went?

12 A: Yeah, they would have come down south on 17.

13 Q: Okay.

14 A: And there's a cut -- shortcut through where you can come
15 through and she kinda knows about that, but you probably can't
16 see it on here.

17 Q: And you can see a little trees and things of that ---

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: And then from here to K&W, this is 17 along here?

20 A: That's what it looks like to me, yes.

21 Q: Get back on 17. What's the closest town in this area?

22 Is that a town ---

23 A: There's Shallotte right there.

24 Q: Where's Shallotte?

25 A: Shallotte would be probably right in here somewhere.

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MICHAEL VANN - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Okay. So, between Shallotte and K&W on 17, there's a lot
2 of places you can go off left/right?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Okay. Out in the farmland and that sort of thing?

5 A: Right.

6 Q: What would be the approximate, if you know, travel time
7 between where your home is and the K&W, and I know traffic can
8 ---

9 A: It could go about 45 minutes, I would say roughly with
10 traffic there between that and an hour.

11 Q: Okay. All right. Thank you, sir.

12 Court's indulgence for just one second?

13 THE COURT: Yes.

14 Q: Just a couple more, Mr. Vann, and I'll be finished.

15 Ms. Oxendine, your niece ---

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Without telling me what -- anything that she may've said,
18 she -- the next day, Saturday, she was at her home, correct?

19 A: Yes, she had -- they had -- she had dropped her off at
20 her home, yes.

21 Q: Okay. And do you know approximately what time that was?

22 A: We got the phone call at 9:11, so, I'm taking it was
23 within that range time.

24 Q: Okay. So, and she was still at home when you went -- you
25 took the police to her?

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1 A: No. No, she came to our place.

2 Q: Okay.

3 A: My brother brought to her to us.

4 Q: So, the police could talk to her ---

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: --- because she had been with her the previous evening
7 into the morning?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: So, she would've been with Amanda at 9:11?

10 A: I would take it, yes.

11 Q: Okay. Again, the Court's indulgence just one second?

12 THE COURT: yes, sir.

13 Q: Thank you, Mr. Vann. I have no further questions.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

15 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 CROSS EXAMINATION OF MICHAEL VANN BY MR. SPRATLIN:

17 Q: Good morning, Mr. Vann.

18 A: Good morning.

19 Q: Sorry we have to meet under such bad circumstances, but
20 I'm Martin Spratlin. I've just got a couple of questions for
21 you. Again, I'm not gonna rehash everything you've already
22 gone over, but I just want to clarify. When Amanda called
23 you early or called someone earlier that morning, your
24 impression was not that she was any distress or danger, right?

25 A: Correct; yes, sir.

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BY THE COURT

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1 Q: And when you came home and saw that someone had been in
2 your house, you weren't surprised by that fact, correct?

3 A: No, sir; I was not.

4 Q: In fact, you expected Amanda to come by the house?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: Was there anything that caused you to be alarmed about
7 that?

8 A: No, sir; there was not.

9 Q: You didn't come home and think someone had broken into
10 your house or anything like that?

11 A: No, sir.

12 Q: Thank you, sir. That's all the questions I have.

13 THE COURT: Redirect?

14 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right, sir. You may step down, sir.

16 Y'all come up and talk to me just one second please.

17 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
18 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

19 BY THE COURT:

20 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, due to the
21 schedule of witnesses and when they were asked to be here,
22 we've kind of exhausted the ones for this morning, so we're
23 gonna stop now for lunch. I'm gonna have you be back at 1:45.
24 Be back in your jury room at 1:45, please.

25 Please remember, don't talk about the case, don't allow

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BY THE COURT

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1 anybody to talk to you about it. I'll see you back at 1:45.

2 Thank you very much.

3 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
4 place outside the presence of the jury.)

5 THE COURT: Anything from the state at this point in
6 time?

7 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: From your client, Mr. Bellamy?

9 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

11 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right, gentlemen, I'll see you back at
13 1:45 then. Thank you.

14 RECESS

15 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

16 (On the Record.)

17 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record.)

18 BY THE COURT:

19 THE COURT: All right. So, with that though is the state
20 ready to proceed?

21 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Ask the jury to come in please, ma'am.

23 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

24 THE COURT: All right, solicitor, your next witness,
25 please?

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1 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor. At this time, the
2 state would next call Mr. Sachin Patel, please.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 All right, sir, come all the way around and meet the
5 clerk's representative right up here, please, sir.

6 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
7 hand on the Bible.

8 SACHIN PATEL, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

9 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

10 MR. PATEL: My name is Sachin Patel; S-A-C-H-I-N, last
11 name Patel, P-A-T-E-L.

12 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF SACHIN PATEL BY MR. OSKIN:

14 Q: Good afternoon, Mr. Patel; how are you, sir?

15 A: Good, how are you?

16 Q: Good. Mr. Patel, what is your occupation?

17 A: A motel manager.

18 Q: Okay. And what motel?

19 A: Lancer Motel in Myrtle Beach.

20 Q: All right. Where is that -- that is located in Myrtle
21 Beach?

22 A: Yes, sir, 606 North Kings Highway.

23 Q: Okay. If you could reiterate that, I'm sorry for the
24 interruption; if you can restate that, I apologize for
25 interrupting you.

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SACHIN PATEL - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: That's at 606 North Kings Highway in Myrtle Beach.

2 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

3 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

4 BY MR. OSKIN:

5 Q: Mr. Patel, I'm showing you what's previously been entered
6 into evidence as State's Exhibit Number 4. Are you able to
7 locate the Lancer ---

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: --- on that map. Is that an accurate depiction of where
10 it is?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: Okay. How long have you been the manager of that hotel?

13 A: About 20 years, sir; 20 years.

14 Q: So, you were the manager in July of 2016 then?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Do you keep records of who checks in and out of your
17 hotel?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: By chance, do you remember a guy named Terrell Freeman
20 checking into your hotel?

21 A: I don't remember him by name, by face I remember him
22 being there.

23 Q: If I were to show the business record, would you be able
24 -- would that clarify your memory a little bit?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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SACHIN PATEL - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor, I've already had
3 a chance to look at it.

4 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

5 BY MR. OSKIN:

6 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
7 Number 16. Is that a business record from your motel?

8 A: Yes, sir, it's one of our folios.

9 Q: Does it state who was checking in?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: All right. Do you take any form of identification or
12 cell phone number, telephone number in addition to ---

13 A: We scan a copy of the driver's license.

14 Q: Okay. And how long were they supposed to be staying?

15 A: They checked in for two nights.

16 Q: All right. Do you recall when they left?

17 A: They left early Sunday morning.

18 Q: Early ---

19 A: I believe so.

20 Q: Is there a checkout time?

21 A: Checkout time is at 11:00.

22 Q: Okay.

23 If I may approach the witness again, Your Honor?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit

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SACHIN PATEL - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Number 17, do you recognize that?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Let me stop you for one second. I know the
4 defense didn't object, are you offering State's 16 into
5 evidence.

6 MR. OSKIN: I will move it into evidence, Yes, Your
7 Honor, but not publish it to the jury at this time.

8 THE COURT: So, is there any objection to that?

9 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

10 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right. It's in evidence.

12 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 16

13 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

14 THE COURT: You may proceed.

15 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, sir.

16 BY MR. OSKIN:

17 Q: What is that a disc of?

18 A: It's a disc of our recordings for our security system.

19 Q: Okay. And it'll show -- it has -- hold that thought; I
20 apologize. And there's been no -- you've been able to view
21 that disc?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: All right. There's been no additions, deletions,
24 anything like that to the disc to your knowledge?

25 A: No, sir.

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SACHIN PATEL - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: All right. And you've, you've witnessed that exact disc,
2 right?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: How did you indicate that?

5 A: I initialed this disc.

6 Q: Okay.

7 Your Honor, the state would seek to move State's Exhibit
8 17 into evidence.

9 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

10 MR. BELLAMY: Was that the DVD?

11 MR. OSKIN: The disc itself.

12 MR. BELLAMY: Oh, no, no objection, Your Honor, I'm
13 sorry.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

15 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right, sir. So, it's into evidence
17 without objection, you may publish.

18 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 17

19 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

20 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Which ones -- if I may approach the witness?

23 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

24 BY MR. OSKIN:

25 Q: Mr. Patel, I'm showing you what's been marked as State's

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SACHIN PATEL - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Exhibit Number 18, 19, and 20. First I'll ask you, do you
2 recognize what the State's Exhibit Number 18 is?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: What is that, sir?

5 A: An aerial photograph of the Lancer Motel.

6 Q: Okay. Does it show the surrounding streets?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: What are those streets?

9 A: Chester Street, 7th Avenue North, and 6th Avenue North,
10 Kings Highway.

11 Q: Okay. And is that -- that's what's referred to as Kings
12 Highway?

13 A: Yes, sir. Highway 17.

14 Q: How about 19, number, Exhibit Number 19?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: What is that a photo of?

17 A: That's a photograph of our front desk and outside the
18 building.

19 Q: Okay. And is that where guests would check in?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: And/or check out of your motel?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Okay. And which -- which street is that facing?

24 A: On Kings Highway, Highway 17 Business.

25 Q: Okay. And State's Exhibit Number 20, are you able to

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1 recognize that, sir?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: What is that?

4 A: A photograph of our Building 3.

5 Q: Okay. Do you know where Building 3 faces with regards to
6 the streets?

7 A: Yes, sir; it faces Chester Street.

8 Q: Okay. Nothing has been added, deleted from or changed in
9 those photos?

10 A: No, sir.

11 Q: They're materially accurate to what they represent?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: Based off that exhibit, do you know which room, the room
14 Mr. Freeman was checked into?

15 A: Yes, sir. He checked into Room 307.

16 Q: Could you hold that up and point it out to the jury
17 please? And that is room what?

18 A: 307.

19 Q: Okay.

20 Your Honor, at this time, the state would seek to move
21 State's Exhibit 18, 19, and 20 into evidence?

22 THE COURT: I understand there's no objection, gentlemen?

23 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir.

24 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor, no objection.

25 THE COURT: All right. So, 18, 19, 20 are into evidence

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1 without objection.

2 STATE'S EXHIBITS NUMBER 18, 19, AND 20

3 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

4 BY MR. OSKIN:

5 Q: Mr. Patel, I'll have you if you would please, sir, mark
6 here for the jury where room 307 is. And I'll have you, I
7 believe it's Exhibit 18, the aerial footage?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Can you mark it there as well, please?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Mr. Patel, I thank you. Please answer any questions for
12 Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Spratlin.

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir, Mr. Bellamy?

14 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court?

15 CROSS EXAMINATION OF SACHIN PATEL BY MR. BELLAMY:

16 Q: Mr. Patel, I've just got a couple. They checked in, do
17 you know what days of the week this would've been checking in,
18 checking out, or have you went back to look?

19 A: I believe they checked in on a Friday and they left out
20 Sunday.

21 Q: Okay. Do you know about what time checking in Friday?

22 A: They checked in around 9:30 or so Friday.

23 Q: And I think you indicated that when people check in, you
24 require some identification to verify that that is the person
25 actually in the room?

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SACHIN PATEL - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: And so, you would match the photograph or ID to the
3 person?

4 A: To the person standing in front of me, yes.

5 Q: So, the person standing in front of you is gonna have to
6 be the same person on the ID?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Okay. And that person is Terrell Freeman, correct?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: All right. Do you recall my client being there?

11 A: I wasn't on desk at that time, no, sir.

12 Q: Okay. And the hotel is equipped with a number of
13 security cameras?

14 A: Yes, sir, 16.

15 Q: Which are readily visible to people?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: They're not hidden? Like in other words, like you walk
18 around the courthouse, we can see them where they are?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: Okay. I don't have anything further.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

22 CROSS EXAMINATION OF SACHIN PATEL BY MR. SPRATLIN:

23 Q: Mr. Patel, can I see State's Exhibit -- Your Honor,
24 permission to approach the witness?

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir, please.

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SACHIN PATEL - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Mr. Patel, it says that two individuals checked in; is
2 that correct?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: All right. So, there were two adults?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: The fact that my client was the one that rented it, there
7 was somebody else staying there?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Thank you. I believe that is all the questions I have.

10 THE COURT: Any redirect?

11 MR. OSKIN: Very briefly, Your Honor.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF SACHIN PATEL BY MR. OSKIN:

13 Q: Mr. Patel, just to clarify for the jury, based off that
14 receipt of where they stayed at your hotel, you know that
15 checkout time was supposed to be on Sunday; is that correct?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: You didn't actually see them depart your hotel or when
18 they left; is that ---

19 A: No, I wasn't -- we saw them as far as video surveillance
20 that they'd left property, but they didn't actually come to
21 the office and checkout with us.

22 Q: Right and is that pretty typical?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: All right. Because you're the manager and you have a lot
25 of activities going on; you don't see necessarily every guest

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SACHIN PATEL - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 leave, but you do know when they check in?

2 A: Right.

3 MR. OSKIN: Nothing further from the state.

4 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

5 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

7 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. Do you wish the witness to be
9 excused?

10 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor. thank you.

11 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
12 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

13 MR. PATEL: Thank you, sir.

14 THE COURT: Next witness, solicitor?

15 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, the state calls Garrett Williams.

16 THE COURT: Solicitor, could you go up and collect those
17 exhibits and give them to the court reporter, please?

18 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, sir. I'm sorry, Your Honor.

19 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
20 hand on the Bible.

21 ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS, HAVING BEEN
22 DULY SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

23 CLERK: State your name for the record.

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Roger, Roger Garrett Williams; R-O-G-E-R,
25 G-A-R-E-T-T, Williams, W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 THE COURT: Go ahead, solicitor.

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS BY MR. DEBUSK:

3 Q: Mr. Williams, do you go by Garrett?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Okay. What's your occupation?

6 A: Hotel manager, family owns it.

7 Q: So, you manage the family hotel; what's that hotel?

8 A: Holiday Sands North in Myrtle Beach.

9 Q: I have here what's been marked as State's Exhibit 4, I
10 don't know if you've had a chance to review this specifically
11 after the incident. Is Holiday Sands North on there?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Is that correctly marked?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: So, it's a beachfront hotel?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: And you and your family own and operate that hotel?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Same in July of 2016?

20 A: Since '84.

21 Q: Okay. How many rooms you got?

22 A: One-seventy-three.

23 Q: Okay. Do you know if you had a guest there on July 9th
24 of 2016 by the name of Amanda Fisher?

25 A: Yes, sir; we did.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: And the staple came out. You don't have a stapler, do
2 you, or a paperclip. All right.

3 I'm gonna hand you what has been marked an exhibit,
4 State's 22, and ask if you recognize these two pages?

5 A: Yes, sir. It's a registration card and we would
6 typically get a copy of an ID and the car information as well.

7 Q: Okay. So, who checked in with that State's 22?

8 A: I'm sorry?

9 Q: Who was the guest that ---

10 A: Amanda Fisher.

11 Q: Okay. And you got a copy of her ID there?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: Did you get her car tag number?

14 A: We did. [REDACTED], North Carolina plate.

15 Q: North Carolina plate. And did she have any guests with
16 her?

17 A: Yes, a Tabetha Oxendine.

18 Q: What room did she -- was she assigned to?

19 A: Room 420.

20 Q: Is that all reflected that document?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: What time did they check in?

23 A: Between 1:00 and about 1:10.

24 Q: In the morning?

25 A: A.M., A.M.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. BELLAMY: No objection from my client, Your Honor.

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection on behalf of Defendant
3 Freeman, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: What number is that, please?

5 MR. DEBUSK: 22, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. State's 22 is into evidence
7 without objection.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 22

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 THE COURT: You may proceed.

11 BY MR. DEBUSK:

12 Q: On State's 22, again, you have a copy of her ID, her
13 license plate number and name of her guest. Is that standard
14 procedure?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Okay. So, that was just a standard check in, nothing
17 unusual?

18 A: Nothing -- no, sir. We do that for everyone.

19 Q: And it was only for one night; is that correct?

20 A: I think that is correct, but -- yes, correct.

21 Q: Okay. Now, we've talked about the Holiday Sands on the
22 map in abstract, but what is in State's 21?

23 A: That is the front of the North Tower Hotel at the Holiday
24 Sands North.

25 Q: From the Lancer.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: From the Lancer, that's correct, looking from the
2 boulevard towards the ocean.

3 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

4 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right, sir. State's 21 is in evidence
6 without objection.

7 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 21

8 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

9 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish State's 21, Your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. DEBUSK:

12 Q: Finally, let me show you what's been marked as State's
13 Exhibit 23 and ask if you recognize this.

14 A: Yes, I have signed on the front and the back stating ---

15 Q: What is it?

16 A: It's a video of the check-in process and some hallway
17 footage of the guests coming in and out of the hotel.

18 Q: Did you review that today?

19 A: Yes, correct.

20 Q: Is it a fair and accurate representation of the output of
21 your cameras in your ---

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Has it been altered in any way other than edited for ---

24 A: No.

25 MR. DEBUSK: State's 23.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. BELLAMY: We've seen this, yes. No objection, Judge.

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. So, State's 23 is in evidence
4 without objection.

5 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 23

6 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

7 THE COURT: You may proceed.

8 BY MR. DEBUSK:

9 Q: Let me ask you a couple of things about the cameras
10 themselves. Do you have a camera that shows the check-in
11 desk?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: Do you have some cameras that show the entrance area?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: And the parking lot next to it?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: Okay. You've got, you've got a small parking lot in
18 front of the hotel?

19 A: Some loading and unloading area and some handicapped
20 spacing, correct?

21 Q: Along Ocean Boulevard, right?

22 A: Correct.

23 Q: And you've got cameras that show that area?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Does it show all of the parking areas in the ---

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Not all of them, not across Ocean Boulevard, no.

2 Q: But it does show where the people come and go out of the

3 ---

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: And do you have cameras on the guest floors?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: Okay. One of those -- do you know which room that Ms.

8 Fisher and her guest were in?

9 A: Room 420, correct.

10 Q: Was there a camera that showed the entrance to Room 420?

11 A: Yes, one on -- yes.

12 MR. DEBUSK: Court's indulgence for one moment, Your
13 Honor?

14 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

15 BY MR. DEBUSK:

16 Q: I'm showing you State's 24 and ask you what that shows?

17 A: It shows one our Type G Units, which would be -- Room 420
18 would be one of those.

19 Q: Would be of that floor plan?

20 A: Yes, correct.

21 Q: Type G you call it?

22 A: Yes, correct.

23 Q: And does Type G have a balcony?

24 A: Yes, it does.

25 Q: And that balcony would face the ---

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 A: Ocean Boulevard.

2 Q: Ocean Boulevard?

3 A: Correct.

4 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, from Defendant Freeman, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right, sir. It's into evidence without
7 objection.

8 MR. DEBUSK: It's State's 22, 23 and 24, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All four of them are in evidence.

10 MR. DEBUSK: As well as 21?

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 24

13 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

14 BY MR. DEBUSK:

15 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions the defense may
16 have.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

18 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

19 CROSS EXAMINATION OF ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS BY MR. BELLAMY:

20 Q: It's Mr. Williams, correct?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: And I just a few. Did you actually check Ms. Oxendine
23 and Ms. Fisher in?

24 A: Personally?

25 Q: Yes.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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- 1 A: No.
- 2 Q: Okay. Was there a video, have you observed or reviewed
3 the video of the check in?
- 4 A: Yes, sir.
- 5 Q: And was it just the two of them at check in?
- 6 A: At check in, yes.
- 7 Q: Okay. So, there are no males, my client or anybody else
8 at the check in?
- 9 A: No, sir.
- 10 Q: Okay. Did during the course of the night -- y'all have a
11 policy if there's a call for some problem in a room, noise,
12 anything, y'all would make notation of that, would you not?
- 13 A: We would've; we have security that would do that.
- 14 Q: And there's security on premises, correct, all night I
15 assume?
- 16 A: Not -- well, from 8:00 until 5:00 in the morning.
- 17 Q: Okay. Was there any calls for service, any problems that
18 you had documented?
- 19 A: I can't answer that; I don't know.
- 20 Q: Have you looked?
- 21 A: Not to my knowledge.
- 22 Q: Okay. That's what I mean. And the security cameras that
23 you have located on each floor and around the hotel, they're
24 visible to people coming and going, right?
- 25 A: They're -- if they're paying attention, I'm sure.

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ROGER GARETT WILLIAMS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: I gotcha. The video, or the disc that we have
2 identified, have you looked at it ---

3 A: I have.

4 Q: --- and viewed it prior to coming here today, at some
5 point?

6 A: Probably in 2016, I'm assuming.

7 Q: Okay. Did you observe Ms. Oxendine and Ms. Fisher
8 leaving there at some point on those videos?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Did you notice anything unusual in terms of being drug
11 out of there, forced, or anything of that nature?

12 A: No, sir.

13 Q: Did you observe any males in that video?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Did you notice anything unusual going on with that?

16 A: No, sir.

17 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

18 BY MR. BELLAMY:

19 Q: Thank you, Mr. Williams.

20 MR. SPRATLIN: I have no questions for this witness,
21 Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: You wish any redirect?

23 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right, sir. You wish the witness be
25 excused?

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor, we would ask that he be
2 excused..

3 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
4 subpoenas and you may go back to your regular activities.

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay.. Thank you.

6 THE COURT: Next witness?

7 MR. DEBUSK: Tonya Huneycutt, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, come all the way around up
9 front to meet the clerk's representative.

10 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
11 hand on the Bible.

12 TONYA HUNEYCUTT, HAVING BEEN DULY
13 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

14 MS. HUNEYCUTT: Tonya Huneycutt, T-O-N-Y-A, H-U-N-E-Y-C-
15 U-T-T.

16 THE COURT: All right, ma'am. If you can, scoot as close
17 as you can to the microphone and you need to speak up.

18 Go ahead, solicitor.

19 THE COURT: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF TONYA HUNEYCUTT BY MR. DEBUSK:

21 Q: Ms. Huneycutt, what's your occupation, what do you do?

22 A: We -- my family, we have convenience stores.

23 Q: Okay. Is one of them in Marshville, North Carolina?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: What -- what brand, I guess is that?

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1 A: Sunoco.

2 Q: Okay. Let me show you what's been marked as State's
3 Exhibit 25 and ask you if you recognize that?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: What is it?

6 A: It is one of our stores.

7 Q: Okay. Is that the one in Marshville?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Okay. How would you describe that store? Is it a big
10 gas station, small gas station?

11 A: It's a small in a rural area.

12 Q: Okay. As part of your duties, are you responsible for
13 maintaining records and whatnot of that store?

14 A: Yes.

15 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

16 MR. SPRATLIN: None from Defendant Freeman, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 MR. DEBUSK: State's 25, Your Honor, I offer into
19 evidence.

20 THE COURT: All right. So, it's into evidence without
21 objection.

22 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 25

23 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

24 THE COURT: You may proceed.

25 COURT REPORTER: What number was it, please? What

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1 number?

2 MR. DEBUSK: 25.

3 BY MR. DEBUSK:

4 Q: There's a highway with trucks in front of the store; what
5 is that highway?

6 A: 218.

7 Q: Is that a big highway or a busy highway?

8 A: No. It's just a -- no.

9 Q: A two-lane rural highway?

10 A: Two-lane rural, yes.

11 Q: Lots of truck traffic?

12 A: Yes, it's a common cut through from 485 to 74.

13 Q: Pretty good store location?

14 A: Yes.

15 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may I publish 25 to the jury?

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 BY MR. DEBUSK:

18 Q: I'm also gonna show you what's been marked as State's
19 Exhibit 5 and there's a spot on there at the Sunoco,
20 Marshville, North Carolina:

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Is that where your store is?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Okay. It's sort of a rural area between Charlotte and
25 the coast?

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Now, again, you're sort of custodian for the records at
3 that store, the videos and the -- the register receipts and
4 things?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: I'm gonna show you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
7 27, it's labeled the Marshville store video; do you recognize
8 that?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Did you review that today?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: What's on that disc?

13 A: It's just behind the register. It shows the clerk and
14 who's coming in and out.

15 Q: That particular disc, is it part of the, the recordings
16 directly from the video system?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: How many video channels do you have?

19 A: Four.

20 Q: How many will record on that disc?

21 A: One.

22 Q: Okay. But that does show the interior of your store?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Fair and accurate representation?

25 A: Yes.

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: An accurate copy of the video?

2 A: Yes.

3 MR. DEBUSK: That's State's 27.

4 MR. BELLAMY: No objection.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. So, it's into evidence without
7 objection, you may publish if you choose.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 27

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 BY MR. DEBUSK:

11 Q: So, State's 27 was the actual store video. At any point,
12 did you make some videos from the store video?

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: How did you do that?

15 A: Recorded off a cell phone.

16 Q: So, you have a monitor with the store video on it?

17 A: Yes, and it shows four different cameras.

18 Q: And you held your phone up there and videoed it?

19 A: Yes; uh-huh, (affirmative response).

20 Q: Why did you do it that way?

21 A: I got a phone call from a detective asking me to do that.

22 Q: Okay. And at that time, were you able to download it
23 yourself and ---

24 A: I was not.

25 Q: So, you did the next best ---

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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- 1 A: Yes.
- 2 Q: --- next best thing?
- 3 A: Yes.
- 4 Q: Okay. State's Exhibit 26 labeled modular phone, do you
- 5 recognize that?
- 6 A: Yes.
- 7 Q: And did you review that video?
- 8 A: I sure did.
- 9 Q: What is it?
- 10 A: It picks up one of the other cameras showing the outside
- 11 of the store at the gas pumps and it also has the same that's
- 12 on the other.
- 13 Q: The same individuals that's on that ---
- 14 A: Yes.
- 15 Q: From the same time period?
- 16 A: Yes.
- 17 Q: And you recorded that from that specific time period at
- 18 the detective's request?
- 19 A: Yes.
- 20 Q: And then you brought it to law enforcement? You gave it
- 21 to the detective?
- 22 A: Yes.
- 23 Q: Okay. A thorough and accurate copy of what you took off
- 24 your cell phone?
- 25 A: Yes.

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1 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: So, State's 26 is into evidence without
4 objection, you may publish if you choose.

5 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 26

6 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: Okay. Now, those videos that you took from the store
9 video system ---

10 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response).

11 Q: Did they have a time mark on them?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Was that time mark accurate?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: Was that a fairly new system?

16 A: It was and it had not been installed long. So, the time
17 should've been correct on it.

18 Q: So, it had just been set basically?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: The clock had just been set?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: How about your cash registers, was it have -- give an
23 accurate time?

24 A: No, it wasn't, it was off somewhat.

25 Q: Did you, let me show you what's been marked as State's

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- 1 Exhibit 28 and ask you if you recognize that.
- 2 A: Yes.
- 3 Q: What is it?
- 4 A: That is a receipt from our store?
- 5 Q: Okay. Does it correspond with the time shown on these
- 6 videos?
- 7 A: No, it is off.
- 8 Q: Not the time of the video?
- 9 A: Oh, yeah, yes, right.
- 10 Q: So, the transaction shown on the video ---
- 11 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response), is what is on the video,
- 12 yes.
- 13 Q: Okay. Who was the holder of the card used in that
- 14 transaction?
- 15 A: Fisher.
- 16 Q: You can look at the ---
- 17 A: Amanda Fisher.
- 18 Q: Okay. What was bought?
- 19 A: Gas and cigarettes.
- 20 Q: Okay. How much cigarettes; I mean what value?
- 21 A: 49.40.
- 22 Q: How much cigarettes do you get for 50 bucks?
- 23 A: It -- a carton.
- 24 Q: So, it would be like a carton of cigarettes and some gas?
- 25 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response), yes.

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1 Q: And again, that corresponds to the transaction shown on
2 your cell phone video?

3 A: Yes.

4 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor, I've already had
6 a chance to look at it.

7 THE COURT: All right. So, State's 28 is in evidence
8 without objection.

9 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 28

10 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

11 BY MR. DEBUSK:

12 Q: So, the same individual seen walking around on the store
13 video was the one on you cell phone video and corresponds to
14 that?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: Is the car that individual arrived in also visible on
17 your ---

18 A: Yes, on the cell phone.

19 Q: Right.

20 A: This one.

21 Q: And the transaction of the register can be seen on the
22 ---

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Okay. Thank you. Please answer any questions the
25 defense has.

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1 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

2 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, Your Honor. May it please the Court?

3 CROSS EXAMINATION OF TONYA HUNEYCUTT BY MR. BELLAMY:

4 Q: Ms. Huneycutt, you were not -- were you present in the
5 store during that timeframe?

6 A: No, I was not.

7 Q: So, you didn't physically see any of this, but you have
8 reviewed the videos?

9 A: Correct.

10 Q: And I assume spoken to the clerk who was there?

11 A: Yes, I did speak to her.

12 Q: Okay. In the videotape, is there any indication or -- of
13 my client having -- what was he wearing, let me ask you that
14 by way of a shirt?

15 A: I don't remember what he was wearing in the ---

16 Q: Well, you wouldn't disagree if I said he had a white T-
17 shirt on, would you?

18 A: I can't say for certain to be honest.

19 Q: The video will show it?

20 A: Yes, the video will show.

21 Q: And do you have any indication either from your clerk or
22 your review, which you said you did of this videotape, did you
23 say you did it today?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Okay. So, you looked at it today. Was there any blood

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 at all on my client or his shirt?

2 A: I did not notice any.

3 Q: Okay. And you've spoken to the clerk as well?

4 A: Well, I've spoken to the clerk but, I mean, I didn't ask
5 her that question.

6 Q: Okay.

7 Court's indulgence?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Thank you, Ms. Huneycutt, I don't have anything else.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

11 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor, real brief.

12 CROSS EXAMINATION OF TONYA HUNEYCUTT BY MR. SPRATLIN:

13 Q: Good afternoon, Ms. Huneycutt.

14 A: Hey.

15 Q: I just have a couple of quick questions for you. Only
16 one person was seen on that video using the card, correct?

17 A: Correct.

18 Q: And that was Nicholas McIver, correct?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: Okay.

21 MR. BELLAMY: Excuse me, Your Honor, what was her answer?

22 THE COURT: You need to answer yes or no, ma'am.

23 A: Okay. Can you ask the question again please?

24 Q: The only person you saw using that credit card is that
25 man seated right there next to Mr. Bellamy, correct?

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: You never saw my client on your store cameras that day,
3 Mr. Terrell Freeman seated all the way over here?

4 A: No, sir.

5 Q: Never saw him in your store at all?

6 A: No.

7 Q: You never say him using Amanda Fisher's credit card?

8 A: No.

9 Q: Thank you. No further questions.

10 THE COURT: Any redirect?

11 MR. DEBUSK: One brief follow-up.

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF TONYA HUNEYCUTT BY MR. DEBUSK:

13 Q: Ms. Huneycutt, were you the clerk on duty that day?

14 A: No, I was not.

15 Q: Who was?

16 A: Annette Burleson.

17 Q: Why isn't Ms. Burleson here today?

18 A: She just had triple by-pass surgery.

19 Q: So, she's indisposed?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: So, you're sort of stuck in this spot of authenticating
22 the records without having the original person here?

23 A: Right.

24 Q: But you were the one that helped them get the copy of the
25 video?

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TONYA HUNEYCUTT - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Correct.

2 Q: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

6 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Do you wish the witness to be excused?

8 MR. DEBUSK: Please, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, you're released from your
10 subpoena, you may go back to your regular activities.

11 Next witness, Solicitor?

12 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor. The state would next
13 call Mr. Bob Crouch, please.

14 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Crouch, come all the way
15 around up here next to where the clerk's representative is,
16 please.

17 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
18 hand on the Bible.

19 BOB CROUCH, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

20 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

21 MR. CROUCH: My name, Bob Crouch, C-R-O-U-C-H.

22 THE COURT: Hold on one second.

23 Go ahead, Solicitor

24 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF BOB CROUCH BY MR. OSKIN:

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BOB CROUCH - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Mr. Crouch, what's your occupation, sir?

2 A: I manage a convenience store.

3 Q: Okay. Who's your employer?

4 A: Sprint Foods.

5 Q: All right. Is that the same employer you had in July of
6 2016?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: How long have you been with that store?

9 A: Two-and-a-half years.

10 Q: Okay. Where is that store located at?

11 A: On Highway 38 in Bennettsville.

12 Q: Okay. What county is Bennettsville in?

13 A: Marlboro County.

14 Q: How far is that from here?

15 A: About 70 or 80 miles.

16 MR. OSKIN: Your Honor, if I may approach the witness,
17 sir?

18 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

19 BY MR. OSKIN:

20 Q: Mr. Crouch, I'm showing you what's been entered into
21 evidence as State's Exhibit Number 5. Do you -- do you see
22 this is a map of ---

23 A: Yeah.

24 Q: Are you able to locate your store on this map?

25 A: Right there.

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BOB CROUCH - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Where is right there; tell me where about?

2 A: Right there.

3 Q: At 701 Broad Street in Bennettsville?

4 A: Yeah.

5 Q: Thank you, sir. What is the Bennettsville -- what is
6 your -- what is your store like?

7 A: It's Shell station, just a convenience store.

8 Q: All right. Do you sell gas and stuff like that?

9 A: Gas, fountain.

10 Q: Okay. In your employment duties there, are you
11 responsible for video and transaction records made at that
12 store?

13 A: Partially. I do -- I can make copies of the videos and
14 ---

15 Q: So, you're custodian of those records?

16 A: Yeah.

17 Q: How long have you had those duties?

18 A: The whole time I've worked for them.

19 Q: All right. And does your store have video surveillance,
20 sir?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: And do you know how long that surveillance system had
23 been installed as of July 2016?

24 A: A long time. It was with the company that was before
25 Sprint.

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BOB CROUCH - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Okay. Was the timeframe -- the timeclock on that video
2 system, would that be accurate?

3 A: Yeah.

4 MS. OSKIN: May I approach the witness, Your Honor -- I
5 apologize. Madam Court Reporter, would you pre-mark this.

6 Court's indulgence, Your Honor?

7 MR. OSKIN: I'm showing defense counsel what's been
8 marked as State's Exhibit 29, 30, 31, and 32, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

11 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

12 BY MR. OSKIN:

13 Q: Mr. Crouch, I'm showing you what's been marked as State's
14 Exhibit Number 29. Do you recognize what that is?

15 A: It's a disc that we burned of the video.

16 Q: Did you view that video?

17 A: Yes, I did.

18 Q: Okay. And did you initial it ---

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: --- signifying that you watched it? Is it an accurate
21 representation of your store in Bennettsville?

22 A: Yes, it is.

23 Q: No material additions, deletions, subtractions?

24 A: No.

25 Q: Okay.

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1 MR. OSKIN: Your Honor, at this time the state would seek
2 to move State's Exhibit Number 29 into evidence and not
3 publish it at this time.

4 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

5 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

7 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: All right. It's in evidence without
9 objection, you may publish when you choose.

10 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 29

11 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

12 BY MR. OSKIN:

13 Q: Mr. Crouch, I'm showing you what's been marked as State's
14 Exhibit Number 30; do you recognize that?

15 A: It's an aerial photo of the store.

16 Q: An aerial photo of the store, okay, and that's your store
17 located in Bennettsville, correct?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: What type of register system do you have?

20 A: It's an NCR.

21 Q: Okay.

22 A: Touchscreen.

23 Q: Okay. And does your system, does it keep accurate
24 records of, of your transactions that take place?

25 A: I can go back in the office and bring up any transaction

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BOB CROUCH - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 on the computer.

2 Q: Is there like a transaction log or journal, perhaps?

3 A: Yes. Yes, there is.

4 Q: All right.

5 If I may approach one more time, Your Honor?

6 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

7 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
8 Number 31 and Number 32, do you recognize those, first
9 starting with Number 31?

10 A: Yes, I do.

11 Q: All right. What is that?

12 A: That's a receipt I printed off the computer in the
13 office.

14 Q: Okay.

15 A: He bought a book of matches it looks like.

16 Q: Okay. And does it show that that was purchased by credit
17 card?

18 A: Yes, it does; I believe so.

19 Q: And whose credit card was that issued to, sir?

20 A: Jerry Fisher.

21 Q: All right. What's the time and date of that transaction,
22 sir?

23 A: 7/9/2016 at 1:47 P.M.

24 Q: Okay. So, that would be July 9th, 2016?

25 A: Yes.

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BOB CROUCH - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: All right. If you'll look at State's Number 31, please.

2 A: 32?

3 Q: 32, I apologize; thank you. What is that?

4 A: That's another receipt printed off the computer.

5 Q: Same system, same store?

6 A: Yep.

7 Q: All right. What is the -- what was purchased there?

8 A: \$7.00 worth of gas and a pack of cigarettes.

9 Q: Okay. And does that show what cardholder -- whose card
10 was issued to that purchased those items?

11 A: Amanda Fisher.

12 Q: Okay. Nothing's been changed or added ---

13 A: No.

14 Q: --- or deleted from that transaction journal?

15 A: Nope.

16 Q: It's an accurate reflection of it?

17 A: Yes, it is.

18 MS. OSKIN: Your Honor, at this time, the state would
19 seek to move State's Exhibit 30, 31, and 32 into evidence?

20 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

21 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

23 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection.

24 THE COURT: All right. So, 30, 31, and 32 are in
25 evidence without objection.

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BOB CROUCH - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 STATE'S EXHIBITS NUMBERS 30, 31, AND 32

2 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

3 THE COURT: You may proceed.

4 BY MR. OSKIN:

5 Q: Mr. Crouch, nothing further from the state at this time.

6 Please answer any questions from Mr. Bellamy or Mr. Spratlin.

7 THE COURT: Cross examination, Mr. Bellamy?

8 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, may it please the Court?

9 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

10 CROSS EXAMINATION OF BOB CROUCH BY MR. BELLAMY:

11 Q: Mr. Crouch, you are not the clerk on duty?

12 A: No, I wasn't.

13 Q: Okay. So, you didn't personally observe who came into
14 the store?

15 A: I did on the camera.

16 Q: On the camera, okay. So, when did you review that?

17 A: After they came up and asked to take a look through the
18 camera system, and we went through and found it.

19 Q: Okay. And then you burned them a DVD?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: When is the last time -- did you review it in preparation
22 for today?

23 A: Right before.

24 Q: So, today?

25 A: Yeah.

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BOB CROUCH - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Okay. And in reviewing that videotape, did the person
2 who used this credit card, did you observe that person on
3 video?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Okay. Do you know what that person was wearing?

6 A: He had on a white T-shirt and I want to say khaki shorts.

7 Q: Okay.

8 A: Baggy ones.

9 Q: Did you observe any blood on that T-shirt?

10 A: I couldn't see it on the video.

11 Q: Have you spoke to the clerk in this matter?

12 A: No.

13 Q: But the clerk would be the better person to answer that
14 than ---

15 A: Yeah.

16 Q: But the video speaks for itself?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: Okay. Let me show you, this is State's Exhibit 5, which
19 is a map that I believe you looked at it and told us where
20 your store was, right?

21 A: Right there, yeah.

22 Q: Are you familiar with the route from your store to the
23 Sunoco in Marshville?

24 A: No, I'm not.

25 Q: Okay.

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BOB CROUCH - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Court's indulgence?

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Thank you, Mr. Crouch. Answer any questions Mr. Spratlin
4 or the solicitor may have for you.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

6 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 CROSS EXAMINATION OF BOB CROUCH BY MR. SPRATLIN:

8 Q: Good afternoon, Mr. Crouch. I only have a couple of
9 questions for you. You said that you had a chance to observe
10 the transactions on videotape that were presented here today,
11 correct?

12 A: Yeah.

13 Q: Does it appear that the transactions were made by the
14 same person?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: And both of those transactions or at least one of those
17 transactions -- were they both captured on video or just one?

18 A: They both were.

19 Q: They both were. So, the person using the credit card for
20 Jerry Fisher and Amanda Fisher on that credit card would've
21 been the person who used the card at your store, correct?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: So, whoever is on the video would be the person that used
24 that card?

25 A: Yes.

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BY THE COURT

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1 Q: So, the video will answer all those questions?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: Thank you.

4 THE COURT: Any redirect?

5 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor. We would
6 ask that Mr. Crouch be released from his subpoena.

7 THE COURT: Any objection?

8 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

9 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
11 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties. Thank you.

12 All right.

13 MR. DEBUSK: May we approach, Your Honor?

14 THE COURT: Please.

15 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
16 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

17 BY THE COURT:

18 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we're gonna
19 take a break at this point in time and I'll call you back out
20 as quickly as I can. Thank you.

21 THE COURT: Just leave those right there and we'll get
22 them. Thank you, sir. I appreciate it very much.

23 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom.)

24 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, as I understand it,
25 the next witness that you had planned to use was Mr. Lynch,

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BY THE COURT

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1 but that had to do with the phone records; is that correct?

2 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor, there was some phone
3 records that we didn't realize were in custody. We've turned
4 them over. We were not gonna use them, but the defense wanted
5 time to review them for possible exculpatory evidence.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 MR. DEBUSK: So, we agreed to call Mr. Lynch, Will Lynch,
8 tomorrow, which would leave us without a witness until Dr.
9 Proctor gets here at 4 o'clock.

10 THE COURT: All right. So, that's your request to delay
11 that, Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Sprätlin?

12 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, I would like an opportunity to
13 review my client's phone records, yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: All right. Very good. All right.

15 All right. So, and the last communication you had with
16 Dr. Proctor was that he'd be here at 4 o'clock?

17 MR. DEBUSK: Correct, Your Honor. That was about
18 lunchtime.

19 THE COURT: All right. If you would endeavor in the
20 meantime while we're on break to maybe communicate with him
21 and see if you can't speed that up a little bit and just, you
22 know, as soon as -- tell him, we'll put him on the stand just
23 as soon as he gets here.

24 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right. It's always important to Dr.

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BY THE COURT

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1 Proctor.

2 All right. We'll be at ease until then.

3 Thank you very much.

4 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 RECESS

6 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

7 (On the Record.)

8 BY THE COURT:

9 THE COURT: State ready?

10 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, sir, Your Honor. Defense counsel is in
11 the room out there.

12 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Defense counsel enters courtroom.)

13 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy, you ready for the
14 jury?

15 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

17 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Ask the jury to come in, please.

19 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

20 THE COURT: All right, Solicitor, your next witness,
21 please.

22 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor. The state calls Dr.
23 Edward Proctor.

24 THE COURT: All right, sir. Please come around and be
25 sworn, sir.

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
2 hand on the Bible.

3 EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. HAVING BEEN
4 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

5 DR. PROCTOR: My name is Edward Leroy Proctor, P-R-O-C-T-
6 O-R, Jr.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DR. EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. BY MR.
8 DEBUSK:

9 Q: Dr. Proctor, what's your occupation?

10 A: I am a physician engaged in the practice of pathology.

11 Q: In which states are you licensed?

12 A: North Carolina and South Carolina.

13 Q: And how long have you been licensed?

14 A: Since approximately 1982.

15 Q: And where are you currently engaged in your practice?

16 A: My office is currently at Grand Strand Medical Center in
17 Myrtle Beach.

18 Q: Okay. Where did you receive your medical training?

19 A: I received my medical training at the Medical University
20 of South Carolina. I did my residency at Walter Reed Army
21 Medical Center in the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, and
22 since then I have been practicing pathology while in the
23 military at Fort Bragg and here in Myrtle Beach since 1986.

24 Q: Could you tell the jury what pathology is?

25 A: Pathology is the pathologic basis of disease and, as a

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1 general pathologist, we look at specimens taken at the time of
2 surgery and render a diagnosis. We also run the lab, doing
3 blood bank, microbiology, and those kind of things, and I am
4 also sub-specialized in forensic pathology, which is the
5 medical legal investigation of death whereby we examine at the
6 request of the medical authorities and police authorities and
7 determine a cause and manner of death.

8 Q: Does that include forensic autopsy?

9 A: That is correct.

10 Q: And how many autopsies have you performed?

11 A: Several thousand.

12 Q: Are you a member of any specialized medical scientific
13 groups or associations?

14 A: I am board certified in anatomic clinical and forensic
15 pathology by the American Board of Pathology.

16 Q: Okay. What are the special requirements for that sort of
17 position?

18 A: Special requirements is you have to sit for a
19 certification exam and undergo training in those areas.

20 Q: Do you have continuing training as well?

21 A: That's correct.

22 Q: Okay. Now, here's a question for you, have you ever been
23 qualified as an expert in pathology in a court of law before?

24 A: I have.

25 Q: About how many times?

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Several hundred, I would think.

2 Q: Okay.

3 Your Honor, the state would proffer Dr. Proctor as an
4 expert in forensic pathology?

5 THE COURT: Any requests by your client, Mr. Bellamy, to
6 voir dire the witness or challenge his qualifications?

7 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor. I'm very familiar
8 with Dr. Proctor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

10 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor, none at all.

11 THE COURT: All right. Very good. I'm gonna qualify the
12 witness to render his opinion in the field of forensic
13 pathology. You may proceed.

14 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 BY MR. DEBUSK:

16 Q: Dr. Proctor, did you have occasion to perform an autopsy
17 on one Amanda Fisher?

18 A: Yes, sir, I did.

19 Q: Where and when was that done?

20 A: The autopsy was performed on July the 10th, 2016 and it
21 was performed in the morgue at Grand Strand Medical Center in
22 Myrtle Beach.

23 Q: What was the condition of Ms. Fisher's body when you
24 received it?

25 A: Other than a significant wound to the body, it was in

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 good condition.

2 Q: Okay. What was that significant wound?

3 A: This woman suffered a gunshot wound to the head with an
4 entrance in the right head above the ear and there was an exit
5 wound in the left side of the head anterior and slightly --
6 above the ear and slightly anterior.

7 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 33 AND 34

8 MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

9 Q: I want to show you what's been marked for ID as State's
10 Exhibit 33 and 34; these are not in evidence, nor will they go
11 into in evidence. Would you examine these pictures and what
12 are they?

13 A: These are pictures of the deceased demonstrating the
14 gunshot wound and the trajectory.

15 Q: Okay. Now, other than these photos and their nature, did
16 we prepare, just before you testified, a visual aide to
17 demonstrate that?

18 A: Yes, sir; we did.

19 Q: Okay. Using this head, what did you do to demonstrate
20 that?

21 A: I marked on the right side, the sight of entrance, which
22 would've been on the ---

23 MR. DEBUSK: For the record, this would be State's
24 Exhibit 35.

25 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

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1 A: There was entrance on the right side above the area of
2 the ear. This was a contact wound, which actually you could
3 see the muzzle imprint of the gun with a circular entrance in
4 the middle, no residue, which means this was against the skin
5 and it all was pushed into the wound. The projectile path was
6 right to left, very slightly anterior coming out of the
7 anterior lateral skull in this area.

8 BY MR. DEBUSK:

9 Q: So, that demonstrates on that Styrofoam head,
10 approximately the course the bullet took through Amanda
11 Fisher's head?

12 A: That's correct.

13 Q: And when you say a contact wound, that means the muzzle
14 of the gun was right up against the head?

15 A: The muzzle was hard contact against the head; that's
16 correct.

17 Q: If had not been up against the head, you would have seen
18 a different residue pattern?

19 A: That's correct.

20 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, the state would move State's 35
21 into evidence.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

24 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right, sir. So, State's 35 is in

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1 evidence without objection.

2 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 35

3 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

4 THE COURT: You may proceed.

5 BY MR. DEBUSK:

6 Q: Now, I think I've asked this, but if the gun was farther
7 away than in contact we would have seen a different pattern?

8 A: A direct contact wound, all of the burning power and
9 smoke and whatnot coming out of the end of the gun with that
10 hard contact or direct contact to the head, it's pushed into
11 the wound site with there being the gun away from the head,
12 all of that would have hit the skin around the wound site.

13 Q: And you would have seen a burn pattern there?

14 A: You would've seen what we call residue and stippling.
15 Residue being the smoky powder and the stippling actually the
16 burning powder where it burns the skin.

17 Q: Other than the entrance wound and the exit wound you
18 already told us about, were there any other injuries to the
19 victim?

20 A: No, sir; there were not.

21 Q: What was the relative size of the entrance and exit
22 wounds?

23 A: Well, the, the actual entrance, I think, was about an a
24 half a centimeter across in the middle of the muzzle imprint.

25 Q: Okay. And how about the exit wound?

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Exit wound about the same size.

2 Q: Okay. So, some projectile actually did exit the head?

3 A: It did.

4 Q: In your experience as a forensic pathologist, when a
5 projectile exits the head, does it cause blood or other
6 ejection to come out?

7 A: It can; yes, sir.

8 Q: Now, this might ask you for a little bit of speculation,
9 but was this necessarily a fatal wound?

10 A: It was a fatal wound; yes, sir.

11 Q: No way to live through that?

12 A: That caused significant traumatic injury to the brain.

13 Q: When you do an autopsy, do you scan the body for drugs
14 and other intoxicants?

15 A: Yes, sir; we do.

16 Q: Did you do that with Ms. Fisher?

17 A: Yes, sir; we did.

18 Q: What, what did you find in the toxicology screen?

19 A: All right. On all forensic cases, we do a toxicology
20 screening for blood alcohol and common drugs of abuse. And in
21 this case, there was a blood ethanol of 68 milligrams per
22 decimeter, which if you convert that to say the breathalyzer
23 reading is a .068.

24 Q: And the legal limit for drivers is a .08; is that
25 correct?

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Okay.

3 A: The blood drug screen was positive for Alprazolam, which
4 is a Valium type drug, and benzoylecgonine, which is a cocaine
5 metabolite.

6 Q: Not the cocaine ---

7 A: No, it's the immediate metabolite of cocaine.

8 Q: But that suggested cocaine used sometime in the recent
9 past?

10 A: That's correct.

11 Q: And the Alprazolam, was that in therapeutic levels or
12 below therapeutic levels?

13 A: All I have is the screening, it was just detected.

14 Q: Now, did those -- the alcohol or the Alprazolam with
15 cocaine in any way contribute to her death?

16 A: No, sir.

17 Q: Okay. Now, based on your autopsy within the bounds of
18 reasonable medical certainty, have you formed an opinion as to
19 discern the cause of death?

20 A: This woman died as a result of traumatic injury from the
21 gunshot wound to the head.

22 Q: The contact wound to the head?

23 A: That's correct, contact wound.

24 Q: Right against her head?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions defense has.

2 THE COURT: Cross examination, Mr. Bellamy?

3 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

4 CROSS EXAMINATION OF EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. BY MR. BELLAMY:

5 Q: Dr. Proctor, while I understand that the toxicology
6 report would not have killed her, do you -- and you may not be
7 able to do this, but there are numbers, you gave a number on
8 the alcohol, correct, of 68?

9 A: That's correct.

10 Q: And I believe the report on Alprazolam -- and you say
11 that's -- is that Valium or Xanax?

12 A: It's ---

13 Q: Or is it the same thing, I don't know?

14 A: I'd have to look to be sure; they're similar, I think.

15 Q: Okay. It has a result here of a 15, do you have any --
16 can you quantify that as to will that make you high or I don't
17 know what it does; you don't know?

18 A: I don't know.

19 Q: And again, with the cocaine or Benzo -- I can't pronounce
20 it -- 83. Can you give us any idea of what that would mean
21 for anybody?

22 A: It's an immediate metabolite of cocaine. I know that
23 I've seen that level before, but I don't know the significance
24 of it.

25 Q: Okay. Other than, I believe you testified for the

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 solicitor that it would've been recent -- cocaine leaves the
2 system very quickly?

3 A: Very quickly; that's correct.

4 Q: Okay. I believe the half-life is anywhere from 30
5 minutes to an hour-and-a-half?

6 A: I would -- I'd have to look, but I think you're right.

7 Q: Okay. And half-life means half of it's gonna be gone in
8 30 minutes?

9 A: It degrades 50/50/50/50.

10 Q: Gotcha. Now, the wound here, clearly would've been
11 fatal, no chance of survival?

12 A: That's correct.

13 Q: And death would have been instantaneous, correct?

14 A: Death would've been very -- death would've ensued very
15 rapidly here, that's correct.

16 Q: And you indicated the contact wound. Is there any way
17 you can tell us if that contact wound was instantaneous with
18 the shooting or if the contact with the gun to the head
19 would've been for a minute, 30 seconds, or it could've been
20 for just an instant, correct?

21 A: It could've been just for an instant, yes, sir.

22 Q: And you were able to establish the entrance and exit at
23 this angle?

24 A: That's correct.

25 Q: Now, did you do any analysis to determine where the

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 shooter may've been?

2 A: I was not at the scene. This was based -- that
3 trajectory is based on the entrance site itself and exit with
4 me putting in a trajectory rod to determine the angle.

5 Q: So, there's been no determination by you as a pathologist
6 as to where the shot may have come from in relation to some --
7 whoever did the shooting?

8 A: No, sir.

9 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

10 BY MR. BELLAMY:

11 Q: Thank you, Dr. Proctor.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

13 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 CROSS EXAMINATION OF EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. BY MR.

15 SPRATLIN:

16 Q: Good afternoon, Dr. Proctor.

17 A: How you doing?

18 Q: I'm fine. I hope you are, too.

19 Now, Mr. Bellamy just asked -- I was having a little
20 trouble hearing. He said that there was a contact wound with
21 the gun pressed up against the head, correct?

22 A: That's correct.

23 Q: But there's no way to tell how long that gun was pressed
24 up against the head?

25 A: Right.

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1 Q: It could've been instantaneous?

2 A: Put the gun against the head and pull the trigger; uh-
3 huh, (affirmative response).

4 Q: Okay. And you said that the injury or the shot was
5 fatal?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: So, Ms. Fisher's death was guaranteed the instant that
8 bullet went through her head?

9 A: Her death was a result of that bullet passing through her
10 head.

11 Q: Okay. So, the fact that she wound up on concrete or was
12 pushed out of her car, shoved out of the car, wouldn't have
13 played any part in her death?

14 A: There were no injuries consistent with trauma from being
15 pushed out of a car.

16 Q: Okay. And there were no other injuries present on her
17 body consistent with being beaten or assaulted in anyway,
18 correct?

19 A: Not that I saw.

20 Q: No other sign of any kinds of injuries or any other crime
21 other than that bullet?

22 A: That is correct.

23 Q: Thank you, Dr. Proctor, no further questions.

24 THE COURT: Redirect?

25 MR. DEBUSK: Briefly, Your Honor.

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EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION EDWARD LEROY PROCTOR, JR. BY MR. DEBUSK:

2 Q: Mr. Bellamy asked you about the Alprazolam and cocaine
3 metabolite, again there was no apparent cocaine, just that
4 metabolite, right?

5 A: . That's correct.

6 Q: And Valium is a tranquilizer, right?

7 A: It's -- it's official classification, Valium-type drugs
8 are mostly relaxants that have other effects.

9 Q: Okay. And you can't tell anything about how long the gun
10 was against her head. It could've been there an hour or it
11 could've been there a second?

12 A: There's no way to tell.

13 Q: No way to tell from the forensic test?

14 A: No.

15 Q: Thank you.

16 No further questions, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

18 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

20 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Is there any reason the doctor should not be
22 excused?

23 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor. We would ask that.

24 THE COURT: All right, Dr. Proctor, you are released from
25 your subpoena and may go back to your regular duties.

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BY THE COURT

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1 THE COURT: All right. Ask the jury to come in please,
2 sir.

3 THE COURT: The order of witnesses, Solicitor, is that
4 gone be the same that you did before?

5 MR. OSKIN: Your Honor, there will be one detective
6 before that. He'll be our next between ---

7 THE COURT: I guess my question was ---

8 MR. OSKIN: One before the ---

9 THE COURT: The minor is gonna be last ---

10 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: --- of all the witnesses?

12 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Because I need to tell the
14 jury something before you actually call her.

15 MR. OSKIN: Okay. Yes, sir, understood. She will be
16 after Klass.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Very good.

18 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

19 All right, Solicitor, your first witness, please.

20 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor, the state would next
21 call Detective Helms, please.

22 THE COURT: Helms?

23 MR. OSKIN: Yes, James Helms.

24 THE COURT: All right. All right, Mr. Helms, come all
25 the way around up front and meet the clerk's representative

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 please right up here.

2 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
3 hand on the Bible.

4 JAMES HELMS, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN
5 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

6 MR. HELMS: James, J-A-M-E-S, last name Helms, H-E-L-M-S.

7 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

8 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, sir.

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF JAMES HELMS BY MR. OSKIN:

10 Q: Detective Helms, who's your employer?

11 A: The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

12 Q: How long have you been employed there?

13 A: Eighteen years.

14 Q: You got any prior law enforcement experience prior to
15 Charlotte?

16 A: No, sir.

17 Q: What's your current assignment, sir?

18 A: I'm assigned to the Violent Crimes Homicide Unit for the
19 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police.

20 Q: All right. Will you please tell this jury -- will you
21 describe your job duties to them, please, briefly?

22 A: So, we investigate homicides, we investigate suicides,
23 overdoses, and essentially all manners of death, and try to
24 assist the medical examiner in determining cause of death.

25 Q: Were you in that same assignment in July of 2016?

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: Yes, I was.

2 Q: Do you recall becoming involved in an investigation that
3 concerned a burned car in your jurisdiction?

4 A: Yes, I did.

5 Q: All right. And through the course of your work duties,
6 did you become aware of a homicide that occurred in North
7 Myrtle Beach, South Carolina?

8 A: Yes, I did.

9 Q: Was the car that was burned in your jurisdiction, had it
10 been listed as stolen?

11 A: Yes, it had.

12 Q: Out of what state?

13 A: Out of South Carolina.

14 Q: Was a suspect ever generated by North Myrtle Beach as to
15 who stole that car?

16 A: They provided me with some photographs of a person they
17 thought may have stolen the car.

18 Q: What -- what did -- what had you learned from North
19 Myrtle Beach, anything in addition to the photos?

20 A: A possible name.

21 Q: How were you able to get a name to match the photos?

22 A: I was notified by Detective Lynam of a possible telephone
23 number and we also received a Crime Stoppers tip to the
24 Charlotte Crime Stoppers with an identity, a possible identity
25 of at least one of the suspects involved in the North Myrtle

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1 Beach homicide.

2 Q: All right. What else did you get to do the specific
3 name?

4 A: We conducted investigations in the various databases that
5 we have from the information we provided and developed the
6 name of both suspect -- both suspects.

7 Q: Okay. And what are those names?

8 A: One was Nicholas Jacob McIver and the other was Terrell
9 Freeman.

10 Q: As part of this investigation, did you work directly with
11 the Charlotte Arson Taskforce?

12 A: Yes, I did.

13 Q: Did you respond to the scene where the car was burned at?

14 A: Yes, I did.

15 Q: Where was that, sir?

16 A: It was on Sally Lane.

17 THE COURT: If I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

18 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

19 BY MR. OSKIN:

20 Q: Detective Helms, I'm showing you what's been marked as
21 State's Exhibit Number 5.

22 A: Okay.

23 Q: Are you able to recognize what that is?

24 A: Yes, it's a map with various points on it. I was trying
25 to figure out the bearings here, so...

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Does that map reflect the incident location you were just
2 referring to as Sally Lane?

3 A: Yes, it does.

4 Q: Will you indicate to this jury where that's located at on
5 this map?

6 A: Where it says car burned.

7 Q: So, you responded to the seen itself, correct?

8 A: Yes, I did.

9 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach again, Your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. OSKIN:

12 Q: Detective Helms, I'm showing you what's been marked as
13 State's Exhibit Number 13, 14, 37, and 38. I'll ask if you
14 recognize those -- without showing the jury.

15 A: Yes, sir; I do.

16 Q: What are those photos of?

17 A: I'm able to explain what each one is?

18 Q: Were you present on the scene when those photos were
19 taken?

20 A: I was not -- let's see. I was not present when these
21 were taken, no, sir.

22 Q: Could you explain what each one shows?

23 A: It's a vehicle that has fire damage.

24 Q: The same vehicle at the incident location responded to?

25 A: Yes.

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Is there anything that indicates in any of those photos
2 where that's located at, Sally Lane?

3 A: There is a number on a mailbox.

4 MR. OSKIN: Your Honor, at this time, the state would
5 seek to move State's Exhibit 13, 14, 37, and 38 into evidence?

6 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

7 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

9 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: They're in evidence without objection.

11 STATE'S EXHIBITS NUMBERS 13, 14, 37, AND 38

12 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

13 MR. OSKIN: All right. And the state would seek to
14 publish it to the jury, Your Honor?

15 THE COURT: You may do so.

16 MR. OSKIN: Thank you.

17 BY MR. OSKIN:

18 Q: As part of your investigation, did you -- was this car
19 further processed and an impound lot?

20 A: Yes, it was. Once we learned the vehicle was towed from
21 the incident location, we had it towed to our evidence lot,
22 which is a secure facility of the police department. And we
23 went back on a later date with Detective Lynam and processed
24 that vehicle.

25 Q: And you were present for that processing?

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: Yes, I was.

2 Q: Were photographs taken at that processing?

3 A: Yes, they were.

4 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach one more time, Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Go ahead, sir.

6 BY MR. OSKIN:

7 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit State's 39,
8 40, 41, 42, 43. I'd ask that you review those, please, real
9 quick.

10 A: All right.

11 Q: Are you able to recognize those photos?

12 A: Yes, I am.

13 Q: What are those photos of?

14 A: These are photos of the car at the time we processed it
15 at the impound lot.

16 Q: The same part of the investigation you were just
17 referring to, correct?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: No additions, deletions, subtractions, any material
20 changes to those photos?

21 A: No, sir.

22 Q: It's an accurate reflection of how they were taken that
23 day?

24 A: Yes, they are.

25 MS. OSKIN: Your Honor, at this time the state would seek

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 to move State's Exhibit 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43 into evidence
2 and publish them to the jury.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. They're in evidence without
7 objection.

8 STATE'S EXHIBITS NUMBER 39, 40, 41, 42, AND 43

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 MR. OSKIN: May I now publish, Your Honor?

11 THE COURT: Yes, sir, you may do so.

12 BY MR. OSKIN:

13 Q: Detective Helms, I'm showing you what's been marked as
14 State's Exhibit Number 46. Are you able to determine what the
15 contents of that bag are?

16 A: May I -- allowed to open?

17 Q: Yes, sir.

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: What is in that bag?

20 A: These are items that we collected from that vehicle and
21 the date of the processing of that vehicle.

22 Q: All right. What items specifically are in that bag?

23 A: A purse with contents and part -- it looks like part of
24 of a purse.

25 MS. OSKIN: Your Honor, at this time, the state would

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1 seek to move State's Exhibit Number 46 into evidence.

2 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

3 MR. BELLAMY: No, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. It's into evidence without
7 objection, you may proceed.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 46

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 BY MR. OSKIN:

11 Q: Detective Helms, throughout the investigation in this
12 case, did you become aware of a person named Tyquajua?

13 A: I did.

14 Q: Do you know if she's related to any of these defendants
15 in any manner?

16 A: She was a girlfriend of Nicholas McIver.

17 Q: Through your investigation, did you become aware of where
18 she lives?

19 A: Yes, I did.

20 Q: All right.

21 May I approach, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

23 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Number 36,
24 are you able to recognize that?

25 A: Yes.

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JAMES HELMS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: And what is that?

2 A: It is an overhead map. It contains the Sally address
3 location as well as the location of Wiggins' apartment.

4 Q: All right. And that's in -- that's in your jurisdiction,
5 correct? That's a map in your jurisdiction?

6 A: It is.

7 Q: Nothing material -- materially altered or edited on
8 there, it's an accurate reflection of the current area?

9 A: Yes.

10 MS. OSKIN: I'm showing defense counsel what's been
11 marked as State's Exhibit 36.

12 MR. BELLAMY: No objection.

13 THE COURT: Any objection.

14 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right, sir. So, State's 36 is in
16 evidence without objection, you may continue.

17 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 36

18 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

19 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor. The state would seek
20 to publish it to the jury.

21 THE COURT: You may do so.

22 BY MR. OSKIN:

23 Q: I know that's a map reflection of your jurisdiction.

24 About how far apart is Tyquajua's residence from Sally Lane?

25 A: I would estimate it a half a mile to three-quarters of a

State v. McIver and Freeman
JAMES HELMS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 mile.

2 Q: Have you driven that route before?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: About how long does it take you to get there?

5 A: Two minutes, tops.

6 Q: Detective Helms, nothing further from the state at this
7 time. Please answer questions for Mr. Bellamy and Mr.
8 Spratlin, please.

9 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Bellamy?

10 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

11 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

12 CROSS EXAMINATION OF JAMES HELMS BY MR. BELLAMY:

13 Q: It's Detective Helms, correct?

14 A: That's correct.

15 Q: Okay. You, you live in that area, this is your
16 community, I guess, not necessarily specifically there, but
17 you're familiar with it like I would be, I grew up at the
18 beach, but I'm familiar with Conway and Loris and Aynor, so
19 you're familiar with this area?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: Where this car was burned, that's a residential
22 neighborhood, isn't it?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Houses side-by-side?

25 A: Yes.

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1 Q: It's not a rural farm community; it's a residential
2 community?

3 A: Yes, it is.

4 Q: So, it's not isolated; it's not where one would expect
5 you to burn something and hide it, would you think?

6 A: I can't answer that.

7 Q: Well, let me ask you this. I mean, you spoke to a
8 gentleman named Mr. Digsby, who was physically present and
9 actually had a conversation with the person they say ---

10 MR. OSKIN: Objection, Your Honor, it calls for hearsay.

11 MR. BELLAMY: I'm not asking what he said.

12 THE COURT: I understand that, but -- y'all come up and
13 talk to me for a second.

14 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
15 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

16 BY MR. BELLAMY:

17 Q: Detective Helms, I'm not trying to be confusing, but
18 there were physically people outside in the yard and yards
19 when this occurred, right?

20 A: From what I understand, yes.

21 Q: Okay. That's fine. And again, it's a residential
22 neighborhood, not an isolated area?

23 A: That's correct.

24 Q: Okay. Now, you are involved, I think I heard right, more
25 with the homicide, not necessarily with the arson stuff,

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1 right?

2 A: That's correct.

3 Q: But you were sort of a link because there was a murder
4 investigation down here?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: Okay. Now did you physically process the car or were you
7 present when that was done?

8 A: The initial one, I was not.

9 Q: Okay. Would that have been done by, I guess, a separate
10 unit, an arson team?

11 A: That's correct.

12 Q: Okay. And so, I assume they can come tell us what their
13 results of that would be. Okay, so that wouldn't be your
14 expertise?

15 A: That's correct.

16 Q: Now, at some point, was there a pickup truck taken into
17 custody by the Charlotte Police Department in reference to
18 this case?

19 A: Yes, there was.

20 Q: Okay. And was there any processing done of it?

21 A: Yes, there was.

22 Q: Was that done by y'all?

23 A: It was done by CMPD, yes.

24 Q: At that would be Charlotte-Mecklenburg ---

25 A: Police Department.

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1 Q: Okay. Do you know if there were any items taken into
2 evidence?

3 A: I do not know that.

4 Q: But the item you've previously marked here was taken from
5 the burned vehicle?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: Now, you indicate you weren't present for the initial
8 processing of that vehicle, but that you went back at a later
9 time; do you know when that was?

10 A: I do not know the exact date.

11 Q: Okay. Would that have been days or a few days later?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Okay. And who was present for that?

14 A: It was myself and Detective Dollar (spelled
15 phonetically), and our crime scene tech.

16 Q: Okay. And what was the purpose of that?

17 A: To document -- we took photographs of the vehicle at that
18 time and moved -- that's when we moved the vehicle to our
19 evidence lot.

20 Q: Okay. Is that different than the photograph that we've -
21 photographs we saw here where it's in like outside of ---

22 A: Yes, that's -- those photographs when it was at the
23 evidence lot. So, initially, the car was towed from the scene
24 to Williams Wrecker. We've learned of the homicide
25 investigation, so the vehicle was -- we went out and processed

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JAMES HELMS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 the vehicle at Williams Wrecker and then towed it to our
2 evidence lot, secure lot. And then at a later date, we
3 returned and processed and searched the vehicle.

4 Q: Okay. Is that when this was found?

5 A: That is.

6 Q: And when you say processed, is that something you did or
7 somebody else did?

8 A: I was physically involved with the searching of the
9 vehicle, yes.

10 Q: Okay. And you were looking for evidence of the arson or
11 just items in the car?

12 A: Just evidence in general.

13 Q: Okay. And all you recovered was, you were looking for
14 items to take out of the car?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: And this is what you -- did you take anything other than
17 this?

18 A: No, sir.

19 Q: All right. And I think you mentioned maybe you went back
20 with somebody from North Myrtle Beach?

21 A: That's when those items were recovered.

22 Q: Oh, that's when this was done. I'm sorry.

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: Okay. Did the North Myrtle Beach folks or anybody from
25 South Carolina Law Enforcement, did they process the car, or

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1 it was just y'all?

2 A: It was -- he was there assisting with the search of the
3 car.

4 Q: Okay. Looking for items?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: Okay.

7 Court's indulgence?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Thank you, Detective Helms, I don't have any more
10 questions.

11 THE COURT: Go ahead, sir?

12 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 CROSS EXAMINATION OF JAMES HELMS BY MR. SPRATLIN:

14 Q: Good morning, Detective Helms. How are you?

15 A: Great, sir, how are you?

16 Q: I'm good. I've just got a couple of quick questions for
17 you. Now, you were primarily -- you said you were homicide
18 primarily, correct?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: But you were working closely with the arson unit on this
21 case?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: And that's because you were contacted by North Myrtle
24 Beach regarding a homicide investigation that they were
25 working on?

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JAMES HELMS - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: And Owen Lynam, he was actually the head detective that
3 he spoke with, correct?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: And the processing of the vehicle the pictures just
6 showed that you introduced into evidence, I'm not sure where
7 they got put, but the jury knows what I'm talking about, when
8 you processed the car, Owen was the person from North Myrtle
9 Beach that was actually there with you, correct?

10 A: Yes, he was.

11 Q: Okay. So, you obviously knew at the time that you were
12 processing that vehicle that there was a pending investigation
13 into a homicide in North Myrtle Beach?

14 A: Correct.

15 Q: You also knew some of the details that involved a
16 gunshot, correct?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: And you said earlier that Nicholas McIver and Terrell
19 Freeman were developed as suspects, that's from what occurred
20 in North Myrtle Beach, correct?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Okay. Working with the arson unit, my client, Terrell
23 Freeman, he was never developed as a suspect of the actual
24 burning of the car, was he?

25 A: No, sir.

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1 Q: No witnesses put him there to your knowledge?

2 A: No, sir.

3 Q: No information put him there?

4 A: No, sir.

5 Q: And the individual who you said lived near Sally Lane,
6 Tyquajua Wiggins; is that correct?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Again, just for the jury identification, whose girlfriend
9 is she?

10 A: Nicholas McIver.

11 Q: No relation to Terrell Freeman to your knowledge?

12 A: Not that I know of.

13 Q: Thank you, detective; that's all the questions I have.

14 THE COURT: Redirect?

15 MR. OSKIN: Very briefly, Your Honor.

16 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF JOSEPH HELMS BY MR. OSKIN:

17 Q: Detective Helms, I'm gonna ask you to kinda further
18 explain this particular section of Charlotte. With regards to
19 Sally Lane, is that street within a residential neighborhood?

20 A: Yes; it is.

21 Q: Is that residential neighborhood itself, as far as
22 people, how does this part of Charlotte compare to say uptown
23 or other sections of Charlotte?

24 A: I could probably best describe it as it's the kind of
25 street I grew up on. It's -- it's one way in, one way out,

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JAMES HELMS - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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- 1 houses down both sides, but the kind of neighborhood where
2 everybody knows everybody, not a lot of outsiders would come
3 into. It's the way I would see the neighborhood.
- 4 Q: So, there's one in and one way out; is it a dead-end road
5 then?
- 6 A: It is.
- 7 Q: Okay. Were you able to associate Nicholas McIver and
8 Terrell Freeman together during your investigation?
- 9 A: Yes, I was.
- 10 Q: How so?
- 11 A: We were able to determine that they both -- I used social
12 media, we were able to see they were both friends with each
13 other on social media, and also through the Crime Stoppers tip
14 we got, we learned that they both worked together at a
15 restaurant called Floyd's. So, that's how we were able to
16 link them together.
- 17 Q: And the restaurant, Floyd's, have you had a chance to --
18 do you by any chance know who owns that restaurant?
- 19 A: I do not know exactly, no. I know it's a family member
20 of one of the two gentlemen, but I don't -- I can't recall who
21 owns it, sir.
- 22 Q: All right. At the processing of the car, was there
23 anything of evidentiary value seized from the car?
- 24 A: Just these items right here.
- 25 Q: That are present before the Court today?

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JAMES HELMS - RECROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Okay. And the car itself, had it been totally consumed
3 by fire?

4 A: Yes, completely.

5 MR. OSKIN: Nothing further from the state, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

7 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

9 MR. SPRATLIN: Just briefly, Your Honor.

10 RECROSS EXAMINATION OF JAMES HELMS BY MR. SPRATLIN:

11 Q: You linked McIver and my client, Terrell Freeman, because
12 they were basically friends, correct?

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: Worked together, correct?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: Thank you. No further questions.

17 THE COURT: All right. Do you wish the witness to be
18 excused, Solicitor?

19 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, please, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

21 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

23 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
25 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

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1 MR. HELMS: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right. Your next witness, Solicitor?

3 MR. OSKIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor. The state would next
4 call Detective Phil Levett, please.

5 THE COURT: All right, sir, just come right around up
6 here and meet the clerk's representative right up front.

7 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
8 hand on the Bible.

9 PHILIP LEVETT, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN
10 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

11 MR. LEVETT: Detective Philip Levett, P-H-L-I-P, L-E-V-E-
12 T-T.

13 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF PHILIP LEVETT BY MR. OSKIN:

15 Q: Thank you, Detective Levett. Who's your current
16 employer, sir?

17 A: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

18 Q: How long have you been employed there?

19 A: Nineteen years.

20 Q: Any prior law enforcement experience to Charlotte-Meck?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Where at?

23 A: Charleston Police Department.

24 Q: How many years did you spend with them?

25 A: About eight months.

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1 Q: What department of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police are you
2 currently assigned to?

3 A: I'm assigned to the arson unit.

4 Q: All right. Is that the same assignment you had in July
5 of 2016?

6 A: It was.

7 Q: All right. What are your -- what are some of your job
8 duties in that assignment, sir?

9 A: My main job duty is to investigate intentionally set
10 fires.

11 Q: Did you respond or become involved in the investigation
12 of a burned car that occurred at Sally Lane within your
13 jurisdiction in 2000 -- July 9th, 2016?

14 A: I did.

15 MR. OSKIN: May I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

16 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

17 BY MR. OSKIN:

18 Q: Detective Levett, I'm showing you what's been marked as
19 State's Exhibit Number 5, do you recognize this?

20 A: I do.

21 Q: What is that?

22 A: It's a map of the location where the car was burned.

23 Q: All right. And that's at Sally Lane?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: And that's the location you responded to?

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PHILIP LEVETT - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: 3901 Sally Lane, yes, sir.

2 Q: After this investigation began, Detective Levett, did you
3 meet with any other detectives within Charlotte-Mecklenburg
4 Police Department?

5 A: I did.

6 Q: Who was that?

7 A: Detective J.B. Helms.

8 Q: All right. Did you have -- after meeting with him, did
9 you have a suspect who burned the vehicle?

10 A: I did.

11 Q: And who was it?

12 A: Nicholas McIver.

13 Q: Did you have any further involvement with regards to this
14 investigation after meeting with Detective Helms?

15 A: I did.

16 Q: All right. What was that?

17 A: I put together a photo lineup.

18 Q: How do you construct a photo lineup?

19 A: It's a photo lineup is basically six photographs in which
20 we present to a witness to see if they can identify any
21 perpetrator of a crime. In this instance, I put together six
22 photographs. One is the person that possibly is involved in
23 the crime and the other five are just filler photographs.

24 Q: Detective Levett, how are those -- how do those photos
25 come about; I mean how -- are they generated by computer?

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PHILIP LEVETT - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: They are computer-generated photographs based on similar
2 characteristics.

3 Q: Okay. Where do those characteristics get pulled from?

4 A: Computer database.

5 Q: Do you just enter a suspect's name and then the computer
6 does the rest?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: This particular photo lineup, is it a six-pack or is it
9 individual photos?

10 A: Individual photos.

11 Q: And it's -- it's how many again?

12 A: Six.

13 Q: Did you present those photos to any witnesses at Sally
14 Lane?

15 A: No, I did not.

16 Q: Do you know who did?

17 A: Detective Klass with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police
18 Department.

19 Q: All right. And why didn't you present those photos to
20 them?

21 A: State law prohibits that.

22 Q: Is that also part of your department's policy?

23 A: Yes, it is.

24 Q: Is that policy -- is that to further insure objectivity?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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PHILIP LEVETT - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: To your knowledge, were the witnesses able to identify
2 the suspect?

3 MR. BELLAMY: Judge, I think the other officer would be
4 more appropriate to testify to that since he wasn't present.

5 THE COURT: Why don't you rephrase your question.

6 BY MR. OSKIN:

7 Q: After further investigation, was a suspect identified by
8 witnesses?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Did you have -- who did you -- so, you can constructed
11 the six photos, correct?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: And then you gave those to Detective Klass?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: All right. And then so was it Detective Klass then that
16 would've presented those photos to any witnesses?

17 A: It is.

18 Q: Do you have any further involvement in this case other
19 than constructing the photo lineup?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: What was that?

22 A: After the suspect was identified as far as the person --
23 the burning of the vehicle, I obtained warrants for that
24 individual for burning of personal property.

25 Q: Nothing further from the state. Please answer any

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PHILIP LEVETT - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 questions of Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Spratlin.

2 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy, cross examination?

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

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

6 CROSS EXAMINATION OF PHILIP LEVETT BY MR. BELLAMY:

7 Q: Detective Levett, I believe you indicated that you
8 primarily are involved in the investigation of arson?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: But you were assisting in doing this lineup thing?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: Or the photo whatever?

13 A: Well, the actual case was assigned to me.

14 Q: Okay.

15 A: So, I was the detective in charge of that.

16 Q: And I guess it was an investigation of the arson to
17 identify who was burning the car?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Did you play any part in the processing of the vehicle
20 that had been burned?

21 A: No, sir.

22 Q: Okay. Are you aware, and if you're not, you're not, that
23 Mr. McIver turned himself in to the police?

24 A: I'm not.

25 Q: Okay. Would there've been some other officers with

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PHILIP LEVETT - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Charlotte who would've examined the car on the arson side or
2 processed it?

3 A: Well, we have a fire investigator that actually processes
4 the car.

5 Q: So, there would've been another individual that would
6 generate the report and that kind of thing?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Okay. And the reason you were doing the photo lineup is
9 you had witnesses who would've been physically on the scene at
10 the time of the fire, correct?

11 A: Or prior to, yes.

12 Q: Okay.

13 Court's indulgence?

14 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Thank you, Detective Levett. Answer any other questions.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

17 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

18 CROSS EXAMINATION OF PHILIP LEVETT BY MR. SPRATLIN:

19 Q: Good morning, Detective Levett?

20 A: How you doing, sir?

21 Q: I'm doing pretty well. I've just got a couple of
22 questions for you. You said that Defendant Nicholas McIver
23 was developed as the suspect who burned the car, correct?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: Terrell Freeman, my client, he was never developed as a

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PHILIP LEVETT - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 suspect who burned the car, was he?

2 A: No, sir.

3 Q: In fact, you have no evidence as a result of your
4 investigation that shows that Terrell Freeman had ever been on
5 Sally Lane?

6 A: No, sir.

7 Q: Let alone the day that car was burned.

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Thank you, no further questions.

10 THE COURT: Any redirect?

11 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor, and we
12 would ask that he be excused from his subpoena.

13 THE COURT: Any objection to that, Mr. Bellamy?

14 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

16 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right, sir, you are released from your
18 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

19 MR. LEVETT: Thank you, sir.

20 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

21 Next witness please?

22 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor, the state would next
23 call Detective Robert Klass, please, with the Charlotte
24 police.

25 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left

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ROBERT KLASS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 hand on the Bible.

2 ROBERT KLASS, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

3 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

4 MR. KLASS: My name is Robert Klass, R-O-B-E-R-T, K-L-A-
5 S-S.

6 THE COURT: Go ahead, solicitor.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF ROBERT KLASS BY MR. OSKIN:

8 Q: Mr. Klass, you're a detective with the Charlotte Police
9 Department, correct?

10 A: Correct.

11 Q: All right. How, how long have you been employed there?

12 A: It'll be 19 years next month.

13 Q: Any prior law enforcement before that?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: What department of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police are you
16 assigned to?

17 A: The arson unit.

18 Q: Okay. Were you assigned to that same unit in July of
19 2016?

20 A: I was.

21 Q: What are your work duties in that assignment?

22 A: To help determine origin and cause of fires. Do an
23 investigation, and then if it's a criminal case, then we
24 present it to the district attorney's office.

25 Q: Did you become involved in an arson investigation that

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ROBERT KLASS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 occurred on Sally Lane in your jurisdiction?

2 A: I did.

3 Q: What was your role in that investigation?

4 A: I showed a photo lineup.

5 Q: What was the date you showed that photo lineup?

6 A: July 12th, 2016.

7 Q: All right. What time?

8 A: It was around 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

9 Q: All right. At what location did you show that lineup?

10 A: The 3900 block of Sally Lane.

11 Q: How much time had passed since the original crime
12 occurred, that being the burning of the car?

13 A: I believe it was about three days.

14 Q: Okay. Who were witnesses to the photo lineup?

15 A: Who I showed the lineup to?

16 Q: Yes, sir.

17 A: It was a gentleman, Walter Digsby and a **Minor**.

18 Q: Walter Digsby is not available to testify today, is he?

19 A: He is not.

20 Q: Why is that?

21 A: He passed away.

22 Q: What, if anything, did you tell **Minor** before
23 showing her any photos?

24 A: I told her not to feel pressured into making -- picking
25 somebody that she wasn't a hundred percent sure about.

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ROBERT KLASS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: Would that be evidenced by -- by paperwork, by a form?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: With your name, information from your employment, and
4 also signatures of that witness?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach the witness, Your Honor?

7 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

8 BY MR. OSKIN:

9 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
10 Number 45, are you able to recognize that?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: What is that?

13 A: That's the instruction sheet for the photo lineup that I
14 showed **Minor**.

15 Q: Is your information on that specific sheet right there?

16 A: It is.

17 Q: Is **Minor** reflected there as well?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: She sign that before any photos were presented to her?

20 A: I believe she signed it -- yes, sir, before any photos
21 are shown, she's to sign it, yes.

22 Q: How many photos were displayed?

23 A: Six.

24 MR. OSKIN: If I may approach the witness again, Your
25 Honor?

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ROBERT KLASS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

2 BY MR. OSKIN:

3 Q: I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit
4 Number 44, I'll ask you to review that and let me know when
5 you're ready for further questioning.

6 A: Okay.

7 Q: What is that?

8 A: That is the photo lineup that I showed **Minor**

9 Q: How -- are you able to tell any changes, additions,
10 deletions, alterations to those photos?

11 A: No, sir, it looks like the same exact lineup as when I
12 showed it.

13 MR. OSKIN: At this time, Your Honor, the state would
14 seek to move Exhibit Number 44 and 45 into evidence.

15 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

16 MR. BELLAMY: Note the previous objection, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 And, Mr. Spratlin?

19 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor, I've had a chance to
20 previously review it; no objections.

21 THE COURT: All right. So, the State's 44 and 45 are in
22 evidence -- well, your objection was to 44. So, is there an
23 objection to 45, the instruction sheet?

24 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor; I'm sorry.

25 THE COURT: All right. So, there's no objection to State's

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1 45, that's into evidence without objection. State's 44 is
2 into evidence over the objection of Defendant McIver.

3 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 44 AND 45

4 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

5 THE COURT: You may proceed.

6 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, sir.

7 BY MR. OSKIN:

8 Q: What's the nature of the photos used in that lineup,
9 Detective Klass?

10 A: I'm sorry?

11 Q: What's the nature of those photos, characteristics of the
12 people in those photos?

13 A: Black male, dreads, you know -- I didn't make the photo
14 lineup, so I ---

15 Q: Right.

16 A: --- don't exactly know exactly the parameters he used.

17 Q: This will help us out. Who did -- who did you get the
18 photos from; who did you get the lineup from?

19 A: Detective Levett.

20 Q: Okay. Did you or anyone in your presence influence or
21 suggest to the witness, **Minor** on who she should select?

22 A: No.

23 Q: Do you have any witness -- did she see the photo lineup
24 and then also participate in the physical lineup before seeing
25 the photos?

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ROBERT KLASS - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: No.

2 Q: Did you show any photos to her or any other suspect
3 before viewing this lineup?

4 A: No.

5 Q: Was she able to select a photo in this lineup that was
6 the person who committed the crime?

7 A: She was.

8 Q: What photo was that?

9 A: Photo Number 3.

10 Q: How long did it take her to pick out that photo?

11 A: It was instantly.

12 Q: What was her -- any other reaction other than picking it
13 instantly?

14 A: She just pointed to it and said that's him.

15 Q: How certain was she, if there was a numerical value to
16 it?

17 A: She said a hundred percent.

18 Q: What was the name on that photo?

19 A: There's no name on the photo. I learned afterwards that
20 it was Mr. McIver.

21 Q: She didn't select any other person in that lineup as who
22 committed the crime or who could've committed the crime?

23 A: No.

24 Q: Only Nicholas McIver?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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ROBERT KLASS - CROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 Q: Nothing further from the state at this time. Please
2 answer questions for Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Spratlin.

3 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy, cross examination.

4 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court?

5 CROSS EXAMINATION OF ROBERT KLASS BY MR. BELLAMY:

6 Q: Detective Klass, I believe you said you were with the
7 arson unit?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Did you play any role in the processing of this vehicle?

10 A: I did not.

11 Q: Okay. But again, someone with your -- that group would
12 have done that?

13 A: We work as a task force, and the Charlotte Fire
14 Department did the original fire scene examination.

15 Q: Okay. Are you aware that my client, Mr. McIver, turned
16 himself into y'all?

17 A: No, sir.

18 Q: And again, the reason for, and I keep saying again,
19 because I've asked these questions to other people, but you
20 weren't in here, so I apologize. The reason for the photo
21 lineup is because your investigation revealed the physical
22 presence of other people at the scene, so you had witnesses,
23 right?

24 A: Yes, sir. Detective Levett told me that he had a couple
25 of witnesses that he needed to show a photo lineup.

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ROBERT KCLASS - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: Which would indicate that they would've been physically
2 present, right?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: Okay. And this -- did you ever go out to -- you must've,
5 because you just indicated you went to Sally Lane, this is a
6 residential neighborhood?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Not isolated?

9 A: It's towards a dead-end, I guess you could say.

10 Q: Houses?

11 A: Yeah, there's several houses on the street.

12 Q: Okay. It would not be the place that you would expect to
13 try to burn something and nobody know about it, would you?

14 A: Not typically.

15 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence.

16 BY MR. BELLAMY:

17 Q: Thank you, Detective Klass, answer any other
18 questions.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

20 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 CROSS EXAMINATION OF ROBERT KCLASS BY MR. SPRATLIN:

22 Q: How are you this morning, Detective Klass?

23 A: Good, how about yourself, sir?

24 Q: I'm fine. A couple of quick questions for you. Walter
25 Digsby, the gentleman you said passed away, he was actually

State v. McIver and Freeman
ROBERT KLASS - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 [REDACTED] Minor ' grandfather; is that correct?

2 A: I'm not aware of the relation, sir.

3 Q: It wouldn't surprise you?

4 A: I don't know.

5 Q: Okay. All right. Based on the fact that he was older,
6 he could've been:

7 A: (No audible response.)

8 Q: You said you did one photo lineup with [REDACTED] Minor
9 correct?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Including Defendant McIver, correct?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: You had no reason to ever do one with Defendant Terrell
14 Freeman, did you?

15 A: I, I wasn't asked to, no, sir.

16 Q: Okay. Thank you. No further questions.

17 THE COURT: Any redirect?

18 MR. OSKIN: Very, very briefly, Your Honor. If I may
19 approach the witness?

20 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

21 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF ROBERT KLASS BY MR. OSKIN:

22 Q: Referring to the map -- do you recognize this map?

23 A: Just basically the address. I understand that that's a
24 map of the area that we're talking about.

25 Q: Your jurisdiction, is there a reference point to your

State v. McIver and Freeman
ROBERT KLASS - REDIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 jurisdiction or Sally Lane on this map?

2 A: That would be up here where it says car burned.

3 Q: All right. And in your experience in the Charlotte area,
4 is that neighborhood less populated or more populated than
5 other areas of the map?

6 A: It's actually, that particular area is a little bit less
7 populated than other areas around there, that street per se.

8 Q: I'll also show you what's been entered into evidence as
9 State's Number 36, do you recognize that?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Is that a closer view of that area?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: All right. And Sally Lane is -- you said there's a
14 couple of houses on the street. Is there -- is that street a
15 dead-end, is there multiple entryways, through ways?

16 A: There is only one way and it is a dead-end.

17 MR. OSKIN: Nothing further from the state, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right, sir. Do you wish the witness to
23 be excused?

24 MR. OSKIN: I do, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right. Any objection?

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir.

2 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
4 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

5 MR. KLASS: Thank you, sir.

6 THE COURT: Next witness, please.

7 MR. OSKIN: If we may approach the bench, Your Honor?

8 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

9 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
10 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

11 BY THE COURT:

12 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, the, the
13 next witness that's going to testify is going to be a minor.
14 In South Carolina, there is no fixed age that a person must
15 attain to be a witness in a case. The test is whether or not
16 the minor is aware of right from wrong and understands
17 possible punishment for lying. It will be your duty and
18 responsibility and I will charge you again at the end when we
19 talk about the law, it will be your duty to, again, decide
20 credibility and believability of all the witnesses and that
21 would include obviously the minor's testimony. Now, regarding
22 the minor, you obviously can consider the child's age, ability
23 to observe and remember, to -- it's for you to decide whether
24 or not the child understands the seriousness of appearing as a
25 witness in the -- in the trial and understands the difference

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[REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED] - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 between lying and telling the truth.

2 All right, Solicitor, you may call your next witness.

3 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor. At this time, the
4 state would next call [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED].

5 THE COURT: All right. [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED], you just need to walk
6 all the way around and come up next to this lady right over
7 here, please, ma'am.

8 CLERK: Raise your right hand and place your left hand on
9 the Bible.

10 [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED], HAVING BEEN DULY

11 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

12 [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED]

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED] BY MR. OSKIN:

14 Q: What's your last name, [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED]?

15 A: [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED]

16 Q: [REDACTED] Minor [REDACTED], how old are you?

17 A: Nine.

18 Q: What city are you from?

19 A: Charlotte.

20 Q: Are you missing school to be here today?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Have you ever been in a courtroom before?

23 A: No.

24 Q: Do you like school at all?

25 A: Yes.

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Minor - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 Q: What's your favorite subject?

2 A: Reading.

3 Q: Do you know the difference between right and wrong?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Do you think it's important to tell the truth?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Do you know what the truth is?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: What is the truth?

10 A: When you do right thing and you say what's true.

11 Q: If somebody's lying is that bad?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Do you know what a lie is?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: What is that? Is it different than the truth?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: You said you're from Charlotte, right?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: Do you know where a street called Sally Lane is?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: How do you know that street?

22 A: Because I've lived there since I was born.

23 Q: You've been there or lived there?

24 A: Lived there.

25 Q: Okay. Is there a lot of houses on this street?

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Minor - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Are you ever able to play outside?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: Would you play there often?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: What about in the summertime if the weather is good,
7 would you be outside?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: So, a couple of summers ago, you remember playing
10 outside? I know it's kind of random.

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: That's something you do. Have you ever seen a car set on
13 fire before?

14 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response).

15 Q: Yes?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: Was that on Sally Lane?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: What kind of car was it?

20 A: A white car.

21 Q: Did you see any people around that car?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Who did you see around that car?

24 A: A light-skinned man with dreads.

25 Q: All right. Was he with anybody?

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Minor - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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- 1 A: Yes.
- 2 Q: Was he with a male or a female?
- 3 A: A female.
- 4 Q: Okay. Was -- how -- were you close to the street when
- 5 the car was burned or where was the car burned and how close
- 6 was that to your house?
- 7 A: It wasn't that close to our house, but it was close to
- 8 the mailbox.
- 9 Q: Could you see flames?
- 10 A: Yes.
- 11 Q: Did you see -- you saw the car before there was flames,
- 12 right?
- 13 A: Yes.
- 14 Q: Okay. Did you see it -- you saw it caught on fire then?
- 15 A: Yes.
- 16 Q: Well, what did that male and female do after that car was
- 17 on fire?
- 18 A: They just left.
- 19 Q: They left. They left together?
- 20 A: Yes.
- 21 Q: But not in the white car that was on fire?
- 22 A: Yes.
- 23 Q: All right. Did you tell your mom or your dad or anybody?
- 24 A: My mom.
- 25 Q: Okay. What happened after that, did you talk to police

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Minor - DIRECT BY OSKIN

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1 officers?

2 A: Yeah, she called the police office.

3 Q: Okay. Did police come and talk to you?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Did they show you paperwork and photos?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Did they show you photos of men?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Of six different men?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Did they show you a sheet and have you sign your name?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: I'm gonna show you what's got Number 45 on it. Do you
14 recognize that or see where you signed it?

15 A: Yes.

16 Q: Will you point out to this jury where you signed it at;
17 will you hold it up and show them? So, they can see it this
18 way, that's His Honor, and show the jury this way; show where
19 you signed it?

20 A: (Witness complies.)

21 Q: Thank you. And when they showed you photos, did you
22 recognize the guy in the photo as being the guy that you saw
23 set that car on fire?

24 A: Yes, I did.

25 Q: How sure were you?

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Minor - CROSS BY BELLAMY

1 A: I was 100 percent sure of that.

2 Q: Nothing further from me, Minor. Please answer any
3 questions of Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Spratlin. Okay?

4 A: Okay.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

6 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

7 CROSS EXAMINATION OF Minor BY MR. BELLAMY:

8 Q: You pronounce your name Minor

9 A: Yeah.

10 Q: Okay. What grade are you in, Minor

11 A: Third.

12 Q: Third grade and you like to read.

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: What grade would you have been in when you saw this fire?

15 A: Like second.

16 Q: Second, okay. This neighborhood, Mr. Seth here, he asked
17 you about it and you said there were a lot of houses?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: Okay. And are there other kids in the neighborhood that
20 play outside in the summertime?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Were you playing with any other kids that day; were there
23 any other kids outside playing with you?

24 A: Oh, no.

25 Q: Was there anybody outside with you that day, an adult?

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Minor - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Okay. Who would that have been?

3 A: Like my mom.

4 Q: Okay. Were there any other people out there that day
5 that you remember? And if you don't, that's fine.

6 A: No.

7 Q: Okay. And this was in the daytime?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Okay. Again, you may not know this, it was a long time
10 ago, do you have any idea if it was morning time or afternoon
11 time?

12 A: No.

13 Q: Just that it was -- the sun was out?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: Okay.

16 Court's indulgence?

17 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

18 Q: Thank you, Minor. Answer any questions Mr.
19 Spratlin over here may have for you.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 CROSS EXAMINATION OF Minor BY MR. SPRATLIN:

23 Q: Hey, Minor, how are you?

24 A: Good.

25 Q: I'm Martin. I'm just gonna have a question or two for

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BY THE COURT

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1 you. Now, you said you saw a man burn the car, right?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: And you told the police who that man was, right?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: And you saw a woman with him, right?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: You didn't see another man with them, right?

8 A: No.

9 Q: Thank you, **Minor**

10 THE COURT: Redirect?

11 MR. OSKIN: Nothing from the state, Your Honor. We would
12 ask that **Minor** be released from her subpoena.

13 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

14 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

16 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right. **Minor**, you can step down,

18 okay, just walk over there towards the deputy. All right?

19 She is released back to the custody of her mother.

20 BY THE COURT:

21 THE COURT: Y'all come and talk to me for just a second,
22 please.

23 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
24 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

25 THE COURT: All right, Madam Forelady, ladies and

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BY THE COURT

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1 gentlemen of the jury, if you'll go to your jury room for
2 about five minutes or so, we'll come back and get in at least
3 one more witness this morning. All right?

4 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
5 place outside the presence of the jury.)

6 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin, there's something that you
7 wanted to bring to the Court's attention?

8 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor. I think Mr. Bellamy
9 joins in this objection. It's more of an objection, we're
10 just putting the state on notice that we're making it. I
11 believe there's going to be several Cellebrite reports that
12 are introduced through Detective Lynch. I have concerns about
13 how the reports are generated based on my knowledge of how
14 Cellebrite results and how the authentication will take place.
15 Obviously, the state is -- it would present the evidence and
16 attempt to authenticate it, but I do plan to make an objection
17 at the appropriate time that there is not enough -- unless
18 they're able to establish enough authentication for the actual
19 Cellebrite report coming in.

20 THE COURT: All right. Well, we'll deal with that -- I
21 mean, the state's aware you're gonna make an objection and
22 we'll see if the state has supplied enough information for the
23 Court to allow the records to come in.

24 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

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1 MR. BELLAMY: I would join in the motion, Judge.

2 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

3 All right. So, Solicitor, y'all know it's coming and
4 we'll just deal with it as it -- as it comes in. 'All right?

5 MR. OSKIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Thank you very much. We'll be at ease for
7 about five to ten minutes.

8 Thank you.

9 RECESS

10 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

11 **(On the Record.)**

12 BY THE COURT:

13 THE COURT: All right. Ask the jury to come back in,
14 please.

15 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

16 THE COURT: All right. Your next witness, Solicitor?

17 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor, the state calls
18 Detective Will Lynch.

19 THE COURT: All right. Very good. All right, Detective,
20 come all the way around up here and meet the clerk's
21 representative up here, please.

22 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
23 hand on the Bible.

24 WILL LYNCH, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

25 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

State v. McIver and Freeman
WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. LYNCH: Will Lynch, L-Y-N-C-H.

2 THE COURT: Go ahead, Solicitor.

3 DIRECT EXAMINATOIN OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. DEBUSK:

4 Q: Detective Lynch, who is your employer?

5 A: I currently am employed with the City of North Myrtle
6 Beach.

7 Q: How long have you been with North Myrtle Beach?

8 A: Approximately, 23 and a half years.

9 Q: A long time?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: What are your duties?

12 A: Currently, I'm inside -- I mean, assigned to the
13 investigations divisions. We generally just do general
14 investigations and it could range from a violent crime all the
15 way down to, you know, some type of petty larceny as part of
16 it.

17 Q: How -- and July 9th, 2016, were your duties the same?

18 A: Yes, they were.

19 Q: Okay. Were you involved in the investigation of the
20 death of Amanda Fisher?

21 A: Yes, I was.

22 Q: Do you know where she was killed?

23 A: I do.

24 Q: Where was that?

25 A: The parking lot of the K&W Cafeteria in North Myrtle

State v. McIver and Freeman
WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Beach.

2 Q: I hate to ask the obvious, what county is that in?

3 A: Horry.

4 Q: Okay. Did you visit the crime scene?

5 A: I did.

6 Q: Did you get there before they transported Ms. Fisher?

7 A: No.

8 Q: So, you -- but you did see the crime scene, but not Ms.

9 Fisher at the crime scene?

10 A: That's correct.

11 Q: Okay. As part of your duties, do you work with cell
12 phone data?

13 A: I do.

14 Q: Were any cell phones recovered in this case?

15 A: Yes, there were.

16 Q: Was one recovered from Amanda Fisher?

17 A: Yes, there was.

18 Q: Do you know where that was recovered from?

19 A: My understanding it was recovered very close to the body
20 there in the parking lot of the crime scene.

21 Q: At the K&W?

22 A: At the K&W.

23 Q: Was a cell phone recovered from Nicholas McIver?

24 A: Yes, it was.

25 Q: Where was Nicholas Jacob McIver's cell phone?

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WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: It was in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Detention Facility.

2 Q: So, at the time he was arrested or placed under arrest?

3 A: That's correct.

4 Q: What type of cell phone did the victim have, Ms. Fisher?

5 A: I believe she had an iPhone.

6 Q: And what kind of phone did Mr. McIver have?

7 A: He had an Android, I think it was an LGE Android type
8 phone.

9 Q: Are you trained in retrieving data from cell phones?

10 A: Yes, sir; I am.

11 Q: What kind of training do you have?

12 A: I was certified back in 2011 by a company called Forward
13 Discovery in the use of machine that's manufactured by a
14 company called Cellebrite. The machine is called a UFED
15 machine, and the UFED stands for Universal Forensic Extraction
16 Device. If you've ever had a cell phone and you've gone to a
17 cell phone company and upgraded your cell phone, they use a
18 very similar machine made by the same company that transfers
19 your data from your old phone to your new phone. This
20 particular device that we use actually pulls the information
21 off of the cell phone itself and then puts it into a format
22 that you and I could read as opposed to having to go through
23 the cell phone and having to open up every single contact and
24 incoming calls, outgoing calls, SMS pictures and things like
25 that. It takes all that information off the phone and just

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WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 puts into a more readable user friendly format.

2 Q: So, when you have a smart phone, like a iPhone or an
3 Android, what kinds of data are stored on that phone?

4 A: Anything that you input on that phone typically where
5 it's incoming calls, outgoing calls, your contacts, pictures
6 you may take, videos you may take, SMS messages, which is just
7 your simple text messages, messages where you may send a
8 picture or a video to a friend, anything that's basically
9 stored on that device.

10 Q: So, when you use this machine made by Cellebrite on the
11 cell phone, does it create any data on the phone or does it
12 just extract what's already there?

13 A: It's just a read-only device. You can't input any
14 information onto the cell phone, it only takes information
15 from the cell phone itself.

16 Q: And it creates an output, obviously?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: Are you familiar with the format of that output?

19 A: I am.

20 Q: Does it have different formats for the data to present?

21 A: It does. It will -- it'll generate a report and it will
22 format it, like I said, incoming calls, outgoing calls, your
23 SMS messages, your multimedia messages, your contacts. It can
24 also generate a report called a timeline report, which will
25 basically put all the user's activities in chronological

1 order. So for instance, if you made a phone call at a certain
2 time and then, right after that phone call, you hung up and
3 you texted someone, and then after that you took a picture and
4 you sent it to someone, it would actually put it in a more
5 chronological format for you to be able, you know, see what
6 that phone did in a certain timeframe as opposed to having to
7 go through and pick and choose dates and things like that. It
8 also does analytics where it will show, you know, which number
9 or which person was contacted more frequently than someone
10 else, how many times you contacted this person, did you
11 contact them by phone, you know, 50 times, did you send them
12 50 text messages, things like that.

13 Q: So, you've been certified by the company that created
14 this machine, this Cellebrite machine?

15 A: That's correct.

16 Q: You have ongoing trainings to keep up with the changes?

17 A: I do.

18 Q: Okay. And you've been doing this at least since 2011?

19 A: August of 2011.

20 Q: Okay. Have you testified about this type of cell phone
21 extractions in court before?

22 A: I have.

23 Q: How many times?

24 A: Three times; this will be my fourth.

25 Q: Is this a widely used program, machine?

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WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: It -- it's used worldwide and it's manufactured, you
2 know, worldwide and it's -- it has different languages. I
3 mean, anybody across the world can use it.

4 Q: To your knowledge, has it been admitted in other courts
5 of law?

6 A: It has been.

7 Q: Did you use the Cellebrite machine on the two cell phones
8 recovered in this case?

9 A: I did.

10 Q: Did you retrieve reports?

11 A: I did.

12 Q: Now, speaking -- are you aware of the phone number for
13 Terrell Freeman that has been stipulated to in this case?

14 A: I believe I am, yes.

15 Q: Okay. On the cell phone of Amanda Fisher, did you
16 retrieve a timeline showing the different order of calls and
17 texts and things?

18 A: I believe I did.

19 Q: I show you -- I guess I had better get it marked first.
20 Let me show you what now has been marked as State's Exhibit 47
21 and see if you recognize it.

22 A: Okay. I do recognize this.

23 Q: What is it?

24 A: This is a excerpt of the timeline report from the
25 victim's cell phone.

State v. McIver and Freeman
WILL LYNCH - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: The victim being Amanda Fisher, correct?

2 A: That is correct.

3 Q: Now, that phone number that we stipulated to as being to
4 Mr. Freeman's phone number, 980-298-1931, does that appear on
5 Ms. Fisher's timeline?

6 A: It does.

7 Q: Are those indicated on that figure?

8 A: They are.

9 Q: When was the first call or contact, I guess?

10 A: The first contact was on July 9th at 1:18 in the morning.

11 Q: July 9th?

12 A: 2016 at 1:18 in the morning.

13 Q: I didn't mean to ---

14 A: No.

15 Q: --- cut you -- when was the last contact?

16 A: July 9th, 2016 at 6:44 in the morning.

17 Q: Does that fairly and accurately represent the output of
18 the Cellebrite analysis of her cell phone?

19 A: Yes, it did.

20 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, we'd offer State's 47 into
21 evidence at this time.

22 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

23 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

25 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: All right. State's 47 is in evidence without
2 objection.

3 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 47

4 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

5 THE COURT: You may proceed.

6 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: State's Exhibit 48, what are the activity analytics?

9 A: Activity analytics basically show who that phone has
10 contacted, the frequency of contacts that the person has
11 contacted. So, in this particular case it would, you know, it
12 would start who was contacted the most, how many times they
13 were contacted, and then it would just go down to who was
14 contacted, you know, the least amount of times, whatever it
15 was a, you know, a phone number, an email, anything like that.

16 Q: And is that list from Mr. McIver's phone?

17 A: Yes, it is.

18 Q: On that list of contacts, does the number attributed to
19 Mr. Freeman appear?

20 A: Yes, it does.

21 Q: Along -- does it have a name associated to it or just the
22 number?

23 A: It just has a phone number associated with it.

24 Q: How many times was there contact between that phone and
25 -- that phone and Mr. McIver's phone?

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1 A: Two hundred and sixty one times.

2 Q: Among the most frequently contacted numbers, did the
3 others all have names associated with the contact?

4 A: Yes, they did.

5 Q: Is that the only one amongst the top -- top list that
6 doesn't have a name associated with it?

7 A: Yeah, I mean, I -- at least 27, the top 27 all have names
8 of some sort of them beside it except for this one.

9 Q: And what number is Mr. Freeman's number?

10 A: 980-298 ---

11 Q: No, I mean what number on the list?

12 A: Oh, it's Number 9.

13 Q: Number 1 through 27 all have names except for Number 9?

14 A: That's correct.

15 MR. DEBUSK: At this time we'd offer State's 48 into
16 evidence.

17 THE COURT: Objection, Mr. Bellamy?

18 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

19 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right. So, State's 48 is into evidence
21 without objection.

22 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 48

23 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

24 THE COURT: You may proceed.

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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1 Q: Now, we'll talked about context for just a minute. Does
2 that Cellebrite output actually give a list of contacts?

3 A: It does.

4 Q: Does it indicate the name associated with the number?

5 A: It does.

6 Q: Does it indicate when a contact has been deleted?

7 A: It does.

8 Q: Let me show -- well, let me get it marked. I show you
9 what's been marked as State's Exhibit 49, and as you if you
10 recognize that?

11 A: I do recognize it.

12 Q: What is it?

13 A: It's the contact list from -- from Mr. McIver's cell
14 phone.

15 Q: Does the number associated with Mr. Freeman appear on
16 that list?

17 A: It does.

18 Q: Does it have a name?

19 A: It does not.

20 Q: Does it indicate whether or not it was deleted?

21 A: It does. It shows that it was deleted.

22 Q: So, the contact for that number was deleted from the
23 phone?

24 A: That's correct.

25 Q: Before you used the Cellebrite machine?

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1 A: That is correct.

2 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, we'd offer State's 49?

3 THE COURT: Objection, Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

6 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. It's in evidence without
8 objection.

9 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 49

10 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

11 THE COURT: You may proceed.

12 BY MR. DEBUSK:

13 Q: Does the Cellebrite program create a call log, that is
14 the number -- list of phone calls by time?

15 A: It does, yes.

16 Q: Once again, let me get this marked.

17 I'm showing you what's been marked as State's Exhibit 50
18 and ask if you recognize that.

19 A: I do.

20 Q: What is it?

21 A: It's the -- it's the call log.

22 Q: Is it the entire call log that you recovered or just
23 portions of it.

24 A: Just a portion.

25 Q: Does the number associated with Mr. Freeman appear on Mr.

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1 McIver's call log?

2 A: It does.

3 Q: Are those indicated in any way?

4 A: They are -- they are indicated on the call log, yes.

5 Q: How so?

6 A: It just shows whether the call for Freeman's phone is
7 either called, or it came in, or it was a missed call ---

8 Q: Well, first, are they highlighted in some way?

9 A: They are highlighted, yes.

10 Q: In what color?

11 A: Pink.

12 Q: Okay. Are some of those calls labeled to?

13 A: They are labeled to.

14 Q: And some from?

15 A: They are labeled from.

16 Q: Could you tell the jury, although it's probably obvious,
17 what does the to and from mean?

18 A: Who the call was made to or who the call came from.

19 Q: So, if it's McIver's list that says to, that would be
20 McIver calling the other number?

21 A: That's correct.

22 Q: And if it says from, it would be the other number calling
23 McIver?

24 A: That's correct. And it even -- next to, it says
25 outgoing; and from, it says incoming.

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1 Q: So, it gives you two, two ---

2 A: Yeah, two ways of knowing.

3 Q: Now, does it also show the length of the call?

4 A: It does.

5 Q: Would it be safe to say that a very short call probably
6 didn't go through?

7 A: That would be safe to say.

8 Q: Maybe the other person didn't answer?

9 A: Possibly.

10 Q: Maybe the phone battery was dead; maybe the phone was
11 turned off?

12 A: Possibly, yes.

13 Q: But it didn't -- probably didn't answer?

14 A: Correct.

15 Q: But if it's over a minute, it was probably a
16 conversation?

17 A: Typically.

18 Q: Now, this is a call log, correct, it's not texts and
19 pictures and things like that; that's just the phone calls,
20 correct?

21 A: That's correct, just phone numbers.

22 Q: Now, if you would, at the top of that, since it's from
23 Mr. McIver's phone, would you write McIver?

24 A: Sure.

25 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, at this time, the State would

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1 move State's 50 into evidence.

2 MR. BELLAMY: Is that the one he just testified to?

3 No objection, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: It's in evidence without objection then,
7 State's 50.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 50

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 BY MR. DEBUSK:

11 Q: To summarize, we have the call log for Mr. McIver's phone
12 showing contacts between he and Mr. Freeman, correct?

13 A: Correct.

14 Q: We have the contact list showing Mr. Freeman's contact
15 was deleted, correct?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: We have the usage statistics shows that the only -- of
18 the top 27 most frequently called numbers, the only one that
19 the contact had been deleted was Mr. Freeman's number?

20 A: That's correct,

21 Q: And we have from Ananda's phone the contact log with the
22 highlighted times she communicated with Mr. Freeman's phone?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Do these phones also contain pictures and videos?

25 A: They do.

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1 Q: Did you review the pictures and videos as well?

2 A: I did.

3 Q: Were there some videos -- are you familiar with a witness
4 named Tabetha Oxendine?

5 A: I am.

6 Q: And you're familiar with the two defendants, Mr. McIver
7 and Mr. Freeman?

8 A: I am.

9 Q: Was there video depicting Ms. Oxendine in the phone?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Where there multiple videos?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: Was she engaged in a sexual act?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: With whom?

16 A: Mr. Freeman.

17 Q: Okay. And this was on Mr. McIver's phone?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: It was not Mr. Freeman taking the videos because he was
20 engaged; is that correct?

21 A: That's correct.

22 Q: Were there five such videos?

23 A: I believe that's correct.

24 MR. DEBUSK: Court's indulgence for one moment.

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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1 Q: I'm showing you State's 51 and ask if you recognize that.

2 A: I do.

3 Q: What is it?

4 A: This is just the times and dates that these videos were
5 created.

6 Q: And each five of those videos depict sexual activity
7 between Ms. Oxendine and Mr. Freeman?

8 A: That is correct.

9 Q: And that's just the times and the dates?

10 A: That is correct.

11 Q: Did you watch those videos?

12 A: I did.

13 Q: Were they all taken at the same place?

14 A: They were not.

15 Q: Okay. Were the first three taken at the same place?

16 A: They were.

17 Q: And how could you tell?

18 A: Just from the background surroundings; they were the
19 same.

20 Q: The furnishings, the bedspreads, and such?

21 A: The furnishings, bedspreads.

22 Q: The second two were they taken a different place?

23 A: They were.

24 Q: Okay. Thank you. Were you, did you deal with the

25 defendant McIver when he was officially taken into custody in

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1 Charlotte? Or did you see him?

2 A: I did see him, yes.

3 Q: Okay. At that time, was his hairstyle different than it
4 is now?

5 A: Yeah, I believe it was, yes.

6 Q: What his hairstyle then?

7 A: It was more of a like long dreads.

8 Q: Dreadlocks?

9 A: Braids type, yeah.

10 Q: Long braids?

11 A: Yeah.

12 Q: Okay. Thank you.

13 A: You're welcome.

14 Q: Please answer any questions the defense might have for
15 you.

16 A: Sure.

17 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy?

18 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor.

19 CROSS EXAMINATION OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. BELLAMY:

20 Q: Detective Lynch, are you aware that you got the cell
21 phone of Mr. McIver because when he turned himself in, he
22 brought his phone with him, didn't he?

23 A: To my knowledge, that is correct.

24 Q: Okay. And in fact, he came to the police, didn't he?

25 A: Well, I believe he was brought to the police.

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1 Q: Not by the police though?

2 A: Not by the police, that's correct.

3 Q: His uncle in the courtroom here, took him there?

4 A: To my understanding, that is correct.

5 Q: And he took him there with full knowledge that the police
6 wanted to talk to him about a murder, right?

7 A: I'm not sure what they would have talked to him about at
8 that time, but he knew that they wanted to speak with him,
9 yes.

10 Q: Okay. So, he wasn't just walking by and stopped in to
11 ask directions?

12 A: That is correct.

13 Q: And he had his phone with him?

14 A: That is correct.

15 Q: With the full knowledge that there's videos on there of
16 him, Ms. Oxendine, Mr. Freeman, and Ms. Fisher, correct?

17 A: I would assume that to be correct, yes.

18 Q: Because it's -- and the solicitor has got these videos,
19 right?

20 A: They should.

21 Q: Okay. It's clear that my client was taking the videos,
22 correct?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: And there's, for the jury's edification, there's a
25 difference in going to like Sprint or T-Mobile or whoever, and

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1 getting phone records from them and then having the phone.

2 You have a whole lot more to get out of the phone, don't you?

3 A: Correct.

4 Q: Such as internet searches?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: So, even if you get in there looking for directions or
7 anything, you've got a record of that?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Again, the photos, the videos, you've got that?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: You've got text messages on that phone, right?

12 A: Correct.

13 Q: You've got emails on that phone, right?

14 A: Correct.

15 Q: You've got social media stuff, all -- it is a --
16 literally and especially with young people, it is a picture of
17 one's life; is it not?

18 A: It is.

19 Q: In today's world?

20 A: Sure.

21 Q: Good, bad, or indifferent. And you have -- you ran this
22 report on my client's phone, right?

23 A: Yes, sir; I did.

24 Q: If you would just briefly look at this and see if you can
25 tell us what it is?

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1 A: This should be. ---

2 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, if we're discussing it on the
3 record, I would ask that it be marked for identification.

4 MR. BELLAMY: Only for identification at this point.

5 THE COURT: All right, sir.

6 MR. BELLAMY: Defendant's 1, I'm sorry, Your Honor.

7 It's one exhibit.

8 A: This should be the ---

9 THE COURT: Just a second. He needs to get it marked
10 first.

11 COURT REPORTER: Defendant McIver 1 and 2 for ID.

12 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Ms. Dixie.

13 DEFENDANT MCIVER EXHIBITS NUMBER 1 AND 2

14 MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION

15 BY MR. BELLAMY:

16 Q: And you were getting ready to answer, so go ahead,
17 Detective Lynch?

18 A: This appears to be the complete report that was generated
19 by the Cellebrite machine for Nicholas McIver's cell phone.

20 Q: Okay. And you -- you did that whole report and you've
21 reviewed all of that to see if there's anything on there at
22 all that would help in this investigation, did you not?

23 A: I did do the report, yes, that's correct.

24 Q: And you reviewed it, did you not?

25 A: Yes, I did.

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1 Q: Okay. And that goes back to what Solicitor DeBusk has
2 cherry-picked out of here is just like a call log from one day
3 or of a couple of hours or something, but this call log goes
4 back months, years; so, it's a full and complete. So, you've
5 got access to everything, right?

6 A: Correct.

7 Q: And in that, is there anything in Mr. McIver's phone,
8 whether it's email, text, SMS, MMS, anything prior to July
9 8th, 2016 that indicates there's ever been any contact with
10 Ms. Amanda Fisher or Ms. Tabetha Oxendine?

11 A: I don't recall seeing any of that.

12 Q: And in fact, even after that date, there's never --
13 there's no contact between my client's phone and Amanda Fisher
14 or Tabetha Oxendine, is there?

15 A: I don't believe there is.

16 Q: And is there any text messages between -- so, there's no
17 contact there between my client's phone and anybody that
18 indicates a plan to come here to the beach and kill Ms.
19 Fisher?

20 A: I don't believe there is, no.

21 Q: Is there anything after 11:15 July 9th, 11:15 A.M. July
22 9th, text, email, internet search, at all that indicates that
23 my client killed Ms. Fisher?

24 A: I think that would kinda be left up for interpretation.

25 Q: Well, you tell us, did he text someone saying I just

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1 killed somebody; is that in there?

2 A: No.

3 Q: Did he do an internet search on how to burn a car?

4 A: No, sir.

5 Q: Now, in addition to, the solicitor talked about my client
6 calling Mr. Freeman. Most of those calls went unanswered
7 based on the timeframe; would you say that's accurate?

8 A: I would say that is accurate, yes.

9 Q: And, but you do have calls on there where he made contact
10 with various other people, correct?

11 A: Yes, that is correct.

12 Q: And most of them or some of them you did have a name or a
13 contact associated with and these are calls after 11:15 A.M.
14 that morning, right?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: And so, you had access to those people to contact them
17 and say, hey, what did Mr. Freeman tell you -- not Mr.
18 Freeman, Mr. McIver. You've had that opportunity, haven't
19 you?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: Because you had all that data even if you didn't have a
22 name associated with it, you -- you've got a way to figure it
23 out, right?

24 A: Correct.

25 Q: And I'm sure you went and looked or talked and did the

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1 investigation, were you able to develop any witness to help or
2 tell you anything that says my client killed Ms. Fisher?

3 A: No.

4 Q: Did you have any other role, Will, in -- yours was
5 primarily the phone stuff or did you do any like crime scene
6 out there at the K&W?

7 A: I was involved a few days after the fact, going back to
8 the K&W and taking a few more pictures..

9 Q: Did you -- did you go to -- never mind, I believe that as
10 Detective Sheets that went to the autopsy. Did you go to
11 Charlotte?

12 A: I did.

13 Q: Okay. Did you do any analysis of the white Malibu that
14 had been burned?

15 A: I did not.

16 Q: Okay. Do you know of anybody from North Myrtle Beach
17 from crime scene did any analysis? And y'all have crime scene
18 -- there's a separate group that does crime scene versus
19 detectives; is that correct?

20 A: Typically, not in North Myrtle Beach. You know, we're a
21 smaller department. You know, each of us have been trained in
22 various aspects of investigations. Some people have more
23 crime scene experience than others. We don't generally have a
24 crime scene unit or a major crimes unit; we just -- it's
25 general investigations for us. So, unlike the Charlotte

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1 Police Department that may have various units, we just -- we
2 don't have that.

3 Q: Okay. Did you do any -- you didn't do any analysis on
4 the Malibu. What about the Ford truck which was taken into
5 custody or seized by Charlotte reportedly owned by my client;
6 did you do any analysis on that?

7 A: I did not, no.

8 Q: Are you aware of anything from that vehicle that was
9 taken for evidence or tested?

10 A: I'm not aware. I'm not -- I'm not sure ---

11 Q: Okay.

12 A: --- if something was or wasn't.

13 Q: I believe Detective Lynam would probably be better to ask
14 that question.

15 A: I would probably say so; that's correct.

16 Q: Did you do -- and I don't know whether it was you or
17 somebody else, are you aware of a subpoena done looking for
18 GPS coordinates of Ms. Fisher's -- when I say GPS, I'm talking
19 which is locations, which would indicate locations of the
20 victim's phone during any time period?

21 A: I, I'm not a 100 percent sure if that was done or not. I
22 know there was -- I believe there was some records that were
23 attempted to have been obtained, but I'm not a 100 percent
24 sure. I cannot -- I don't recall.

25 Q: Okay. Did you do a subpoena to receive Mr. Freeman's

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1 cell phone records?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: And that would've been to the cell phone company,
4 correct?

5 A: That's correct.

6 Q: Because you were never able to recover his phone; it was
7 gone, right?

8 A: Correct.

9 Q: So, all the data that you could get off of Ms. Fisher's
10 phone and my client's phone is not necessarily available
11 through phone records?

12 A: That is correct.

13 Q: So, any photos, those sort of things, all you get is a
14 call log; you don't get substance of texts and things like
15 that?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: So, did you receive the phone records for Mr. Freeman?

18 A: We did.

19 Q: Can you tell me the approximate date that it was
20 provided?

21 A: July 18th of 2016.

22 Q: Nine days after this event?

23 A: Correct.

24 Q: And you turned those over to me when?

25 A: I didn't turn them over to you.

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- 1 Q: When did you turn them over to the solicitor?
- 2 A: Yesterday.
- 3 Q: Yesterday afternoon?
- 4 A: Yes, sir.
- 5 Q: Okay. In reference to those records, again, you're
- 6 limited because you only have a call log?
- 7 A: Correct, sir.
- 8 Q: But you -- what investigation have you done to
- 9 investigate any phone calls made on the call log of Mr.
- 10 Freeman?
- 11 A: As far as contacting other people?
- 12 Q: Yes, sir.
- 13 A: We haven't tried to contact anyone else.
- 14 Q: Okay. Now, the solicitor asked you or had you testify
- 15 about my client, a deleted contact?
- 16 A: Yes, sir.
- 17 Q: But in truth, with this machine you have, as I've heard
- 18 or been told, maybe you can verify it, you really can't delete
- 19 absent just destroying the phone; that it's there somewhere?
- 20 A: Well, what typically happens is it goes into an
- 21 unallocated space by the phone, but after you use so much of
- 22 the phone's memory, deleted stuff will begin to get deleted
- 23 off the phone.
- 24 Q: Now, Let me show you State's 49, what you've previously
- 25 identified, I guess, as the deleted contact?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Does it have a date on there that it was deleted?

3 A: No, the only date it has is just the last time that
4 number was contacted.

5 Q: So, if it was deleted, you can't tell me whether it was
6 deleted -- when it was deleted?

7 A: It just -- it would -- would've been deleted after the
8 last contact.

9 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence, Your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. BELLAMY:

12 Q: Thank you, Detective Lynch, I don't have anything
13 further.

14 A: All right.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

16 CROSS EXAMINATION OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. SPRATLIN:

17 Q: Good afternoon, Detective Lynch. A couple of quick
18 questions for you. Regarding the last topic Mr. Bellamy
19 covered extensively, my client's phone records that were
20 recovered by the search warrant, those did not contribute in
21 any way to the investigation in this case; is that correct?

22 A: That's correct.

23 Q: Now, I did want to actually ask you specifically, about
24 State's 47.

25 Your Honor, may I approach?

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1 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

2 Q: If you would, Detective Lynch, the first contact between
3 the phone number of my client and Ms. Fisher's phone, was that
4 an incoming or outgoing call from Ms. Fisher's phone?

5 A: This was an outgoing call from Ms. Fisher's phone.

6 Q: So, Ms. Fisher was the first one, according to phone
7 records, to initiate contact?

8 A: That's correct.

9 Q: These particular records, they don't show whether the
10 call was connected or not; is that correct?

11 A: On this particular report, it doesn't show, that's
12 correct. Now, if you went to the actual call log itself, this
13 is a -- this is the timeline report and, if you went to the
14 call log, it would show times that were associated with the
15 phone call which may or may not show up if it was actually
16 answered or not.

17 Q: Okay. So, all of these contacts don't necessarily mean
18 that there were phone conversations; it could've just been
19 voice mail, missed call, returned call?

20 A: Could've been.

21 Q: All right. Can you tell me what the last time contact
22 between Ms. Fisher's phone and my client's phone was -- first
23 off, what was it; was it a call or a message?

24 A: It was a text message.

25 Q: Okay. And going from my client's phone to Ms. Fisher or

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1 from Ms. Fisher to my client?

2 A: It was going from Ms. Fisher to your client.

3 Q: All right. And what was -- does that timeline report
4 have the details of what was sent in that text message?

5 A: It does; it has the message that was actually sent.

6 Q: And what was that message?

7 A: It says, is Tabby there cause I'm leaving.

8 Q: Okay. Now, regarding all of these phone logs that you
9 discussed with the solicitor in this case and also Mr. Bellamy
10 and on his cross examination, you have records of calls being
11 made to and from him, correct?

12 A: Correct.

13 Q: But you do not have any records of what the contents of
14 the communications or the -- what they were talking about.

15 A: Correct.

16 Q: There's no way to get that information?

17 A: Correct.

18 Q: In regarding the fact that the contact number associated
19 with my client's name shows as being deleted, whose phone was
20 this?

21 A: That was ---

22 Q: Mr. McIver's phone?

23 A: Yes, Nicholas McIver's.

24 Q: Okay. So, it was in his possession, custody, and
25 control.

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: If the contact was deleted, there's no way that my client
3 could've deleted it other than if he had the phone, right?

4 A: Correct.

5 Q: So, whoever had the phone must've deleted the contact?

6 A: That's correct.

7 Q: Again, not my client as far as you know?

8 A: Correct.

9 Q: In regarding there not being a name, I'm noticing several
10 deleted contacts where there's no name, is that accurate, just
11 on that one page of the report? Excuse me, I'm referring to
12 State's 49 for Madam Court Reporter. I might be reading that
13 wrong, but I think there's been a couple of contacts deleted;
14 is that correct?

15 A: It looks like there's -- well, actually one of the
16 contacts is actually the same -- the same number, it's Mr.
17 Freeman's number and the other ones actually have a name or
18 initials beside it. So, the only one really is just the one
19 that doesn't have a name beside it, which would be Mr.
20 Freeman's phone.

21 Q: Okay. But again, whoever owned the phone, whoever
22 possessed the phone, would've been the one deleting that?

23 A: Correct.

24 Q: Now, regarding State's Exhibit Number 48, this activity
25 analytics report, is that -- am I saying that correctly?

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WILL LYNCH - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: You are.

2 Q: All right. And that shows the most contacted numbers
3 that a person has, basically?

4 A: Correct.

5 Q: And that includes -- does that include text messages?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And phone calls?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: So, 261 being total -- well, on this thing actually says
10 phone events, does that differentiate at all or is that still
11 could be either one?

12 A: It could be either one.

13 Q: Okay. So, not necessarily that they've talked on the
14 phone, had long conversations 261 times, just that back and
15 forth there have been texts or phone calls, or something like
16 that, 261 times?

17 A: Correct.

18 Q: And would it be an event every time Mr. McIver sent my
19 client a text message?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: And would it be an event every time my client sent Mr.
22 McIver a text message?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Okay. And my client -- or if my client called Mr.
25 McIver?

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- 1 A: Correct.
- 2 Q: Or if Mr. McIver called my client?
- 3 A: Correct.
- 4 Q: And my client is Number 9 on the list, right?
- 5 A: Correct.
- 6 Q: Okay. Not number 1. Who's Number 1?
- 7 A: It looks like Tyqua.
- 8 Q: Tyqua or Tyquajua
- 9 A: Yep.
- 10 Q: Okay. Are you aware or ever become aware that that is
- 11 somehow the person that is romantically related to Nicholas
- 12 McIver?
- 13 A: I didn't know that.
- 14 Q: Okay. All right. It's not unusual to see on a man's
- 15 phone, the first contact being a woman, though, is it?
- 16 A: Not unusual.
- 17 Q: In fact, if we were to run your phone, would it be your
- 18 wife?
- 19 A: Most likely.
- 20 Q: Who would be Number nine on your phone, Detective?
- 21 A: I don't know if I even contact nine people.
- 22 Q: Could it be someone you worked with?
- 23 A: It could be someone I work with, yes.
- 24 Q: But not necessarily anything malicious or malevolent
- 25 about being Number 9 on a person's contact list, is there?

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WILL LYNCH - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: No.

2 Q: Okay. Regarding these videos that you said you watched
3 that were downloaded from Nichols McIver's phone, I believe
4 you stated they, they show sexual acts between my client and
5 Tabetha Oxendine, correct?

6 A: That's correct.

7 Q: You didn't witness any crimes on these videos, did you?

8 A: I did not.

9 Q: What they were doing wasn't criminal?

10 A: No.

11 Q: It was -- it appeared to you from watching these videos,
12 to be consensual sexual relations between a man and a woman?

13 A: Correct.

14 Q: In a hotel room?

15 A: Correct.

16 Q: On those videos you watched, nobody is being hurt, right?

17 A: No.

18 Q: Thank you, detective, I think that's all the questions I
19 have.

20 A: Okay. Thank you.

21 THE COURT: Redirect?

22 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. DEBUSK:

24 Q: Detective Lynch, why did you turn over those phone
25 records of Mr. Freeman so late?

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WILL LYNCH - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Well, we thought they had been previously submitted and
2 we were not aware that they hadn't been submitted as of ---

3 Q: It was a mistake?

4 A: It was a mistake, yes, absolutely.

5 Q: And you said that Mr. McIver turned himself in. He
6 actually turned himself in with Mr. Freeman, didn't he?

7 A: That's correct.

8 Q: And by the time he turned himself in, Amanda's car had
9 been burned, right?

10 A: Absolutely.

11 Q: The contact for Mr. Freeman had been deleted from Mr.
12 McIver's phone, correct?

13 A: That's correct.

14 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, I would ask him not to lead the
15 witness.

16 THE COURT: Based upon the prior testimony, it's already
17 in evidence without objection. I'm gonna allow the question.

18 BY MR. DEBUSK:

19 Q: Had both defendants already fled from K&W parking lot?

20 A: They had.

21 Q: All the way to Charlotte?

22 A: They had.

23 Q: Had Ms. Fisher's cards had already been used?

24 A: They had.

25 Q: At more than one place?

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WILL LYNCH - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: That's correct.

2 Q: Okay. You have in front of you, I believe it's
3 Defendant's Exhibit 1. Would you say that was a fair and
4 accurate copy of the entire Cellebrite report?

5 A: Yes.

6 MR. DEBUSK: We'd offer this entire report into evidence
7 as State's Exhibit, Your Honor.

8 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, may I approach?

9 THE COURT: Certainly.

10 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record in
11 the presence of but outside the hearing of the jury.)

12 BY MR. DEBUSK:

13 Q: I believe it was Mr. Bellamy that said there was no
14 contact with Amanda after July 9th, 2016; is that correct?

15 A: I think so.

16 Q: Wasn't she dead after July 19th?

17 A: She was.

18 Q: Was there contact with Freeman after Amanda was found
19 dead in the K&W parking lot?

20 A: There was.

21 Q: Multiple calls?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Did they talk -- were there calls that were well over a
24 minute?

25 A: There were.

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WILL LYNCH - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Indicating that there was ---

2 A: Conversation.

3 Q: --- conversation?

4 A: Correct.

5 Q: Can you tell us what the content of that conversation
6 was?

7 A: I cannot.

8 Q: But we know of the fact that on some occasions they
9 talked as long as five minutes; is that correct?

10 A: That's correct.

11 Q: Okay. And on the list of most frequently called
12 contacts, I've just noticed this, who were the top eight?

13 A: Based on the name, they all appear to be females.

14 Q: But is each name listed once or do they appear to be
15 listed twice?

16 A: Listed twice.

17 Q: So, for some reason when that format came out, it came
18 out with each contact listed twice?

19 A: That's correct.

20 Q: So, in fact, it's the Number 5 contact on that list?

21 A: Correct.

22 MR. DEBUSK: Nothing further, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Anything on those questions, Mr. Bellamy?

24 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, very briefly,

25 Judge?

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WILL LYNCH - RECROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

2 RECROSS EXAMINATION OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. BELLAMY:

3 Q: Detective Lynch, I'm gonna show you State's 48 ---

4 A: Okay.

5 Q: --- which is the analytic report which breaks down the
6 contacts. What timeframe -- is that from the entire time that
7 phone, which goes back a long time, cause 700-and-some events,
8 right, at the top that would be the Number 1, and 261 is four
9 or nine, wherever you want to put it ---

10 A: Sure.

11 Q: Can we -- can we -- you identify the dates that that --
12 did you cherry-pick, like from date from ---

13 A: No, sir.

14 Q: --- point A to B or is that the entire time that that
15 phone had been in use?

16 A: That's correct; the entire time that phone had been in
17 use.

18 Q: Okay. From, and do you have the dates of those?

19 A: Well, it would be to the time that we -- or the Charlotte
20 Police -- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department actually
21 took possession of that phone would be the last time, I'm
22 sure.

23 Q: And I understand that, but do you know when the start
24 dates would have been?

25 A: June 14th, 2016. So, less than a month or maybe a month.

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WILL LYNCH - RECROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: Okay. Now, again, this is your document -- as I read the
2 top of this, it has something saying created, modified,
3 assessed, and that's dated 7/2/16 beside created and the time.
4 What does that mean at the very top?

5 A: I'd have to see where this came from, but if this was a
6 picture of a video, it just basically meant when it was
7 actually taken and then stored onto the phone.

8 Q: So, there's some video or something?

9 A: Yes, it's either a video or a picture. That's what that
10 is and that would be what was associated with it.

11 Q: I gotcha. Thank you, Detective Lynch.

12 A: You're welcome.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

15 RECROSS EXAMINATION OF WILL LYNCH BY MR. SPRATLIN:

16 Q: Detective, regarding these calls that took place for
17 several seconds or even possibly minutes, is it possible that
18 those could have been routed to voice mail?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: So, not necessarily an actual phone call, someone
21 could've been leaving a voice mail at the time?

22 A: It could; yes, that's correct.

23 Q: So, all these contacts on this phone, which the solicitor
24 asked about, could be voice mail, call back, voice mail, call
25 back, four phone calls?

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WILL LYNCH - RECROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: It could be; yes, sir.

2 Q: Okay. And again, Mr. Bellamy brought this up on his
3 redirect or recross, excuse me, you said it was about a
4 month's timeframe for his analytics report, give or take?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: And my client's Number 5 on the list based on what the
7 solicitor said, correct?

8 A: Correct.

9 Q: Nothing malevolent or malicious about being Number 5 on
10 somebody's contact list, is there?

11 A: No, sir.

12 Q: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Anything else, Solicitor?

14 MR. DEBUSK: One moment, Your Honor. Nothing further.

15 THE COURT: All right. Very good. Do you wish the
16 witness to be excused?

17 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor, we would.

18 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right, sir, you're released from your
23 subpoena, you may go back to your regular duties.

24 MR. LYNCH: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

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BY THE COURT

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1 BY THE COURT:

2 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we are going
3 to break for lunch. I would ask that you be back in your jury
4 room at 2:30, please. Back in your jury room at 2:30.
5 Obviously, don't talk about the case, don't allow anybody to
6 talk to you about it.

7 See you at 2:30. Thank you.

8 Everyone else remain seated while the jury retires.

9 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
10 place outside the presence of the jury.)

11 THE COURT: Anything else from the state at this point in
12 time?

13 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. From the defense, Mr. Bellamy?

15 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

17 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, gentlemen. 2:30.

19 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 RECESS

21 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

22 (On the Record.)

23 BY THE COURT:

24 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, you ready for the jury
25 to come in?

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1 MR. DEBUSK: I think Mr. Bellamy had something he wanted
2 to bring up, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Yes, sir, Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor. I've been told that
5 the next witness is Owen Lynam, the lead detective in the
6 case, Your Honor. I would like to elicit, there were -- there
7 are three statements that he's made during the course of this
8 investigation and ask him did he make that statement in the
9 course of the investigation. One of them being ---

10 THE COURT: I'm sorry, that Detective Lynam has made
11 these statements?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, these are recorded statements that
13 were done in the course of ---

14 THE COURT: No, no, no, no. I don't think you understood
15 my question. The statements you're talking about, are they
16 statements that Detective Lynam said; that's what you want to
17 ask him about?

18 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Okay. All right. And but -- and I want to
20 make sure that I don't open the door to anything. These three
21 statements were made in the course of the interview -- an
22 interview he did with Codefendant Freeman where he makes the
23 statement, I don't think this was premeditated. This case was
24 solved in 24 hours, and then there's a third statement in
25 there as well. I don't want to open the door to that

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BY THE COURT

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1 statement coming in. Obviously, *Bruton* prohibits it.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 MR. BELLAMY: But they are statements -- I would not ask
4 him anything about Mr. Freeman on that statement, but it's a
5 statement that he has made in the context of this
6 investigation.

7 MR. DEBUSK: And, Your Honor, the only possible response
8 that Detective Lynam could have is that these are made in the
9 course of interrogation when you're trying develop rapport
10 with the defendant and they're not really true beliefs, they
11 were just things you say to try to develop rapport with the
12 defendant.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. DEBUSK: If he does that, then he opens the door to
15 the fact that Mr. Freeman ---

16 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Spratlin, you want to chime in on
17 this?

18 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, I would oppose any -- any
19 questions or anything bringing up a statement that would open
20 the door to allow the fact that my client either gave a
21 statement to law enforcement or the contents of what that is,
22 because if it was brought up and the door was opened, I think
23 I would then be able to come back and ask who my client said
24 was the actual shooter, which would obviously implicate Mr.
25 Bellamy's client.

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BY THE COURT

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1 THE COURT: Okay. So, I'm just struggling here and y'all
2 help me. Struggling here, Mr. Bellamy. Mr. Lynam is
3 conducting an interview of your client?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Mr. Freeman.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 MR. BELLAMY: Mr. Spratlin's client.

7 THE COURT: Okay. And he made a statement in the course
8 of that questioning of Mr. Freeman?

9 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: No, sir, I'm not gonna allow that. You can
11 proffer it, but I'm not -- I'm not allowing that because that
12 is clearly going to prejudice the rights of the -- of the
13 defendant represented by Mr. Spratlin, and it could have no
14 other purpose but to inflame the jury against the defendant
15 Freeman. It has no other purpose. But I'd be glad for you to
16 proffer those questions, but ---

17 MR. BELLAMY: Can I follow-up on one particular --
18 another question ---

19 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

20 MR. BELLAMY: It does relate specifically to my client is
21 there's a videotape in which depicts my client maybe having a
22 gun after the fact. Mr. Lynam makes a statement there, I
23 don't know whether it's a gun or a pill bottle.. So, if he
24 were to testify, yes, I think he's got a gun, could I then
25 say, haven't you also made the statement -- and I'm not gonna

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BY THE COURT

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1 reference anything about Mr. Freeman that it was done during
2 any interview of him, I'm just saying have you made a
3 statement.

4 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, you intending to ask
5 Detective Lynam that question?

6 MR. DEBUSK: We'll discuss the, the, the video where he
7 appears to pull a gun from his waistband and put it in the
8 truck, but the only possible comeback to what he wants to use
9 to cross examine him with is that that was made in the context
10 of an interrogation, and it was not necessarily my belief but
11 something I'm saying to the defendant to try to get him to be
12 more forthcoming.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 MR. DEBUSK: And that defendant would've been Mr.
15 Spratlin's client.

16 THE COURT: All right. You're going to be -- how the
17 question would be coming up -- okay. The videos are already
18 in evidence, right?

19 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir.

20 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. And you're gonna be publishing
22 them through Detective Lynam?

23 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: The only way it could come up is if you're
25 asking Detective Lynam, tell me what you see on the screen?

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. DEBUSK: Right.

2 THE COURT: That's the jury's job. It's not his job to
3 tell them what they see. They either see it or they don't see
4 it. Now, you can comment on evidence in your closing.

5 MR. DEBUSK: Okay.

6 THE COURT: That it, you know, whatever you think it is
7 or, you know, what, you know, your speculation about that, you
8 know, depending upon how you phrase it, you know, there may be
9 an objection. But, you can't ask the officer --- say, tell me
10 what that shows. That's a jury's job.

11 MR. DEBUSK: Can he ---

12 MR. BELLAMY: That cures my problem.

13 MR. DEBUSK: Can we ask to the extent does he appear to
14 be pulling something from his waistband without saying what
15 the object is? It's obvious from the video.

16 THE COURT: Well, if it's obvious, the jury's gonna see
17 it.

18 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: And you can comment on the evidence that's in
20 record at the time of your closing, but you can't have the
21 witness tell the jury that's what you see ---

22 MR. DEBUSK: I understand.

23 THE COURT: --- in the, you know, in the video. They --
24 that's their job to interpret it. So, the detective is not
25 gonna be saying that.

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. DEBUSK: Understood, Your Honor. He won't be saying
2 that that's a gun.

3 THE COURT: So, that -- you're not gonna be asking any
4 questions about it then?

5 MR. BELLAMY: No question at all, no, sir.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 MR. BELLAMY: The other two questions, would it be
8 possible to proffer what that would be just so I can preserve
9 the record?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. The -- let's -- it's
11 sort of hard to get them out of context at this point in time,
12 you know, I mean you can ask them now and get them in the
13 record, but they're sort of out of context as to where it
14 might come in his testimony, but if you want to do it now,
15 fine, we can do it now.

16 MR. BELLAMY: I think now. That way when the jury comes
17 in, we want have any ---

18 THE COURT: All right. That's fine. So, call the --
19 call the witness, Solicitor.

20 MR. DEBUSK: Owen Lynam, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Place him under oath.

22 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
23 hand on the Bible.

24 OWEN LYNAM, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

25 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

State v. McIver and Freeman
OWEN LYNAM - PROFFER DIRECT BY BELLAMY

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1 MR. LYNAM: Hello. My name is Owen Lynam, O-W-E-N, L-Y-
2 N-A-M.

3 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Bellamy.

4 PROFFER DIRECT EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. BELLAMY:

5 Q: Detective Lynam, just briefly. You conducted an
6 interview of Mr. Freeman back in March of '17, I believe,
7 correct?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Okay. And that interview was recorded by yourself and
10 Detective Lynch?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And there's a transcript, I don't know if you know this,
13 that the solicitor has done of that, had it typed up?

14 A: Okay.

15 Q: Okay. And during the course of that interview, did you
16 ever make the statement that we had this case wrapped up
17 within 24 hours?

18 A: I haven't actually watched the video in quite a while
19 but, yeah, I would say it was a very good chance that I did
20 say that.

21 Q: And did you also, the second statement, did you also make
22 a statement that we know this wasn't premeditated, it just
23 happened?

24 A: Again, I haven't watched the video recently but, yeah,
25 there's a real good chance that I did say that.

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OWEN LYNAM - PROFFER CROSS BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Okay.

2 MR. BELLAMY: That would be it, Judge.

3 THE COURT: All right. The -- Mr. Spratlin, do you want
4 to ask any questions on that?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, is there anything you
7 want to ask about that?

8 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

9 PROFFER CROSS EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. DEBUSK:

10 Q: Why would you make such statements in the contents of the
11 interview?

12 A: If I made those statements, they would've been made early
13 on basically building rapport with the -- Mr. Freeman at the
14 time.

15 Q: To convince a -- a witness to, to be more forthcoming, is
16 that why you would say that?

17 A: Yeah, to share his story.

18 BY THE COURT:

19 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. All right. Again,
20 the Court -- you can step down, sir. The Court reaffirms my
21 ruling. I'm not gonna allow those questions to be asked
22 because I think that would directly implicate the codefendant
23 in this matter and prejudice his rights. It would be, I find,
24 a violation, you know, a *Bruton* violation, and that also that
25 it opens the door to matters that clearly are improper and

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BY THE COURT

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1 cannot be placed before, before this jury. So, I'm not gonna
2 allow it.

3 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. Ask the jury to come in then.

5 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

6 THE COURT: All right, Solicitor, your next witness,
7 please.

8 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor. The state calls Owen
9 Lynam.

10 THE COURT: All right. Please come around to be sworn,
11 sir.

12 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
13 hand on the Bible.

14 OWEN LYNAM, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN

15 TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

16 MR. LYNAM: My name is Owen Lynam, O-W-E-N, L-Y-N-A-M.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. DEBUSK:

18 Q: All right. Detective Lynam, who is your employer?

19 A: The City of North Myrtle Beach Department of Public
20 Safety.

21 Q: How long have you been with them?

22 A: Twenty-five years last month.

23 Q: Now, what do you do as a member of the North Myrtle Beach
24 Public Safety?

25 A: I'm currently assigned to the criminal investigations

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OWEN LYNAM - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 division as a detective.

2 Q: You work with the detective you just saw?

3 A: Detective Lynch, yes, sir.

4 Q: Were your duties the same on July 9th, 2016?

5 A: Yes, they were.

6 Q: Were you involved in the investigation of the death of
7 Amanda Fisher?

8 A: Yes, sir; I was.

9 Q: What was your role?

10 A: On the morning of the incident, July the 9th, I received
11 a call at my residence from my sergeant instructing me to
12 respond to the incident location, which was the K&W Cafeteria
13 at North Myrtle Beach at 1621 North Highway 17 in reference to
14 ---

15 Q: Let me stop you for just a second. I ask you to look at
16 State's Exhibit 52 and ask if you recognize that?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: Is the K&W that you responded to located on that exhibit?

19 A: Yes, it is.

20 Q: Is that a fair and accurate representation of the layout
21 in that section of North Myrtle Beach?

22 A: Yes, sir; it is.

23 Q: At this time, the state would offer State's 52 into
24 evidence?

25 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

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OWEN LYNAM - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. BELLAMY: No sir, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

3 MR. SPRATLIN: There's no objections, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: So, it's into evidence without objection.

5 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 52

6 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: So, as far as the roads go, Detective Lynam, the K&W,
9 what highway is it on?

10 A: K&W is located right on Highway 17 at the northern part
11 of the city limits.

12 Q: Where is it relative to that big bridge over Highway 17
13 -- over the Intracoastal Waterway there?

14 A: It's approximately a quarter of a mile just south of the
15 bridge.

16 Q: Is it close to the intersection of Highway 9, Number 9
17 going over to inland?

18 A: Yes, it is, it's about a half a mile from Highway 9.

19 Q: Is that shown on that exhibit?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may I publish that?

22 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

23 BY MR. DEBUSK:

24 Q: Okay. When you responded, what did you find?

25 A: I responded directly to the incident location. Upon my

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OWEN LYNAM - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 arrival, there was quite a lot of law enforcement already on
2 the scene along with fire department, EMS, and the
3 representative from the coroner's office was there. The crime
4 scene was already cordoned off with tape and the victim's body
5 was still laying on the tarmac.

6 Q: Just so the jury will know, you seem to be looking down
7 at something; what do you have?

8 A: I brought some notes that I had for my case.

9 Q: Oh, those are your case report?

10 A: Yeah, yes, sir.

11 Q: The reason you write reports is so you can testify
12 accurately later, right?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: Okay. Was the victim still there when you arrived?

15 A: Yes, she was.

16 Q: Okay. In the course of the investigation, was the North
17 Myrtle Beach Police Department or Department of Public Safety
18 able to identify her?

19 A: Yes, upon my arrival, I made contact with the watch
20 commander, Sergeant Rose and Detective Vicks already on scene.
21 They informed me that they obtained the victim's phone, that
22 it was still located on the scene. By using her phone through
23 the 911 system, they'd already verified the victim's identity.

24 Q: Who was the victim?

25 A: The victim was Amanda Fisher.

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OWEN LYNAM - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Were you present when she was transported from the scene?

2 A: I believe if I was still there, yes, sir.

3 Q: Okay. She would've been taken to -- for autopsy; is that
4 correct?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: And the coroner would be responsible for that, correct?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Once you identified the victim and her name, did you
9 identify the family -- or I'm sorry, notify the family?

10 A: The family was actually notified by the coroner.

11 Q: Did you speak with the family?

12 A: Yes, I did, later that evening, I actually drove to River
13 View Drive in Shallotte, and I met with the victim's family.
14 I met with her mom, Renee Vann; her step-dad, Michael; and her
15 cousin, Tabetha Oxendine.

16 Q: State's Exhibit 4 here, K&W is indicated on there?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: And is the place where you met the witnesses indicated on
19 there?

20 A: Yes, it is.

21 Q: Where is it?

22 A: K&W is right here (indicating). The victim's right here
23 in the top corner.

24 Q: Did you say River View or ---

25 A: River View.

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1 Q: So, that would be this one?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: You drove up to, I believe, that's Shallotte; is that
4 correct?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: And you met with -- were you able to determine that you
7 had some key witnesses there?

8 A: Yes. When I got there, I learned that the victim's
9 cousin, Tabetha, had actually spent the night before with her
10 and that the victim had driven Tabetha home earlier that day.

11 Q: Did you get some information from those witnesses about
12 possible suspects?

13 A: Yes, I did.

14 Q: Did you have names of possible suspects?

15 A: She provided one name and one partial name at that time.

16 Q: What was that?

17 A: The full name was Terrell Freeman and then there was a
18 partial name of Jacob.

19 Q: Did she have any more information, any photos, videos,
20 phone numbers that she could provide?

21 A: Yes, she did. She furnished me with Mr. Freeman's phone
22 number from her phone, and she also furnished me with a
23 photograph that she had in her phone from the night before.

24 Q: What did you do with that information once you got it;
25 the partial name, the full name, and the photo?

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1 A: Once she gave me the full name, upon returning to the
2 station in North Myrtle Beach, I contacted law enforcement
3 agencies in North Carolina.

4 Q: What particular part of North Carolina?

5 A: Charlotte-Mecklenburg. She informed me that Mr. Freeman
6 and Mr. McIver had stated they were from Charlotte. So, I
7 reached out to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, and I
8 made contact with Detective Helms.

9 Q: Did you ultimately get more of -- you got a partial name
10 of Jacob, did you ultimately get more of name for that
11 individual ---

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: --- from the North Carolina authorities?

14 A: Yes, sir. On July the 11th, Charlotte-Mecklenburg
15 provided the full name for Mr. McIver.

16 Q: What was it?

17 A: It was Nicholas Jacob McIver.

18 Q: Did you travel to Charlotte during the course of your
19 investigation?

20 A: Yes, sir; I made several trips to Charlotte.

21 Q: Was the victim -- was she found with her belongings, with
22 her vehicle, with her -- her purse, anything?

23 A: No, sir. The only thing I seen was the victim's body,
24 but her vehicle was not there.

25 Q: Did you do anything to try and locate her vehicle?

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1 A: Yes, sir. Upon speaking with the family, they provided
2 the information on the vehicle including the color, the make,
3 the year, the tag number. Again, upon returning to North
4 Myrtle Beach police station, I immediately entered the vehicle
5 as stolen in NCIC.

6 Q: What does NCIC stand for?

7 A: It's the National Crime Information Center. Basically,
8 it's a database used by law enforcement nationwide to enter
9 vehicles, missing persons, or try and locate vehicles and
10 missing persons.

11 Q: Sort of an information exchange for law enforcement?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: Did you ultimately find any clues of the whereabouts of
14 the Chevy Malibu that she was driving?

15 A: Yes, shortly after I'd entered it in NCIC through our
16 dispatch center, they called me back and advised that the
17 vehicle was already located in Charlotte, North Carolina area
18 that afternoon.

19 Q: Okay. What condition was it in?

20 A: The vehicle was found fully involved in fire.

21 Q: Did you ultimately go see that vehicle personally?

22 A: Yes, I did.

23 Q: Where did you see it?

24 A: The first time I saw it was, I believe it was July the
25 13th, the following Wednesday. It was located at their

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1 impound lot at the police department impound lot.

2 Q: I'm gonna show you State's 39 through 43 and ask if you
3 recognize these, that's State's 39 through 43?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: What are they?

6 A: Those are photographs of the victim's vehicle as we found
7 it in Charlotte, North Carolina.

8 MR. DEBUSK: These are already in evidence, Your Honor.

9 BY MR. DEBUSK:

10 Q: Was it pretty much fully burned?

11 A: Yes, sir, it was -- it was severe fire damage both to the
12 exterior and the interior of the vehicle.

13 Q: Was there any glass left in the vehicle?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: Was that a consequence of the fire?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Any upholstery?

18 A: No, sir.

19 Q: Carpet?

20 A: No, sir.

21 Q: In other words, it had been pretty much destroyed?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Did you obtain information in Charlotte about who was the
24 suspect in destroying the car?

25 A: Yes, sir. On that same night of the incident, Detective

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1 Helms responded to the fire scene. He had the vehicle secured
2 and realized it was related to the homicide we had earlier.
3 Through their investigation and canvassing the neighborhood
4 where the vehicle was set on fire, they obtained an
5 eyewitness. The eyewitness subsequently positively identified
6 Mr. McIver as the person seen running from the vehicle after
7 it was set alight.

8 Q: When you were present -- were you present when they
9 processed the car for evidence?

10 A: I returned to North Carolina in November and processed it
11 in November.

12 Q: Okay. When you processed it, had it been kept secure by
13 the Charlotte Police Department from ---

14 A: Yes, sir, it was wrapped in plastic and it was in the
15 secure location.

16 Q: The whole car wrapped in plastic?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: So, nothing could get in or out?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: I take it they had to cut the plastic off to process the
21 car?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: When you processed the car, did you find anything of
24 evidentiary value like bullets or bullet casings or anything?

25 A: No, we didn't find any bullets or bullet casings. We

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1 sifted through all the rubble and we ended up finding the
2 victim's purse partially burned.

3 Q: State's 46, is that what you're referring to?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Were there cards in that purse?

6 A: Yeah, her driver's license was in it and some other
7 identity cards.

8 Q: Were there credit cards in there?

9 A: No credit cards, no, sir.

10 Q: I think it's shown on the video we already looked at, but
11 were the keys in the car?

12 A: We found a melted key fob with some keys; yes, sir.

13 Q: State's 43?

14 A: Yes, sir; that's it.

15 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may I publish 39 through 43 to
16 the jury?

17 THE COURT: You may do so.

18 BY MR. DEBUSK:

19 Q: Now, in the course of your investigation, were you able
20 to determine where the victim and, I believe you said her
21 cousin, Ms. Oxendine, were staying?

22 A: Yes, sir. Upon speaking with Ms. Oxendine, she informed
23 us that her and Amanda had spent the Friday night at the
24 Holiday Sands North, a hotel located down in Myrtle Beach.

25 Q: Is that what is shown here on State's 4?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Holiday Sands North?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: In less detail here?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: In some ways ---

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 COURT REPORTER: Mr. DeBusk, I'm having a hard time
9 understanding you.

10 MR. DEBUSK: I'm sorry. I'll do my best.

11 COURT REPORTER: Use the microphone if you don't mind.

12 BY MR. DEBUSK:

13 Q: I'll step over here a little closer to you so Madam Court
14 Reporter can hear me.

15 Did you retrieve video footage from that location?

16 A: Yes, I did.

17 Q: Did you review that footage?

18 A: Yes, I did.

19 Q: Was there footage of the victim and her cousin on there?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: Was their footage of the suspects on there?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Did you determine where the defendants had been staying?

24 A: Yes, we determined that the defendants stayed at the

25 Lancer Motel located at -- on Highway 17, I believe it's the

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1 600 block.

2 Q: Is that shown here on State's Exhibit 4?

3 A: Yes, it is.

4 Q: It was fairly close to the Lancer; how many blocks away?

5 A: About -- less than four blocks.

6 Q: Did you retrieve video from that location?

7 A: Yes, we did.

8 Q: Was there video of the defendants at their hotel?

9 A: Yes, there was.

10 Q: At some point, did the victim appear on the video?

11 A: Yes, she did.

12 Q: So, at that point, you had information about the burning
13 car, the statement of Ms. Oxendine, the videos from the
14 hotels. Did you obtain video from any other sites?

15 A: Yes, we did. Upon speaking with the family, later that
16 Saturday evening, they advised us that Amanda's credit cards
17 had already been used at two separate locations; one in
18 Bennettsville, South Carolina, and once in Marshville, North
19 Carolina.

20 Q: Did you retrieve or receive footage from Bennettsville?

21 A: Yes, we did.

22 Q: Did it show the victim's car?

23 A: Yes, it did.

24 Q: Did it show an individual in possession of that car?

25 A: Yes, it did.

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1 Q: Who was that individual?

2 A: Nicholas McIver.

3 Q: Did it show -- did you obtain footage from Marshville,
4 North Carolina?

5 A: Yes, we did.

6 Q: Did you obtain purchase records from Marshville, North
7 Carolina?

8 A: Yes, we did.

9 Q: Did, did you see the victim's car in that?

10 A: Yes, we did.

11 Q: Was the victim's credit card used there?

12 A: Yes, it was.

13 Q: Who was it that used the credit card?

14 A: Nicholas McIver used the credit card.

15 Q: Did there come a time when you got warrants for the
16 defendants?

17 A: Yes, we did.

18 Q: Were they taken into custody?

19 A: They were actually taken to the police station in
20 Charlotte, North Carolina by a family member of Mr. McIver,
21 both defendants were taken in together.

22 Q: Okay. So, they came to the police station together?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: Were you present when or shortly after they were taken
25 into custody?

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1 A: Yeah, once they were taken into custody, I drove to
2 Charlotte, North Carolina PD.

3 Q: Do you see Mr. McIver in the courtroom today? Has there
4 been a change in his hairstyle since that time?

5 A: It's slightly shorter right now and back in July 2016, it
6 was more of longer dreads.

7 Q: Okay. Is that visible on the videos?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: I draw your attention to State's Exhibit 60 and ask if
10 you recognize that.

11 A: Yes, this is a still shot from the video footage at the
12 Marshville store.

13 Q: Is that the defendant?

14 A: Yes, it is.

15 Q: Is that his hair as you saw it at that time?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 MR. DEBUSK: We move to offer State's 60 into evidence.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

20 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right, sir. So, State's 60 is in
22 evidence without objection.

23 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 60

24 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

25 THE COURT: You may proceed.

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400

1 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 BY MR. DEBUSK:

4 Q: How about Mr. Freeman, is his hairstyle substantially
5 different today?

6 A: No, sir, it's pretty much the same.

7 Q: At the time of their arrest, did you receive a cell phone
8 from Nicholas McIver?

9 A: Yes, we did. Charlotte Police Department had taken
10 possession of the phone and then transferred it over to me.

11 Q: Was it ultimately analyzed?

12 A: Yes, it was.

13 Q: By whom?

14 A: Detective Lynch.

15 Q: Pursuant to a search warrant?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Did you get a phone from Terrell Freeman?

18 A: No, sir; we did not.

19 Q: Did you ever the phone of Terrell Freeman?

20 A: No, sir; we did not.

21 Q: Did you ultimately determine what -- or did you
22 ultimately determine what his phone number was?

23 A: Yes, we did.

24 Q: And that's in evidence, I believe.

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: Did you determine what sort of vehicle McIver and Freeman
2 arrived at Myrtle Beach in?

3 A: Yes, they were traveling in a older model Ford pickup
4 truck. I believe it was a late 90s model Ford pickup truck,
5 two-toned black-and-brown in color.

6 Q: I show you what's been marked as State's 57 and 58 and,
7 ask if you recognize that.

8 A: Yeah, those are photographs of the truck. One photograph
9 is from the Holiday Sands; one photograph is from the Lancer
10 Motel.

11 Q: Just for the record, which one is from the Lancer and
12 which one is from the Holiday Sands?

13 A: Number 57 is the Holiday Sands. Number 58 is the Lancer.

14 Q: Are those stills from the surveillance videos that you
15 retrieved?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, we'd offer 57 and 58 into
18 evidence?

19 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

20 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

22 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: In evidence without objection.

24 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBERS 57 AND 58

25 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

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402

1 BY MR. DEBUSK:

2 Q: Did you ultimately locate that truck in the course of
3 your investigation?

4 A: Yes, it was located by Charlotte Police Department.

5 Q: Did their -- did they seize the truck?

6 A: Yes, they did.

7 Q: Was it ultimately processed pursuant to a search warrant?

8 A: Yes, it was.

9 Q: I show you State's 53 and 54, and ask if you recognize
10 these.

11 A: Yeah, those are photographs of the truck taken at the
12 Charlotte Police impound lot.

13 Q: Does that appear to be the same vehicle that was in the
14 photos from the hotels?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 MR. DEBUSK: We'd offer State's 53 and 54 into evidence,
17 Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

19 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: In evidence without objection.

23 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBERS 53 AND 54

24 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

25 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish 53, 54, 57, 58 to the jury?

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1 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

2 BY MR. DEBUSK:

3 Q: When the truck was processed, did you find any evidence
4 pointing to McIver as the holder -- owner of that truck?

5 A: Yes, we recovered a paycheck stub from the truck made
6 payable to Mr. McIver.

7 Q: State's 55?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: It's a picture of the check stub to which you referred
10 earlier?

11 A: Yes, it is.

12 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, the state would off State's 55
13 into evidence.

14 THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Bellamy?

15 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

17 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection.

18 THE COURT: What number again?

19 MR. DEBUSK: 55, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: 55 is in evidence without objection.

21 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 55

22 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

23 THE COURT: You may proceed.

24 BY MR. DEBUSK:

25 Q: What was the payer of the check; what was the ---

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1 A: The check is bended; it's hard to make out who the payer
2 was.

3 Q: That's okay.

4 May I publish 55 to the jury, Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

6 BY MR. DEBUSK:

7 Q: Was the truck processed for evidence?

8 A: Yes, it was.

9 Q: Did you find anything of evidentiary value in the truck,
10 any weapons?

11 A: No, sir.

12 Q: Did you find any human blood?

13 A: No, sir.

14 Q: State's 56, what is that?

15 A: That's a photograph depicting the rear of the truck, the
16 pickup portion.

17 Q: Was that taken at the time the truck was processed?

18 A: Yes, it was; this was taken at the Charlotte Police
19 Department.

20 MR. DEBUSK: We would offer State's 56 into evidence,
21 Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

23 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, I'm not sure if I heard -- was
24 he present when this was taken?

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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1 Q: Were you present when this was taken?

2 A: Yes, I was.

3 MR. BELLAMY: No objection, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No objection, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: It's in evidence without objection.

7 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 56

8 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

9 BY MR. DEBUSK: May I publish, Your Honor?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. DEBUSK:

12 Q: What else did you do in the investigation? You spent
13 some weeks on this investigation, did you not?

14 A: Yes, sir. We tried to verify a lot of the information
15 that we received, basically the identities of the defendants,
16 cross referencing it with other information like phone numbers
17 we received. We tracked their movements while they were at
18 the beach and upon returning to North Carolina with the
19 victim's car, and just put it all together.

20 Q: Is it safe to say this was a geographically very
21 widespread case?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: In fact, your State's 4 goes all the way from Myrtle
24 Beach up into Shallotte?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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406

1 Q: And then on a wider scale still, you went all the way
2 from Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach to Charlotte,
3 correct?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: So, you must've spent a lot of time traveling?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, at this time, I'd like to
8 publish some of the videos that were entered into evidence
9 earlier in this case.

10 THE COURT: All right, sir.

11 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, may I have permission to move
12 myself so I can see the video?

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

14 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 BY MR. DEBUSK:

16 Q: While we're setting up the video, Detective Lynam, I show
17 you State's 59 and ask if you recognize that.

18 A: Yes, sir, the top photograph was a still shot from the
19 Lancer Motel showing Mr. McIver's pickup truck, and appears
20 it's Mr. McIver in the background. The bottom picture is from
21 the gas station in Bennettsville, South Carolina with Mr.
22 McIver in the picture.

23 Q: Does it show what Mr. McIver is wearing?

24 A: Yes, it does. It appears he's wearing a white T-shirt
25 with shorts.

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1 MR. DEBUSK: We'd offer State's 59 at this time, Your
2 Honor.

3 THE COURT: Any objection to State's 59?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, objection, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: It's into evidence without objection.

7 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 59

8 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

9 MR. DEBUSK: May we publish State's 59 and 60, Judge?

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may the witness approach the ---

12 THE COURT: Yeah, you can step down and stand next to
13 that far microphone down there.

14 MR. DEBUSK: I don't think that one is working, Your
15 Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right. Move that one over there.

17 BY MR. DEBUSK:

18 Q: If you would stand close to this microphone, Detective
19 Lynam.

20 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 17 published. No audio.)

21 Q: Where does this video depict?

22 A: This is the parking lot of the Lancer Motel located at
23 606 Kings Highway in Myrtle Beach.

24 Q: Is that close to the area where the check-in office is?

25 A: Yes, it is.

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1 Q: Do you recognize this vehicle?

2 A: Yeah, this is the Ford F150 pickup truck that Mr. McIver
3 and Mr. Freeman traveled in.

4 Q: Did you ultimately receive the check-in paperwork for the
5 defendants to stay in this hotel?

6 A: Yes, we did.

7 Q: Who checked in?

8 A: Mr. Freeman actually checked in and he used his driver's
9 license to do so.

10 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, this part of the tape is kind of
11 slow, permission to fast forward.

12 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

13 BY MR. DEBUSK:

14 Q: Here. At this point, are the suspects sitting in the
15 truck?

16 A: Yes, they are. It just showed Mr. Freeman get in the
17 passenger's door.

18 Q: Okay. Here, one of the individuals seems to have gotten
19 out of the truck briefly. What time is it based on the tape?

20 A: Based on the tape, it is 9:24 P.M.

21 Q: Did you ultimately determine whether the video had the
22 correct time?

23 A: We determined that the time was off by 10 minutes.

24 Q: Fast or slow?

25 A: I believe the video was 10 minutes behind real time.

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1 Q: So, it would've been really 9:36, basically?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Okay, so the individual just came back and got in the
4 truck from the direction of the check-in office; is that
5 correct?

6 A: Yes, and then I believe they moved the truck to a
7 different section of the parking lot closer to the room that
8 they got.

9 Q: This is a different camera angle of the parking lot of
10 the Lancer?

11 A: Yes, the -- this is a different camera and they're still
12 moving. They're moving toward the east side of the building
13 at this point and this is gonna be the east side of the
14 building.

15 Q: Were you able to determine where the room that the
16 defendants stayed in was?

17 A: Yes, the room they stayed in was actually located right
18 behind the parking spot right here.

19 Q: (Inaudible.)

20 COURT REPORTER: Mr. DeBusk?

21 THE COURT: Mr. DeBusk, nobody can hear you.

22 MR. DEBUSK: I'm sorry. I'll just have to stand closer,
23 Your Honor.

24 A: Here we see Mr. McIver exit the vehicle.

25 BY MR. DEBUSK:

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410

1 Q: From which -- from the driver's side or the passenger
2 side?

3 A: Driver's side and Mr. Freeman exits from the passenger
4 side.

5 Q: What do they appear to be doing here?

6 A: It appears like they're getting their luggage together,
7 gathering up their belongings from the inside of the truck.

8 Q: Basically, moving into the room; is that correct?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: And this was at what time?

11 A: It's timestamped 9:34 P.M. on the video.

12 Q: That would really be about 9:45, 9:44?

13 A: Yes, 9:44.

14 Q: Okay. This is a little later in the evening, is it?

15 A: Yes, timestamped 9:52 P.M. on the video, and I believe
16 they're getting ready to get in the truck and leave.

17 Q: I'm gonna switch videos on you, Detective Lynam, and go
18 to the Holiday Sands. And who was staying at the Holiday
19 Sands?

20 A: The victim, Amanda Fisher and her cousin, Tabetha
21 Oxendine.

22 THE COURT: Will you please make sure the previous
23 exhibit gets back to the court reporter, please.

24 MR. DEBUSK: I'm handing 17 back to the court reporter,
25 Your Honor.

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411

1 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 23 published. No audio.)

2 A: Here we have the reception area of the Holiday Sands
3 Motel and it's timestamped 1:03.

4 BY MR. DEBUSK:

5 Q: Can you identify these two individuals?

6 A: Yeah, this is the victim, Ms. Amanda Fisher, and her
7 cousin, Tabetha. And, it appears like they're checking in.

8 Q: One of the ladies has blonde hair and one has dark hair;
9 which is which?

10 A: The lady with the blonde hair is gonna be the victim,
11 Amanda Fisher. The lady with darker hair is gonna be her
12 cousin, Tabetha Oxendine.

13 Q: Did you retrieve check-in paperwork from the Holiday
14 Sands North?

15 A: Yes, we did.

16 Q: And whose name is the room in?

17 A: It was in the victim's name, Amanda Fisher's.

18 Q: Did she list Ms. Oxendine as a guest?

19 A: Yes, she did.

20 Q: Did she also provide her license plate number?

21 A: Yes, she did.

22 Q: And this is in the City of Myrtle Beach, both of these,
23 the Lancer and the Holiday Sands?

24 A: Yes, sir. Yes, sir, they're down in the City of Myrtle
25 Beach. It's a different city than ours.

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412

1 Q: Based on your investigation, were you able to determine
2 what room they checked into?

3 A: Yes, we were. It slips my mind right now, but they were
4 on the fourth floor, I believe it may've been 408.

5 Q: I'm showing you State's Exhibit 22 and ask if that
6 refreshes your memory.

7 A: Yeah, this is a copy of the check-in paperwork. It's got
8 Ms. Fisher's name on it.

9 Q: Does it have the room number at the top there?

10 A: Yeah, I'm still looking for it. Room 420.

11 Q: Were there cameras on the fourth floor where that room
12 was?

13 A: Yes, there were. As a matter of fact, this is footage
14 from the fourth floor right here. This is ---

15 Q: Okay. So, if you can go back just a tad.

16 Okay, here. Back to normal speed, please.

17 What time is it that they appear to be entering the room?

18 A: According to the video, it's 1:22 A.M.

19 Q: Just a few minutes after they checked in at the desk?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: And this is a few minutes after that?

22 A: Yeah, now it's timestamped 1:32, they're seen actually
23 leaving the room.

24 Q: During the course of your investigation, did you
25 determine whether the timestamp on the Holiday Sands video was

1 accurate?

2 A: Yeah, I believe it was accurate.

3 Q: What is down the hall the ladies are waiting there?

4 A: I believe they're waiting to get into the elevator.

5 Q: Here they return just a few minutes later; is that
6 correct?

7 A: Yeah, now it's 1:37 A.M., and they're returning to their
8 room.

9 Q: Do we have any video inside the room?

10 A: No, we did not.

11 Q: From the hotel?

12 A: No, we did not.

13 Q: What time is it now?

14 A: It is 2:41 A.M., and the victim and Ms. Oxendine are seen
15 leaving the room again.

16 Q: Does it appear the victim has changed clothing at this
17 point?

18 A: Yes. And they're walking towards the elevator again.

19 Q: Okay. Where are we now?

20 A: This is gonna be the front entrance of the hotel on the
21 boulevard side downstairs.

22 Q: Are they still at the hotel, at this point, or leaving
23 the hotel?

24 A: Yes, they're still on property, but they just exited the
25 front door into the parking area.

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OWEN LYNAM - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: And what time is it?

2 A: It's timestamped 2:43 A.M.

3 Q: As they're walking towards us, is that the -- walking
4 towards the south end of the hotel or the north end?

5 A: Here they would be walking southbound.

6 Q: Southbound.

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: And what time is this?

9 A: Right now it's showing 2:50 A.M.

10 Q: And who are those two individuals?

11 A: That's Nicholas McIver and Terrell Freeman and they're
12 entering the front door of the hotel, and Mr. Freeman is on
13 his phone.

14 Q: Now, we'll stop for just a second. We're around 2:51.
15 Mr. McIver was on the phone, right?

16 A: Mr. Freeman was on the phone.

17 Q: Mr. Freeman was on the phone?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: I have here in my hand, State's Exhibit 47, which is the
20 phone records from Amanda's phone. Around that time, does
21 there seem to be some calls between Amanda and Mr. Freeman?

22 A: Yeah, it's showing a call at 2:15 A.M.

23 Q: Go farther down.

24 A: 2:49, there is a incoming call.

25 Q: So, right very close ---

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1 A: To the timeline of the video.

2 Q: No ever machine at the same timestamp, right, so -- but
3 there was a phone call between the victim and Mr. Freeman
4 right around that time?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: Now, what's happening here?

7 A: Now, it's timestamped 2:53. You see the victim and her
8 cousin and Mr. McIver and Mr. Freeman, all entering the main
9 door of the hotel. Now, we have video footage from the fourth
10 floor hallway. It's 2:53. And all four individuals are
11 entering the victim's room.

12 Q: What time is it now?

13 A: Now, we're showing 3:16 A.M. We see the victim and Mr.
14 Freeman, Mr. McIver, and Ms. Oxendine all leave the room.

15 Q: Okay. Now, what do we see here?

16 A: It is 3:17 A.M., and all four individuals exit the
17 building but they're in the parking lot area in front of the
18 lobby.

19 Q: --- time passed to go down the elevator?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: This is at 3:17?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: What time is it now?

24 A: Now, we're showing 3:52 A.M.

25 Q: What's ---

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1 A: We see the victim, Amanda, return to the building along
2 with Mr. McIver, who appears to be carrying a cooler.

3 Q: And now?

4 A: Same time, 3:53, we've got footage from the fourth floor.
5 We see the victim and Mr. McIver enter the victim's room at
6 Holiday Sands.

7 Q: And now what time is it?

8 A: We're showing 3:57.

9 Q: Just a few minutes later?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: What are we seeing now?

12 A: We see Mr. Freeman with Ms. Tabettha Oxendine enter the
13 main entrance to the building downstairs. 3:58, footage from
14 the fourth floor, we see Mr. Freeman and Ms. Oxendine head
15 towards Ms. Oxendine and the victim's room.

16 Q: Now, what time is it?

17 A: Now, it's 4:37 A.M.

18 Q: Is that the victim again?

19 A: We see the victim, she's changed clothes again. She
20 leaves the room and Mr. McIver follows.

21 Different camera, we're back at the main entrance. It is
22 4:40 A.M., and the victim, Amanda, and Mr. McIver stepped
23 outside of the building, they're still in the parking lot
24 area.

25 It's 4:43, we're back to fourth floor hallway again. The

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1 victim and Mr. McIver returning to the victim's room again.

2 Q: Just a few minutes?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: I'm showing you -- and they're in the room at 4:44. Did
5 -- were some videos retrieved from Mr. McIver's phone?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: We have State's Exhibit 51, does that show the times of
8 those videos?

9 A: Yes, sir; it does.

10 Q: What were the times of those first three videos?

11 A: The first three videos were 4:49 A.M., 4:53 A.M., and
12 5:13 A.M., the first three.

13 Q: So, shortly after they entered here?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Please proceed. Anything happen here other than the door
16 open?

17 A: No, the door appears to open briefly, and then it just
18 closes; nobody exits or enters.

19 Q: Okay. What time is now?

20 A: 6:16, we see the victim's cousin, Ms. Oxendine, leave the
21 room.

22 Q: Who is that?

23 A: Mr. McIver leaving the room at 6:17.

24 Q: They joined together at the elevator down there?

25 A: Yes, sir. Now, we're up to 6:18 A.M. Mr. McIver and Ms.

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1 Oxendine exit the building and walk through the parking lot
2 towards Ocean Boulevard.

3 Q: Does it appear to be daylight now on this video?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: What's that road where the car just went by there in
6 front of the hotel?

7 A: That would be Ocean Boulevard down at Myrtle Beach.

8 Q: Which way did they exit on Ocean Boulevard?

9 A: It appears that they walked northbound once they got onto
10 the boulevard.

11 Q: Okay. Now what time is it?

12 A: It's 6:20, and we see Mr. Freeman exit the hotel room and
13 he's wheeling the cooler that Mr. McIver had brought into the
14 building earlier.

15 6:21 A.M., again we're looking at footage from the main
16 entrance to the hotel. Mr. Freeman walks through the parking
17 lot wheeling the same cooler.

18 Q: And which way does he go on Ocean Boulevard?

19 A: He also goes north on the boulevard.

20 Q: Okay. Here we are ---

21 A: 6:22 footage from the fourth floor shows that the victim
22 briefly opened the door and looked outside in the hallway, and
23 then closed the door and stayed in the room.

24 Q: Back to State's Exhibit 51, were there two more cell
25 phone videos during this time?

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1 A: Yes, sir. Two more videos at 6:42 A.M. and 6:43 A.M.

2 Q: So, based on the video, were you able to determine from
3 the first three videos were taken while they were inside the
4 room at the Holiday Sands?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: And the cell phone videos at 6:42 and 6:43 would've been
7 elsewhere, correct?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: Please proceed. Who is this entering the view up here?

10 A: That appears to be Mr. Freeman walking northbound with
11 the cooler.

12 Q: It's best to wait till they get closer, I guess.

13 Okay. Here we go, who is this entering the hotel?

14 A: 6:54 A.M., this is Ms. Oxendine entering the hotel by
15 herself.

16 Q: Okay.

17 A: 6:55 footage from the fourth floor, Ms. Oxendine going
18 into her room by herself.

19 Q: Instead of switching videos, I'm just gonna ask you, was
20 there anything on the video at the Lancer at this time, around
21 this time?

22 A: Yes, at 7:08 at the Lancer Motel, we see Mr. McIver and
23 Mr. Freeman leave in the pickup truck.

24 Q: And again, that would be off by 10, so it would be 7:18,
25 I believe?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Please proceed. Who is that?

3 A: 7:16, we see Ms. Oxendine exit the room briefly and goes
4 back in. Now, at 7:17, we see the victim, Amanda, and Ms.
5 Oxendine exit the room.

6 Q: Who is that that approaches there?

7 A: It's 7:18, we see Amanda and Ms. Oxendine meeting Mr.
8 Freeman downstairs at the main entrance to the building in the
9 parking area.

10 Q: Now, here we've stepped just back just a second in time,
11 haven't we?

12 A: Yes, this is back to 7:17 A.M. It's a different camera
13 view from the front of the hotel facing more south --
14 southwest. It's covering the parking area beneath the
15 building.

16 Q: Do you recognize that vehicle pulling up at that time?

17 A: Yes. At 7:17, it appears Mr. McIver's pickup truck, Ford
18 pickup truck, driving into the parking lot. Now he drives in
19 and actually reverses into a parking spot in front of the
20 hotel.

21 Q: Okay. Who is that that's approaching the camera?

22 A: That's Mr. Freeman exited the truck and walking towards
23 the main entrance.

24 Q: And this corresponds to the moment we saw them meet on
25 the other angle; is that correct?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Who is that sitting inside the open door of the truck?

3 A: That's Mr. McIver, he's seated in the passenger seat of
4 the truck.

5 Q: Who is that?

6 A: 7:19, we see the victim, Amanda, walk towards the truck.
7 She's talking with Mr. McIver who is seated in the passenger
8 seat.

9 Q: Okay. Who is this that seems to be entering in a close
10 embrace?

11 A: That is Mr. Freeman and Ms. Oxendine.

12 Q: Go forward a minute. So, who's speaking to whom now?

13 A: Now, we've got Ms. Oxendine speaking to Mr. McIver at the
14 truck, and over closer to the building we've got Mr. Freeman
15 and the victim, Amanda, talking together.

16 Q: Who is that that seems to be in an embrace again there?

17 A: Mr. Freeman and Ms. Oxendine.

18 Q: Okay. Here, where did Ms. Oxendine and Ms. Fisher go?

19 A: The two ladies appeared to walk towards the boulevard and
20 the two gentlemen are in the truck. It's 7:32 A.M.

21 Q: Forward it. That was end -- you can stop now. That was
22 the end of the Lancer videos; is that correct?

23 A: That was the end of the Holiday Sands video.

24 Q: Holiday Sands video.

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: And for the record, that was State's Exhibit 23. Okay.
2 Go back to State's 17, the Lancer videos.

3 How long does it take to drive between the Lancer and the
4 Holiday Sands? Are they close?

5 THE COURT: Mr. DeBusk.

6 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: You're walking away asking questions, not a
8 soul can hear you.

9 MR. DEBUSK: I'm sorry, Your Honor.

10 BY MR. DEBUSK:

11 Q: How long does it take to drive to the Holiday Sands and
12 the Lancer?

13 A: I would guesstimate three to four minutes, tops.

14 Q: They're very close?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Here we are. We're stepping back in time here to 7:04,
17 right?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Again, because of the error, what time would that be?

20 A: 7:14.

21 Q: What's happening there?

22 A: We're back at the Lancer Motel. It depicts the east side
23 parking lot and Mr. Freeman and Mr. McIver are getting into
24 the truck.

25 Q: Just to step back in time. We had seen them arrive at

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1 about 7:17 at the ---

2 A: At the Holiday Sands, yes, sir.

3 Q: On the other video, correct?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: And now what time is it?

6 A: On the video it is 7:27 A.M., which would have been 7:37
7 A.M.

8 Q: And they had left the Holiday Sands, about what time on
9 that video?

10 A: About 7:28.

11 Q: Okay. What's happening here?

12 A: The timestamp on the video is 7:29, which would be 7:39,
13 we see Mr. Freeman and Mr. McIver return to their motel and
14 exit the truck.

15 Now, on the video it's timestamped 7:31, which would've
16 been 7:41, we see the victim's car in the view at the bottom
17 of the screen.

18 Q: That's the white car right at the bottom there?

19 A: Yeah, it'd be that white Chevy Malibu. Now, we see Mr.
20 Freeman come from his room and he approaches the car, it's out
21 of screen.

22 Q: Okay. Who is that at the bottom of the screen?

23 A: That's the victim, Ms. Fisher, exits the vehicle and
24 walks over to the building. It appears she's conversing with
25 someone over the balcony.

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1 Q: After this brief appearance outside of the car, did you
2 see her on the video again alive?

3 A: No, we did not.

4 Q: What time is it?

5 A: The video is stamped 7:33, which would've been 7:43 A.M.

6 Q: Right there. Here she is getting back in the car; is
7 that correct?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: This video angle, along what street is that, do you
10 recall?

11 A: That's actually gonna be looking southbound on Chester
12 Street in Myrtle Beach. Chester Street is along here.

13 Q: Here, the car appeared to leave, correct?

14 A: Yes, sir. It's timestamped 7:42 in the video. The
15 victim's vehicle was gone and we see Mr. Freeman walking by
16 the truck and he actually enters the truck.

17 Q: What does he appear to be doing?

18 A: It's hard to determine exactly.

19 Q: Is it safe to say he's sitting in the truck?

20 A: Yes, sir, he's sitting in the door with the truck open.
21 Then he remains in the truck and he closes the door.

22 Q: Now what time is it?

23 A: The video is timestamped 7 -- actually, 8:00 A.M., which
24 would've been 8:10 A.M. real time.

25 Q: Is that when the white car returned?

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1 A: Yeah, it appears like the victim's vehicle returns. It's
2 in the bottom view of the screen. The driver's door opens,
3 nobody gets out of the vehicle. 8:02, we see Mr. McIver
4 standing outside of the driver's door of the victim's vehicle.
5 He appears to be talking with whomever is sitting in the
6 driver's seat..

7 It appears like Mr. McIver returned to his room for a
8 brief moment and then he comes back to the car.

9 Q: Okay. At this point, the car leaves. Can you tell from
10 analysis of the -- analysis of the video where everyone was?

11 A: Yeah, we determined that all four individuals left in the
12 car together and they headed towards Shallotte, North Carolina
13 at that time.

14 Q: Did you have, excuse me, did you have any video between
15 leaving the Lancer at 8:06 A.M. and the time of the shooting?

16 A: No, sir; we did not.

17 Q: Did you have any time fixes?

18 A: From speaking with the family members and Ms. Oxendine,
19 Ms. Oxendine was dropped at her house in Shallotte, North
20 Carolina approximately 9:45 A.M.

21 Q: Okay. What was the dispatch time for the shooting at
22 K&W?

23 A: The dispatch time was 11:17 A.M.

24 Q: What was the estimated shooting time?

25 A: Approximately, 11:15 A.M.

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1 THE COURT: Before you start another video, let me know.

2 MR. DEBUSK: I'm sorry, Your Honor?

3 THE COURT: Before you start another video let me know.

4 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

5 BY MR. DEBUSK:

6 Q: I think we've -- this has been published to the jury
7 already. This is, I believe, Officer Jones' car video; is
8 that right?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: And he, I believe, was the first responding officer?

11 A: He was the first officer to arrive on the scene.

12 Q: And this is where they're entering the K&W parking lot,
13 correct?

14 A: Yes, sir. Mr. -- Officer Jones entered from the west
15 side entrance which would've been off of Old Highway 17.

16 Q: And so, this is where the victim was -- what time is it
17 when the officer ---

18 A: According to the video, it's timestamped 11:30 -- 11:21
19 A.M.

20 Q: About six minutes after the shooting?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 MR. DEBUSK: That -- that's the end of that video, Your
23 Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

25 Come back and have a seat, officer.

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BY THE COURT

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1 BY THE COURT:

2 THE COURT: All right. Madam Forelady, ladies and
3 gentlemen of the jury, we'll take a short break, go to your
4 jury room for about five minutes and we'll come back and
5 continue with the videos.

6 Thank you.

7 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
8 place outside the presence of the jury.)

9 THE COURT: All right. We'll take a short break.

10 Officer, you may step down, but you may not talk to
11 anyone while we're on break.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 RECESS

15 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

16 (On the Record.)

17 BY THE COURT:

18 THE COURT: Are you ready to resume, Solicitor?

19 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right. The witness needs -- yes, sir, --
21 take the stand until the jury comes in.

22 Mr. Bellamy?

23 MR. BELLAMY: Oh, I was going to reposition but I didn't
24 think about the jury coming back in as far as ---

25 THE COURT: That's all right.

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1 And, Mr. Spratlin?

2 MR. SPRATLIN: I'm fine, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Ask the jury to come back in, please.

4 And, Mr. DeBusk, please remember, kind of keep your voice
5 up, because they're definitely times that it's difficult to
6 understand what you're saying.

7 MR. DEBUSK: Understood, Your Honor. I'll do my best.

8 THE COURT: All right. Very good, sir.

9 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

10 THE COURT: All right, solicitor, you ready to resume?

11 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: And which State's exhibit will we be using?

13 MR. DEBUSK: Next will be State's 17.

14 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

15 You wish the witness to stand down next to you?

16 MR. DEBUSK: Please, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead, sir.

18 MR. SPRATLIN: Judge, permission to reposition ourselves?

19 THE COURT: Please go ahead.

20 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you.

21 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 17 published. No audio.)

22 CONTINUATION OF DIRECT EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. DEBUSK:

23 Q: Detective Lynam, last we were here, I think we had talked
24 about the shooting time. What was the estimated shooting time
25 in North Myrtle Beach?

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1 A: The estimated shooting time was 11:15 A.M. The dispatch
2 time was about 11:17 A.M.

3 Q: Okay. So, that was 11:15 A.M.?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Okay. We're back at the Lancer here; is that correct?

6 A: Yes, sir. This is the view of the east side of the
7 Lancer again. It's timestamped 11:46 A.M., which would've
8 been 11:56.

9 Q: And what's that that pulled up in the parking lot?

10 A: We see what appears to be the victim's vehicle pull in
11 the parking lot.

12 Q: Who gets out of the passenger seat?

13 A: Mr. Freeman gets out of the passenger side.

14 Q: Who gets out of the driver's side?

15 A: Mr. McIver gets out of the driver's seat. Mr. Freeman
16 walks directly towards the door of their room. Mr. McIver is
17 following and if you look here, he appears to take an object
18 from his waistband.

19 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor ---

20 THE COURT: We'll let the video speak for itself.

21 Thank you.

22 BY MR. DEBUSK:

23 Q: Again, who was that that parked the truck?

24 A: Mr. McIver.

25 Q: So, it's Mr. Freeman came first and then went up to the

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1 room you said?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: This is Mr. McIver coming up through here?

4 A: Yes.

5 COURT REPORTER: Mr. DeBusk?

6 MR. DEBUSK: I'm sorry. There you go.

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: Now, again, there was a time variance here, correct, with
9 the counter on the tape?

10 A: Yeah, the timestamp in the video was actually gonna be 10
11 minutes behind real time.

12 Q: Okay.

13 A: So, looking at 11:49, it's actually gonna be 11:59. Now,
14 at 11:50, the timestamp being noon.

15 Q: What was that that was partially blocking the ---

16 A: It appears like a bird flew in front of the camera lens.

17 Q: And again, this is the same camera angle we were looking
18 at before, is it not?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: It's been approximately 10 minutes since they arrived; is
21 that correct?

22 A: Yes, sir. Now, we would be up to 12:07 in the afternoon.

23 Q: What was that -- what was that that just flew into the
24 screen?

25 A: It appears like one of the individuals, Mr. McIver or Mr.

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1 Freeman, threw a luggage bag over the balcony into the back of
2 the truck. Now, we're at 11:59 on the video, both individuals
3 are at the truck.

4 Q: Who was it that just reached into the passenger rear of
5 the bed there?

6 A: Mr. McIver.

7 Q: Now, where he is walking to?

8 A: Mr. McIver is walking towards the white vehicle again and
9 he's getting into the driver-side door.

10 Q: And who is getting into to drive?

11 A: Mr. Freeman is getting in the driver's door of the truck.

12 Q: So, that was the white Malibu leaving with who driving?

13 A: The Malibu departed with Mr. McIver driving.

14 Q: And Mr. Freeman just ---

15 A: It appears he returns to the area of the room for just a
16 minute here.

17 Q: Okay. Now, from the K&W parking lot where the white
18 Malibu is seen with the victim being dumped out of it, to
19 Lancer, over the course of your investigation, were you able
20 to get an estimated travel time between the two?

21 A: Yeah, using MapQuest, we got a guestimated time of
22 approximately 26 minutes between the K&W Cafeteria and the
23 Lancer Motel located down in Myrtle Beach.

24 Q: Okay. And again this is July and there would've been
25 heavy traffic at this time of year?

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1 A: Yes, sir. It would've been one of the busiest weeks of
2 the year on the beach.

3 Q: Now, we're gonna look at State's Exhibit 29, which is the
4 Bennettsville video.

5 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's Exhibit 29 published. No audio.)

6 BY MR. DEBUSK:

7 Q: I need to refer you to State's Exhibit 50, which was the
8 call log for Mr. McIver. Approximately, what time did they
9 leave the Lancer?

10 A: Approximately 12:10 A.M. in the morning -- in the
11 afternoon, I apologize.

12 Q: You said approximately?

13 A: Ten after 12:00 in the afternoon.

14 Q: Based on State's Exhibit 50, the call logs for Mr.
15 McIver, were there any calls between Mr. McIver and Mr.
16 Freeman around that time?

17 A: Yes, we have an outgoing call from Mr. McIver's phone to
18 Mr. Freeman's phone at 12:10 A.M. We've got another outgoing
19 call at 12:11 P.M.; another outgoing at 12:15 P.M.; another
20 outgoing at 12:17 P.M.; another outgoing at 12:25; outgoing at
21 12:26; outgoing at 12:30; and then we've got an incoming at
22 12:38.

23 Q: As -- on any of those did they speak for more than a
24 minute or was there a call last more than a minute?

25 A: The incoming call lasted 5 minutes and 49 seconds, and

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1 that was the incoming call at 12:38.

2 Q: And were there subsequent calls?

3 A: Yes, we have a call back at 12:44, it lasted 2 minutes
4 and 48 seconds. And then we had another call back outgoing
5 call at 1:06 P.M., it lasted 3 minutes and 7 seconds. Then
6 there's an incoming call at 1:16 P.M. that lasts a minute and
7 30 seconds.

8 Q: So, there were a number of calls from -- to and from
9 McIver and Freeman during that period?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Now, we have the video from Marsh -- I'm sorry --
12 Bennettsville. What does it show?

13 A: This is the cameras covering the parking lot, which
14 includes one of the gas pumps. Now, we just switched to a
15 different angle and we see what appears to be a white four-
16 door sedan, like a Chevy Malibu, stop at one of the gas pumps.

17 Q: Will you stop for a minute. Right here, does the window
18 appear to be open?

19 A: Yeah, it appears to be open, yes, it does.

20 Q: Who is this getting out of the car?

21 A: That's clearly Mr. McIver exiting the vehicle.

22 Q: Okay.

23 A: Switch of camera angle, this is actually footage shot
24 from inside of the store covering the front door. We see Mr.
25 McIver enter the store wearing a white T-shirt with shorts.

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1 A different camera angle, again, inside of the store.
2 This camera angle is from behind the registers and captures
3 Mr. McIver walking from the front door towards one of the
4 cashiers.

5 Q: Did you retrieve transaction records from this location?

6 A: No, we did not. We, we received the video.

7 Q: You also ---

8 A: We got a record of the transaction, but not the actual
9 receipt.

10 Q: Right. Whose card was used?

11 A: I believe ---

12 Q: I'm referring to State's Exhibit 32.

13 A: The name on the card was Amanda Fisher.

14 Q: Thank you..

15 Now, we're back at the gas pumps; is that correct?

16 A: Yeah, we've switched back to one of the exterior cameras.
17 It's trained on the gas pumps in the parking lot of the store,
18 and the time is 1:50 P.M. The time is still 1:50 P.M. and,
19 again, this is just a different angle on the same parking lot,
20 different camera footage.

21 We have what appears to be a white Chevy Malibu and
22 clearly the driver has got a white T-shirt and ---

23 Q: And you can actually see through the open window?

24 A: Yes, we can..

25 Q: A lot of jockeying at the pump there?

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1 A: Yes, it appears like the pumps are quite busy that day.

2 On the extreme left side of the, the screen, we see what
3 appears to be Mr. McIver exit the white Chevy Malibu.

4 Q: Who is visible at the far left of the screen there?

5 A: It appears Mr. McIver is actually pumping gas right now
6 in the vehicle.

7 Q: What did he do right there?

8 A: He's got the trunk of the vehicle open and now he just
9 closes it.

10 THE COURT: Timeframe?

11 A: It's 1:53 P.M. right now. 1:54, the car drives away from
12 that particular pump.

13 At the same time, but at a different angle.

14 Q: Here, you see that the windows appear to be dark; is that
15 correct?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: And what causes that?

18 A: Very possible it could be a window tint that's on the
19 vehicle.

20 Q: Okay. What is window tint?

21 A: Window tinting is basically it's a process where they
22 apply a plastic or a laminate on the interior of the windows
23 to help reduce the UV rays and the sunlight into a vehicle or
24 both.

25 Q: Is that one of those where you can see out, but you can't

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1 see in?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Thank you. Please be seated.

4 A: The same time frame with a different camera angle. We
5 see Mr. McIver driving the vehicle around the parking lot.

6 Q: Is that the white car there, upper right?

7 A: Yeah, the upper corner of the screen it appears to be the
8 vehicle.

9 Q: Is that it pulling off now?

10 A: Yes, it is.

11 Q: And pulling into traffic?

12 A: Yes, onto the highway.

13 Q: It's now traveling the same direction they came from or
14 along the same route, I guess?

15 A: Along the same route, I can't say for certain which turn
16 he made.

17 Q: Again, that was State's Exhibit 29, which was the Marsh
18 -- Bennettsville, Bennettsville video.

19 Now, on State's 27 -- kind of dark in here for 50-year-
20 old eyes. Let me draw your attention back to State's 59 and
21 ask -- again, what is that?

22 A: 59, the top photograph appears to be Mr. McIver. The
23 photograph is taken at the Lancer Motel. It's also got his
24 truck in the picture. On the bottom part of the sheet, it's a
25 photograph from the interior of the gas station at

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1 Bennettsville.

2 Q: And in both those videos from the Lancer -- both of those
3 video stills on State's 59, from the Lancer and from the
4 Bennettsville store, does he appear to be wearing the same
5 pants?

6 A: Yes, he does.

7 Q: How far down do they go?

8 A: I would guesstimate, maybe just at his knee or just below
9 his knees.

10 Q: Okay. Now, what are we seeing here?

11 A: This is a -- this is a shot from the inside of the gas
12 station located in Marshville, North Carolina.

13 Q: State's 60, is that a still from that video?

14 A: Yes, it is.

15 Q: Already in evidence?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Has there been a change in his clothing?

18 A: Yes, it appears like he's wearing instead of the shorts,
19 it appears like he's wearing more like a sweat pants type
20 garment now.

21 Q: How far down on the legs on that one?

22 A: It's much closer to his ankles, much longer.

23 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, May I publish 59 and 60?

24 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

25 (REPORTER'S NOTE: State's 59 and 60 published. Audio not

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1 transcribed herein.)

2 A: At the timestamp on the video we're looking at is ---

3 THE COURT: I didn't hear your answer.

4 MR. DEBUSK: We're waiting for the defendant to appear on
5 video, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right, sir.

7 BY MR. DEBUSK:

8 Q: Did you receive or retrieve a transaction receipt from
9 this location?

10 A: Yes, we did.

11 Q: And whose card was used for that transaction?

12 A: The card name was in Mr. Jerry Fisher.

13 Q: Let me show you State's Exhibit 27.

14 A: Correction, it is actually Amanda Fisher.

15 Q: Amanda Fisher?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: That would be the victim's card used at this location?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Here, what's happening?

20 A: Yeah, the timestamp on the video is right at 3:00 P.M.,
21 the video inside the gas station at Marshville, and Mr. McIver
22 has just entered the store.

23 Q: Well, let's switch to State's Exhibit 26. We've just
24 completed 27 and we're going to 26. What do we see here?

25 A: Again, this is footage from the interior of the gas

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1 station in Marshville. The quality of video is not quite as
2 good because this was recorded by a cell phone from the screen
3 in the store, and it shows Mr. McIver swiping a credit card.

4 Q: What does this video show?

5 A: This is also video from the gas station at Marshville.
6 It's one of the exterior cameras and it shows what appears to
7 be the white Chevy Malibu parking beside the gas station. We
8 see Mr. McIver exit the vehicle, and it appears like he walks
9 inside the store.

10 Q: Does the window appear to be open again here?

11 A: Yes, it does.

12 Q: Thank you. I believe that's the last of the videos in
13 the time series; is that correct?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Please return to -- if I could refer back to State's
16 Exhibit 50, the phone call log for McIver. Like me, you have
17 glasses now?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: What time was Defendant McIver on video at the Marshville
20 Sunoco?

21 A: He was video at the Marshville Sunoco right at 3:00 P.M.

22 Q: Based on the phone records, were there some phone calls
23 made after, after 3:00 P.M.?

24 A: Yes, there was several calls made after 3:00 P.M.

25 Q: Who were the ones immediately after 3:00 P.M. made to?

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1 A: Immediately after 3:00 P.M., there were calls made at
2 3:12, 3:30, and 3:41, all to Tyquajua.

3 Q: Okay. An exhibit avalanche here. State's 36, I believe
4 authenticated by Detective Helms, was there Tyquajua that
5 lived close to the area where the car was burned?

6 A: Yes, the exhibit -- it's got a dot on what appears to be
7 a residence with Tyquajua's name on it.

8 Q: Do you know what time the car was reported burning?

9 A: I believe Charlotte-Mecklenburg received the call at 4:06
10 P.M.

11 Q: Okay. So, 3 o'clock at Marshville, 4:06 the car was
12 reported burning. Right around 4:00, were there some more
13 calls made by Mr. McIver?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: To whom?

16 A: At 4:03 P.M., 4:12, 4:13, 4:14, and 4:15, there were six
17 calls -- seven calls made to Mr. Freeman.

18 Q: Okay. And after -- after those calls, did the calls to
19 Mr. Freeman end at what time?

20 A: It appears like the last call to Mr. Freeman was at 4:52
21 P.M.

22 Q: Okay. Do we have all the -- yes, we do. Do you have any
23 exhibits up there besides 50 and 26?

24 So, to summarize, the victim and her friend checked into
25 the Holiday Sands North at what time?

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1 A: They checked in at approximately, I believe it was 1:09
2 A.M. in the morning of Saturday, July the 9th.

3 Q: Okay. What time were they joined in their room by the
4 defendants?

5 A: They're joined by the defendants at 2:52 A.M.

6 Q: Okay. What time were they seen on video with the
7 defendants at the Holiday Sands in the parking lot around the
8 defendant's truck?

9 A: They were seen in the parking lot near the defendant's
10 truck at approximately 7:17 A.M.

11 Q: And what time did they depart all four of them together
12 for the Lancer?

13 A: At approximately 8:06 A.M. in the morning.

14 Q: And what time was Ms. Fisher reported shot in the parking
15 lot of the K&W parking lot, cafeteria?

16 A: The shooting occurred at 11:15 A.M.

17 Q: And what time did the defendants return to the Lancer?

18 A: They returned to the Lancer at 11:46 A.M.

19 Q: Okay. What time did they depart the Lancer?

20 A: They departed the Lancer at 12:01 P.M.

21 Q: And who was the Malibu?

22 A: Mr. McIver was in the Malibu.

23 Q: And what time did he arrive at the Bennettsville Shell?

24 A: He arrived in Bennettsville at 1:45 P.M.

25 Q: Based on your investigation, about how long does it take

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1 to get from the Lancer to the Bennettsville Shell?

2 A: According to MapQuest, it was estimated at one hour and
3 38 minutes.

4 Q: And what time did he arrive at the Marshville Sunoco?

5 A: He arrived at the Marshville Sunoco right at 3:00 P.M.

6 Q: And about how long does it take to get from Bennettsville
7 to Marshville?

8 A: Again, according to MapQuest, it's estimated at one hour
9 and nine minutes.

10 Q: So, at Marshville at 3:00 and what time is the car
11 burned?

12 A: 4:06 P.M.

13 Q: Okay. And about how long does it take to get from
14 Marshville to Sally Lane?

15 A: Again, according to MapQuest, it's estimated at 37
16 minutes.

17 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions defense might
18 have.

19 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy?

20 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor, if I
21 could just kind of set up here for just a second?

22 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

23 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, may I retrieve an item that's
24 in evidence from the jury box?

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

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1 CROSS EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. BELLAMY:

2 Q: Detective Lynam, you are the lead detective in this case
3 as you've previously stated?

4 A: It turned out that way, yes, sir.

5 Q: It turned out. Good or bad for you, that's -- you ended
6 up getting it?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: And as the lead detective, you sort of direct the
9 resources available to you, whether it's North Myrtle Beach or
10 the assistance of other agencies, Charlotte, or whoever, to
11 assist you in gathering whatever evidence, correct?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: Okay. And to that end, this event occurred in the middle
14 of the day in July 2016, correct?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: And, and I've been over this with others, but in a
17 location which is an open business in front of the business,
18 correct?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: Directly on Kings Highway or Business 17?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: And there are many open businesses around?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: So, we're not talking about an isolated area?

25 A: Correct.

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1 Q: And you went, I believe, to Brunswick County to where Ms.
2 Oxendine lives and that would considered much more rural type
3 area, would it not?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Did you make the trip or travel from Ms. Oxendine's
6 location to where Ms. Fisher's family has a place?

7 A: No, I actually drove directly to Ms. Fisher's family's
8 residence in Shallotte.

9 Q: Okay. But you know what I'm referring to ---

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: --- it would've been the location Ms. Fisher would've
12 went ---

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: --- to retrieve items?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: So, and again, these are much more isolated areas,
17 correct?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: And the travel between Ms. Fisher's location or where she
20 was staying back to North Myrtle again, Shallotte back that's
21 a -- there's a few businesses on that road until you get to
22 Little River, but it's not that densely populated, is it?

23 A: Correct.

24 Q: Okay. Now, so in speaking to Ms. Oxendine and Ms.

25 Fisher's stepdad who indicated there was a call at 9:11 A.M.,

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1 correct?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: And that all was fine?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: And that she would be retrieving some clothes?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: And returning, which you now know through Ms. Oxendine,
8 with Mr. Freeman and Mr. McIver?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: And that there was no problem?

11 A: No, sir.

12 Q: And that Mr. Freeman had got this room, not just for
13 Friday, like Ms. Oxendine had done or Ms. Fisher, I guess, had
14 done, but they had it for two nights, correct?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Saturday night as well?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: All right. And I believe, you've been in here the whole
19 time, that's correct?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: Ms. Fisher was -- had an autopsy performed by Dr. Lee
22 Proctor?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: And you were in here and heard his testimony that there
25 was no physical injuries to her other than the obvious, which

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1 was a gunshot wound indicating that she had been hit, beat,
2 struck, cut, scratched, anything; is that correct?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: Okay. And you have a fairly good timeline, a really good
5 timeline, quite frankly, of the shooting time, dispatched
6 time, arrival time of Officer Jones, and with the video from
7 the Lancer back at -- from K&W to the Lancer, right?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 Q: All right. And there's only a couple of ways, quite
10 frankly, you can go from those two points, K&W to Lancer,
11 correct?

12 A: Correct.

13 Q: And I believe if you look closely enough, there may be a
14 Google search on some phone as to how to do that, but did you
15 time that out on -- you mentioned the 26 minutes, is that from
16 K&W to there? I believe that's what you said.

17 A: Yes, from K&W to the Lancer.

18 Q: It could run longer based on that time of year?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: And based on what we saw with Officer Jones and there's a
21 lot of traffic that day. Did you attempt to retrieve any
22 business videos along the route that they would've had to have
23 taken to see if the car shows up, to see who's driving or if
24 anything was being thrown from the car or anything like that,
25 because it's very densely business oriented all the way

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1 through North Myrtle Beach. Did you do that?

2 A: No, we did not.

3 Q: Okay. Did you attempt to secure any DOT, Department of
4 Transportation, or city cameras in North Myrtle Beach to
5 ascertain who's driving or if the car may have turned left,
6 right, to try to help you locate if anything had been disposed
7 of?

8 A: I know that the city does not operate any cameras within
9 the city limits, and regarding the DOT, those cameras do not
10 actually record; it's live feed.

11 Q: Okay. Well, let's fast forward to North -- Myrtle Beach.
12 They've got, I believe, in excess of 1,000 cameras?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: That virtually surround the Lancer Motel and you can't
15 get in and out of Myrtle Beach without them knowing it. In
16 addition, they also have patrol cars equipped with plate
17 readers, these funky things you'll see on the trunk of the
18 thing, it looks like a some sort of space thing, that can pick
19 up and read license plates of every car, run it through a
20 database to see if it matches the car, right?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: And the City of Myrtle Beach cooperates with y'all in
23 investigations; do they not?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: As would you?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Did you attempt, because you've got a pretty tight
3 timeline, so, you're not looking for five days of video;
4 you're looking from -- you would estimate the time from K&W to
5 that first camera in Myrtle Beach. Did you retrieve and
6 review videotape footage from the City of Myrtle Beach city
7 cameras?

8 A: No, we did not.

9 Q: How about from any businesses that would have been on the
10 route in the City of Myrtle Beach?

11 A: No, we did not.

12 Q: Okay. And again -- well, that would be redundant. If
13 you didn't look at it, you wouldn't have seen them leaving the
14 Lancer as well. Now, there were a number of items that were
15 collected and taken as evidence in this case; is that correct?

16 A: Some items, yes, sir.

17 Q: Well, there are some items. For example, the --
18 retrieved from the car was a partially burned -- and I don't
19 see -- oh, here it is, a partially burned pocketbook with some
20 items in it, correct?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: Okay. But you also seized from the location at K&W --
23 you showed it to me earlier -- the bullet?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: Okay. That's in your possession over here, too, right?

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- 1 A: Yes, sir.
- 2 Q: And you seized the victim's fingernails; is that correct?
- 3 A: Yes, sir.
- 4 Q: And put them in evidence; is that correct?
- 5 A: Yes, sir.
- 6 Q: Also, the Ford pickup truck in North Carolina, that was
- 7 actually provided to you by Mr. McIver's uncle, is that not
- 8 correct?
- 9 A: Yes, sir.
- 10 Q: Voluntarily?
- 11 A: Yes, sir.
- 12 Q: Okay. And the -- there -- was there a crime scene
- 13 analysis done on that vehicle by Charlotte or by the North
- 14 Myrtle Beach Police -- because Charlotte had it, correct?
- 15 A: Yeah, Charlotte Police Department Crime Scene Unit did
- 16 process the vehicle.
- 17 Q: Okay. And in fact, they removed certain parts from the
- 18 vehicle, did they not?
- 19 A: Yes, sir.
- 20 Q: And those parts were transferred to your custody?
- 21 A: They were taken directly to SLED labs in Columbia.
- 22 Q: Okay. Now, I believe, and I don't recall which, I
- 23 believe it may've been Officer Vicks, is it Vicks; it's Vicks?
- 24 A: Yes.
- 25 Q: Okay. She testified as to taking photographs and other

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1 things, and I believe she indicated that she did not attend
2 the autopsy because I'd asked questions about the clothing,
3 had it been retrieved. She indicated that Detective Sheets
4 had attended the autopsy; is that your understanding as well
5 as lead detective?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: And she didn't know, but were -- and I've been through
8 everything and I don't seem to see it, but you tell me -- were
9 her clothes taken from any kind of any kind of analysis for
10 blood splatter or anything at all?

11 A: Yeah, her clothes were taken back to the station. As far
12 as having analysis done on them, I don't recall them being
13 sent off for any DNA analysis, no.

14 Q: Okay. Now, in terms of -- let's talk about crime scene
15 analysis. Did you generate and you indicated to Solicitor
16 DeBusk that you were looking at notes earlier?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: And there's nothing wrong with that because that's the
19 whole point because we're almost two years out and you've
20 probably worked hundreds of cases in between and this is the
21 way that helps you remember, right?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: All right. Did you do a crime scene report on your --
24 what you may have done with the truck in North Carolina?

25 A: It was included in my investigative notes.

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1 Q: Did you do a separate report just for a crime scene
2 analysis as to specifics, we swabbed this, we did this, we did
3 that, or is it just a generalized?

4 A: The crime scene report was completed by Charlotte-
5 Mecklenburg Crime Scene Unit.

6 Q: Okay. So, they did actually a report?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Okay. Now, in terms of the Malibu, who would've done --
9 I know it was in Charlotte and I know the fire crowd was
10 there. Did the fire crowd, just specifically, do an analysis
11 and issue a report as to origin of fire, possible accelerate,
12 things of that nature?

13 A: Yes, the Charlotte Fire Department did.

14 Q: Okay. Was there -- did the Charlotte Police Department
15 do any other analysis on the vehicle?

16 A: Yes, at a later date, there was a -- another processing
17 of the vehicle completed.

18 Q: Is that when -- when you refer to that, is that the
19 November date that you speak of?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: Okay. Was that done by Charlotte?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Okay. And that was where you were looking just as --
24 that's where you found the pocketbook?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: Okay. And just looking for items?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: There was no actual, like trying to find accelerate or
4 doing anything structurally with the vehicle, it was just
5 sifting through ashes?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: Okay. So, no other analysis done there?

8 A: No, sir.

9 Q: Okay. Was there a report generated by Charlotte on that
10 vehicle?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: Okay. Now, in terms of -- let me ask you this and I -- I
13 think I asked Detective Lynch this, North Myrtle Beach is a
14 good department and all, but it's not the biggest so you can't
15 have like Charlotte, you can't have just specialists in
16 certain areas, because you just don't have it, but there are
17 -- you have resources through the State Law Enforcement
18 Division when you need some specialty person to help you; do
19 you not?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: Okay. And one of those resources is crime scene people
22 who that's all they do. You may do a little bit of crime
23 scene, but you're also interviewing and any number of things.
24 So, they would have someone that could come and help you at
25 your -- at your request, right?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: All right. Did you ever request SLED to come and help
3 with this crime scene in any way?

4 A: No, we did not.

5 Q: Now, in terms of Ms. Fisher, we know from Dr. Proctor,
6 the entrance and exit and the approximate -- or not
7 approximate but according to him and he -- I think he's right,
8 the exact angle, up, down, left, right, front to back. Okay?
9 But again, you did not seek the assistance of the State Law
10 Enforcement Division to help you determine where that shot
11 may've come from, did you?

12 A: No, we did not.

13 Q: And we know from the photograph of Ms. -- unfortunately,
14 of Ms. Fisher's photograph, that the bullet ended up outside
15 in the car, correct?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: But it did not strike the windshield or any of the
18 windows because there was no glass left at the scene, correct?

19 A: There was no glass located on the scene, no, sir.

20 Q: Now, in your investigation through phones and otherwise,
21 you have not discovered any evidence that there had been any
22 prior contact between Mr. McIver and either Ms. Oxendine or
23 Ms. Fisher, did you?

24 A: No, we did not.

25 Q: And that your investigation also revealed that this

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- 1 meeting was random, correct?
- 2 A: Correct.
- 3 Q: Which is not uncommon in Myrtle Beach on the Boulevard
- 4 Boardwalk in July. Also, Detective Lynam, when you went on
- 5 the 9th to North Carolina, you spoke to Ms. Oxendine?
- 6 A: Yes, I did.
- 7 Q: And she was able to provide you with photographs, excuse
- 8 me, she had taken of Mr. Freeman and Mr. McIver on her cell
- 9 phone?
- 10 A: Yes, sir.
- 11 Q: That Mr. Freeman and McIver were aware she was taking?
- 12 A: Yes, sir.
- 13 Q: And she was left alive and well, roughly an hour to an
- 14 hour-and-a-half before whatever happened to Ms. Fisher,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A: Correct.
- 17 Q: With pictures of them and names -- she had names of these
- 18 people, correct?
- 19 A: Full name on one and partial on the second.
- 20 Q: And actually and also in her phone or maybe Ms. Fisher's
- 21 phone, which you also have, but one of them also there was
- 22 calls back and forth that night, right?
- 23 A: Yes, sir.
- 24 Q: So, they, at some point in time had exchanged phone
- 25 numbers prior to when they actually show up on videotape going

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1 into the Holiday Sands, right?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Because the calls prior to that timestamp on Holiday
4 Sands, right?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: Okay. So, at some point, they walked down, must've -- we
7 can assume hooked up and then they come on. Now, also, Ms.
8 Oxendine gave you good information that led you to the Lancer
9 Motel, too, right?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: In which there was no effort by anybody to hide the
12 identity of who was staying in that room. There's a video --
13 I mean there's a photo ID presented as to who was staying in
14 the room?

15 A: Correct.

16 Q: And it was a correct ID and the real name, nothing
17 fraudulent about that. In addition, the Lancer is equipped
18 with numerous cameras, right?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: Which are visible to anybody coming and going, correct?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: According to the manager. And likewise, at the Holiday
23 Sands, there's probably a more sophisticated system there
24 because it's a bigger operation, coming and going specifically
25 to each room. They were there and coming and going from the

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1 front door, correct?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: All right. And there was no reported difficulties at the
4 Lancer, calls for security, anything of that nature of any
5 problem by guests or anything in any room, was there?

6 A: No, sir.

7 Q: Likewise, at the Holiday Sands, the security on --
8 actually there overnight, there were no calls for security by
9 other guests or anybody, correct?

10 A: Correct.

11 Q: Okay. And these videos that we have just watched from
12 both motels, there is nothing that suggests that there's any
13 violence, force, coercion, in them, is there?

14 A: No, sir.

15 Q: And in fact, everybody seems to be a willing participant,
16 correct?

17 A: Correct.

18 Q: And including and leading up to the point they all get in
19 the Malibu and leave, correct?

20 A: Correct.

21 Q: Now, there is one video, and I don't know how important
22 it would be, but there may be a video. There's information
23 they stopped somewhere between the Lancer and Ms. Oxendine to
24 eat; is that not correct?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: At a Taco Bell?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: Did you ever try to see if anything happened there by way
4 of video?

5 A: Yes, sir. I reached out to all the Taco Bells in the
6 area and none of them -- I looked at their videos and nothing
7 was captured at any of the stores.

8 Q: Okay. Now, let's talk about the cell phone video that
9 was -- five videos were taken on Mr. McIver's phone. Now,
10 first of all, and I believe Detective Lynch confirmed this,
11 Mr. McIver's phone was retrieved by the Charlotte Police
12 Department?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: And it was retrieved when Mr. McIver was taken
15 voluntarily by a family member after y'all did a media
16 release, did you not?

17 A: Yes, sir. We had Charlotte Police Department do a media
18 release.

19 Q: With some photographs, anybody know anything about these
20 people, they're wanted for questioning, suspects or people of
21 interest, and you put it in the media so, hopefully people
22 will say, hey, I know him, he lives down the road, which you
23 did and they got a call, right?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: And they helped them develop names. And when that

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1 happened, Mr. McIver went in to the Charlotte Police
2 Department, correct?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: And when he went, he didn't leave his phone at home, he
5 took it, correct?

6 A: Correct.

7 Q: And on that -- those videos, which you have watched, it's
8 very evident that he's the one that's videoing, correct?

9 A: Correct.

10 Q: So, he goes there with full knowledge that he -- and this
11 was within two or three days of this event, is it not correct,
12 so about the 12th, some 12th, 13th, he goes in?

13 A: Yes, the 13th.

14 Q: So, knowing full well that the videos are there, phone
15 calls are there, his whole life story is on that phone as
16 evidenced by Detective Lynch and what he told us he could do
17 with Cellebrite, correct?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: And on those videos, is there anything to indicate force,
20 coercion, and there's audio and video on there, any talk of
21 any plan, scheme, design, by anybody to do anything other than
22 these people to party?

23 A: No, sir.

24 Q: And these people do party. There's the use of alcohol;
25 is there not?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: The use of multiple drugs, is there not?

3 A: We didn't capture it on video.

4 Q: Not on the video. But based on your interview with Ms.
5 Oxendine?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: And based on some toxicology that's proved to be true?

8 A: Yes, sir.

9 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence, just one second.

10 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

11 BY MR. BELLAMY:

12 Q: Let me ask you -- may I approach the witness?

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

14 Q: State's 60 is Mr. McIver -- and I forget that's
15 Marshville, is it not?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Okay. He has a white T-shirt on?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: And State's 59, that would be Mr. McIver as -- is that as
20 he's preparing to leave or coming back to the Lancer at
21 roughly noon?

22 A: That appears this is when he's arriving back at the
23 Lancer, yeah.

24 Q: And you can see the Malibu -- and the truck in the car?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: And then the bottom photograph is Bennettsville with him
2 as well, correct?

3 A: Correct.

4 Q: All right. Now, and again the video is in evidence, but
5 in your review of the videos, Mr. McIver appears to be wearing
6 the same shirt when he leaves to go to Shallotte, when he
7 returns from Shallotte, then when he leaves to go to
8 Bennettsville, Marshville, Charlotte, does he not?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: And the last still we have in Marshville, 60, does there
11 appear to be any blood of any kind on that white T-shirt?

12 A: No, sir.

13 Q: And did you interview the clerks at -- because we haven't
14 heard from them, they were not here for whatever reason, at
15 either location we just had the custodian of some records to
16 get the videos in, but we didn't hear from the clerks. You
17 have no indication in your investigation that any of them saw
18 any blood, do you?

19 A: They were interviewed and they did not report seeing any
20 blood.

21 Q: Okay. And the photographic evidence confirms that,
22 correct?

23 A: Correct.

24 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

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1 BY MR. BELLAMY:

2 Q: Do you know if Mr. McIver is left or right-handed?

3 A: No, sir.

4 Q: Do you know if Mr. Freeman is left or right-handed?

5 A: No, sir.

6 Q: Did you, Detective Lynam, through the use of -- is it
7 Cellebrite or Cellebrite, I don't know?

8 A: I pronounce it Cellebrite.

9 Q: Cellebrite, okay. Through the use of that, which you
10 obtained a lot of information about Mr. McIver including
11 different people he may have talked to.

12 Solicitor DeBusk, do you have, which one was the phone,
13 which number was that?

14 MR. DEBUSK: 50, I believe.

15 MR. BELLAMY: Is that -- where would that be, Solicitor?

16 MR. DEBUSK: It's ---

17 MR. BELLAMY: Here, okay. Is this okay?

18 COURT REPORTER: Yeah.

19 BY MR. BELLAMY:

20 Q: I'll show you what's been marked as State's 50 and show
21 you this. These are the phone records of Mr. -- the call log
22 of Mr. McIver; is that correct?

23 A: That's correct.

24 Q: And there are calls on there, some which don't appear to
25 be talking, that are 10 or 15 seconds, the way Detective Lynch

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1 has indicated that's probably voice mail or either a missed
2 call, correct?

3 A: Correct.

4 Q: But there are calls to other people on there, somebody by
5 the name of Heath; is that correct?

6 A: Heath?

7 Q: H-E-A-T-H?

8 A: Yes, sir, I see one, two, three, four, five, just on this
9 page.

10 Q: Just on that page?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And that would've been around the time this event
13 occurred or after, correct?

14 A: Yes, that's correct.

15 Q: And have you talked to Heath to determine what may or may
16 not have been said by Mr. McIver?

17 A: No, sir.

18 Q: Okay. There's a -- and on this page, and I'm gonna let
19 you look at, on 4:17 and 4:16, there are calls and this would
20 be at the top and it's not highlighted, to Floyd's; is that
21 correct, three separate calls?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: And did you reach out to anybody there?

24 A: No, sir.

25 Q: Okay. Now, looking forward from approximately 4:52 to

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1 6:44, there are 20 either received or -- you don't have a copy
2 of this that we could ---

3 A: No.

4 Q: --- so we could do it at the same time.

5 A: Yeah, mine is much different.

6 Q: If I hold it like this, could you look at it and I'll
7 just kinda go through it?

8 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response). Yes, sir.

9 Q: Can you see that?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: Okay. My client's phone -- two calls from 4:52 to
12 Showtime. I don't know if that's a nickname or a business,
13 three calls, four calls, five calls, correct?

14 A: Correct.

15 Q: And to Floyd's, correct?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: And to Devin, correct?

18 A: Correct.

19 Q: And to Napria (spelled phonetically); is that ---

20 A: Yeah. Yes, sir.

21 Q: Then again to Tyquajua, correct?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Then to Showtime?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: Then to Napria, okay?

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- 1 A: Yes, sir.
- 2 Q: And somebody named Big T at 6:44 P.M.?
- 3 A: Yes, sir.
- 4 Q: Okay. And we can continue on over here. There are more
- 5 calls later on 7/9 going to the evening to Big T, correct?
- 6 A: Correct.
- 7 Q: Killa (spelled phonetically)?
- 8 A: Correct.
- 9 Q: Smurf? Marian?
- 10 A: Correct.
- 11 Q: Yayo, I don't know what that -- Y-A-Y-O?
- 12 A: Yes, sir.
- 13 Q: Okay. So, there are more calls and that goes on to 10:27
- 14 P.M., correct?
- 15 A: Yes, sir.
- 16 Q: Okay. And on this page, there's a number of them, I just
- 17 want to highlight and point out the different people that we
- 18 have not talked about, but there are other calls to people
- 19 we've already talked about. Then we have an addition to that,
- 20 Jazza (spelled phonetically), again, correct?
- 21 A: Yes, sir.
- 22 Q: Now we're talking about 3:00 in the morning on the 10th,
- 23 and these are back and forth and the jury will have these to
- 24 review, but and it goes on and on and on and on, Keybo
- 25 (spelled phonetically) is a new one.

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1 A: Correct.

2 Q: And Alicia, Felicia, Iecia, Delmia, (spelled
3 phonetically), anyhow, a lot of them?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: And of those, again I don't know how many numbers of
6 different people that I had on there, how many of those have
7 you contacted to determine or ask what in the world were you
8 talking to Mr. McIver about?

9 A: I haven't called any of those numbers.

10 Q: Okay. Now, likewise, with Mr. Freeman's phone, excuse
11 me, phone records, those were received by North Myrtle Beach
12 Police on July 18th of 2016; is that correct, of your
13 information?

14 A: From Detective Lynch's testimony, yes, sir.

15 Q: And again, I -- I'm not here to say anything bad about
16 Will Lynch. Things happen, things get misplaced, we're all
17 human, but for whatever reason, those were never investigated
18 in terms of looking at who Mr. Freeman may have called to
19 determine who he talked to and what he may've said to them; is
20 that correct?

21 A: Correct.

22 Q: All right.

23 Court's indulgence?

24 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

25 Q: Detective Lynam, at the end of the day, you don't know

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1 who pulled that trigger in that car, do you?

2 A: No, sir; I do not.

3 Q: But we do know that somebody in that car did not; isn't
4 that right?

5 A: That would be my assumption, yes, sir.

6 Q: There was one shot and there's two people. We can assume
7 both of them weren't pulling the trigger and I hate to assume,
8 but I think common sense tells us that, so one of these people
9 did not and we -- and we're fairly certain of that and one
10 did?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And prior to 11:15 on 7/9/2016, do you have anything --
13 evidence from any cell phone, overheard conversation, that my
14 client, Nicholas McIver, entered -- voluntarily knew and
15 voluntarily entered into an agreement, plan, scheme, design,
16 conspiracy, to commit any crime that day beforehand?

17 A: No, sir.

18 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

19 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

20 BY MR. BELLAMY:

21 Q: Thank you, Detective Lynam. Answer any other questions.
22 Thank you.

23 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Spratlin?

24 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 CROSS EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. SPRATLIN:

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1 Q: I'll try to make this as brief as I can, Detective Lynam.

2 Now, you talked a lot about Tabetha Oxendine, correct?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: She was kind of one of the key witnesses in your case,
5 correct?

6 A: Yes, sir..

7 Q: A true -- this case would not be complete without hearing
8 Tabetha Oxendine, correct?

9 A: Not as quickly.

10 Q: Now, the videos you referenced earlier that Detective
11 Lynch got off the phone that the solicitor asked you about,
12 those videos feature Tabetha Oxendine having intercourse with
13 my client, correct?

14 A: Correct.

15 Q: It did not feature the victim having any sort of
16 intercourse with my client?

17 A: Correct.

18 Q: It didn't show the victim doing any kind of sexual act at
19 all?

20 A: Correct.

21 Q: Okay. And there was again, nothing illegal about what
22 you saw on those cell phone videos off of Mr. McIver's phone,
23 correct?

24 A: Correct.

25 Q: There wasn't any kind of force, there wasn't any kind of

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1 abuse going on?

2 A: Correct.

3 Q: Everything seemed just to be consensual interaction
4 between two adults, correct?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: Regarding the other videos we watched, nothing we saw on
7 any of those videos up and until -- well, let me go back. The
8 Holiday Sands video didn't really observe anything illegal in
9 any of those videos, right?

10 A: Right.

11 Q: Lancer Motel, didn't observe anything illegal on any of
12 those videos, correct?

13 A: Correct.

14 Q: The -- regarding the gas station video that Solicitor
15 DeBusk played where the credit card was being used, my client,
16 Terrell Freeman, was not on any of those videos, correct?

17 A: Correct..

18 Q: In fact, there is no evidence that Terrell Freeman used
19 or took anything of Amanda Fisher's that day, right?

20 A: Correct.

21 Q: He wasn't using the cards, right?

22 A: Correct.

23 Q: Wasn't -- she had her jewelry on her still, whatever
24 jewelry she had, right?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: So, no evidence of any kind of gain that my client got
2 out of the unfortunate death of Ms. Fisher, right?

3 A: Correct.

4 Q: Now, that pickup truck that my client left in, whose
5 vehicle was that; that was Nicholas McIver's, right?

6 A: The vehicle in fact hadn't been registered yet. It was
7 recently purchased. It's our understanding that it was Mr.
8 McIver's ---

9 Q: Okay.

10 A: --- we can clarify that.

11 Q: Not my client's as far as you know?

12 A: Correct.

13 Q: My client, when he met Tabetha Oxendine and Amanda Fisher
14 at Myrtle Beach, he gave his real name, right?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Had no issues with locating him or finding out his name
17 ---

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: --- right? As Mr. Bellamy already asked, but I will ask
20 again just to reiterate, when he checked into the Lancer
21 Motel, he gave his real name, right?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: Didn't give a fake name, didn't give a fake ID or
24 anything like that, right?

25 A: Yes, sir.

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1 Q: There is nothing on any of the evidence that you turned
2 up in the entire investigation that my client, Terrell
3 Freeman, tried to pretend that he was somebody else here at
4 the beach, right?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: There is nothing that shows that he tried to hide his
7 identity or avoid being seen by people, right?

8 A: Correct.

9 Q: In fact, he's all over all sorts of cameras, right?

10 A: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

11 Q: Now, my client was on video driving the truck back to
12 North -- or driving the truck away from the Lancer at least,
13 right?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Presumably to North Carolina where the truck was
16 recovered, right?

17 A: Yes, sir.

18 Q: Which is also where Defendant McIver lived, right?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: So, driving the truck back home to where McIver lived?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: Not my client's truck, right?

23 A: Correct.

24 Q: Now, we have heard a lot about what you got off of
25 Nicholas McIver's phone; we've seen phone records, right?

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1 A: Yes, sir.

2 Q: Some sort of analytics thing which shows who he called or
3 talked to the most, right?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: But you never got any of that off of my client's phone
6 because you never had possession of my client's phone, right?

7 A: Correct.

8 Q: To your knowledge, did yourself or anyone at your
9 request, execute a search warrant at my client's house to try
10 to get the phone?

11 A: No, we did not.

12 Q: That's something as a law enforcement agency you can do,
13 you can get search warrants to get evidence in crimes, right?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: It's not that hard, you go to a magistrate judge, tell
16 them why you want it, and gives you a warrant to go get it,
17 right?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Now, Detective Bellamy -- Mr. Bellamy, excuse me, he
20 asked you some questions about the Myrtle Beach cameras.
21 Myrtle Beach is the next city over from North Myrtle Beach,
22 right?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: In fact, they have what they refer to, I believe they
25 call it Milestone; are you familiar with that at all?

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1 A: No, sir.

2 Q: Okay. But they have a camera system, right, a pretty
3 expensive camera system they put in a couple of years ago,
4 were you aware of that?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: All right. High tech cameras, great resolution, right?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: Have you ever seen it in action?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: All right. It can show stuff as clear as if you're
11 standing there looking at it sometimes, right?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: The vehicle, when it left the K&W parking lot, and it
14 turned southbound, right, or in order to get to the Lancer
15 Motel, eventually would've had to go south, right?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: But you ever reach out to Myrtle Beach Police Department
18 to see what was on their high tech very expensive camera
19 system, did you?

20 A: Yes, I did.

21 Q: You did; was there anything on it?

22 A: They just had a snapshot of the victim's car in the
23 vicinity of the Lancer Motel, but it was never picked up on
24 their system again.

25 Q: Never picked up on their sensor again, but you did look

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1 into that?

2 A: Yes, sir.

3 Q: All right. Now, in all the videos we watched of the
4 Lancer and the Holiday Sands, my client and Amanda Fisher, the
5 victim in this case, are together for all of three minutes;
6 does that sound about right, alone together, I should say, for
7 all of about three minutes between 6:17 and 6:20 in the
8 morning. Does that sound about right?

9 A: Yes, sir.

10 Q: That was after Tabetha Oxendine left the room, right?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And Nicholas McIver had also left the room, right?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: And the other videos that were on the phone were made
15 after that, right?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: Assumingly at another location, correct?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: And then my client left at 6:20 A.M., right?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: So, three minutes alone with Amanda Fisher, and she was
22 perfectly fine after those three minutes as far as you know,
23 right?

24 A: As far as we know, yes, sir.

25 Q: Didn't show any signs of trauma, no injuries, no issues

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1 that you're aware of?

2 A: Correct.

3 Q: Now, you said that you were involved somewhat in the
4 investigation regarding the burned vehicle up in North
5 Carolina, right?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: This was, I think you said, was it three days after or
8 four days after, Detective Lynam?

9 A: It was actually on November the 16th.

10 Q: November the 6th, so several months later?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: We're talking August -- we're talking most of July,
13 August, September, October, so at least four months, maybe a
14 little bit more than that?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: And that's the first time that that car was thoroughly
17 processed or a North Myrtle Beach officer looked at it,
18 correct?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: But it was Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department who
21 looked at it, right?

22 A: Yes, sir.

23 Q: It wasn't sent to the South Carolina Law Enforcement
24 Division for processing, there weren't any scouring for bullet
25 holes or anything like that that you're aware of?

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OWEN LYNAM - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Not previous to that, no.

2 Q: Okay. In fact, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division
3 wasn't called in to do anything regarding processing of that
4 vehicle to your knowledge?

5 A: Correct.

6 Q: In all the videos, all the evidence we've seen, there
7 does not appear to be any animosity between Tabetha Oxendine,
8 Amanda Fisher, my client, and Nichols McIver, does there?

9 A: No, there does not.

10 Q: So, I'll ask you the same question Mr. Bellamy asked you
11 at the end of his, you do not have any evidence to show that
12 my client, prior to the instant that that bullet went through
13 Amanda Fisher's head, intended to do her any harm, do you?

14 A: No, I do not.

15 Q: And you have no evidence that my client put that bullet
16 through her head with his own hands, do you?

17 A: No, I do not.

18 Q: Thank you. I have no further questions.

19 THE COURT: All right. Redirect?

20 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 REDIRECT EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. DEBUSK:

22 Q: Up here in Shallotte where the victim lived, that's still
23 a neighborhood, isn't it, there's still houses around, it's
24 just not as densely populated, is it?

25 A: Correct.

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OWEN LYNAM - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: In fact, if you look close, you can see all the streets
2 with houses on them?

3 A: Yes, sir.

4 Q: What was your crime scene here besides a dead woman in
5 the parking lot, a car that had been burned up so much that
6 the glass was melted, and a truck that wasn't at the crime
7 scene?

8 A: Basically, the car would've been what we'd call a primary
9 crime scene. That's where the crime actually occurred.

10 Q: That car was burned so badly that the glass had melted,
11 right?

12 A: Yes, sir.

13 Q: And covered with ashes and soot?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Could you find any blood in that car?

16 A: No, sir.

17 Q: Do you think there would've been blood in the car if
18 somebody had been shot through the head?

19 A: Yes, sir.

20 Q: But it had been burned up?

21 A: Yes, sir.

22 Q: And there was no glass?

23 A: No, sir.

24 Q: And the truck, the truck wasn't at the scene of the
25 shooting, was it?

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1 A: No, sir.

2 Q: Okay. Now, is it possible that the bullet could've
3 passed through Amanda's head, breaking bone in two places and
4 not had enough energy to go all the way through a window? It
5 could've hit the window but not had enough energy to go all
6 the way through?

7 A: It's possible the velocity would've decreased enough not
8 to break the window.

9 Q: And we know that the -- we have a picture of it that the
10 jacket of the bullet was with Amanda when she was found?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And you saw the defendant in State's 59 and 60, that's
13 the defendant McIver, he had a white T-shirt. Can you tell if
14 it's the same white T-shirt?

15 A: Not with certainty, no, sir.

16 Q: But can you tell for a fact the pants are changed?

17 A: You can tell that the pants are different, yes, sir.

18 Q: So, he did change clothing to some extent?

19 A: Definitely his pants, yes.

20 Q: The clerk at Marshville, for instance, she wasn't here,
21 right?

22 A: Not at the trial, no, sir.

23 Q: Wasn't testimony that she had just had triple bypass?

24 A: Yes, sir.

25 Q: So, she's not able to testify?

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OWEN LYNAM - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Correct.

2 Q: Any doubt that the videos show that there were two people
3 getting out of the victim's car at the Lancer?

4 A: No, sir.

5 Q: Any doubt that that car was taken from Amanda after she
6 had been shot and killed?

7 A: No, sir.

8 Q: So, they were in possession of a stolen vehicle at that
9 scene?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: That in itself could be a felony conviction -- crime,
12 right?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: You have some calls to the Floyd's Restaurant. Who
15 worked at Floyd's Restaurant with Defendant McIver?

16 A: Mr. Freeman did.

17 Q: And right after they left the Lancer, after Amanda had
18 been shot, who did Nicholas McIver burn up the phone to
19 calling repeatedly as soon as he left the Lancer?

20 A: From the phone records, he called Terrell Freeman.

21 Q: Now, do both of the defendants have to pull the trigger
22 to both be guilty of murder?

23 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, objection ---

24 MR. SPRATLIN: Objection.

25 THE COURT: That calls for a conclusion of law.

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OWEN LYNAM - REDIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 BY MR. DEBUSK:

3 Q: Now, is it -- this unfortunate death that Mr. Spratlin
4 referred to, that was actually a contact wound to the head, an
5 execution shot, wasn't it?

6 A: Yes, sir.

7 Q: And that car between the time it is initially processed
8 by the arson investigators at Charlotte, that white car, the
9 Malibu, didn't you say it was wrapped in plastic and preserved
10 until it was unwrapped and processed in your presence?

11 A: Yes, sir.

12 Q: And again, you found it completely burned up?

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: There's been a lot of testimony about the lack of
15 animosity between Amanda and the defendants, correct?

16 A: Correct.

17 Q: Would Amanda have let them ride to North Carolina with
18 her if ---

19 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, I would object. That calls for
20 speculation.

21 THE COURT: That calls for speculation.

22 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you.

23 THE COURT: Anything on the questions just asked by the
24 solicitor, Mr. Bellamy?

25 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, just briefly.

State v. McIver and Freeman
OWEN LYNAM - RECROSS BY BELLAMY

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1 RECROSS EXAMINATION OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. BELLAMY:

2 Q: Detective Lynam, Solicitor DeBusk asked you about the
3 velocity of a bullet, correct?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: You are not an expert in ballistics, are you?

6 A: No, sir.

7 Q: Never been trained, qualified at all?

8 A: No, sir.

9 Q: But there are people who are, correct?

10 A: Yes, sir.

11 Q: And as I mentioned before, the State Law Enforcement
12 Division has people who can come in -- and, in fact, they,
13 they took possession of that bullet, didn't they?

14 A: Yes, sir, it was sent off for analysis.

15 Q: Analysis. And someone could come in here and tell us the
16 caliber, the type, and, and what would or wouldn't happen in
17 terms of the impact to Ms. Fisher and what would have happened
18 then, correct? Don't you believe that's possible?

19 A: With that particular bullet?

20 Q: Yes, we could -- an expert could give us -- maybe give us
21 an opinion better than yours -- and I'm not saying your
22 opinion is not just good, Owen -- but there are people trained
23 that could tell us more, right?

24 A: We were heading in that direction, but the results we got
25 from the analysis ---

State v. McIver and Freeman
OWEN LYNAM - RECROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: I don't want you to talk about results.

2 THE COURT: Well, Mr. Bellamy, you asked the question.

3 Q: Go ahead?

4 A: With the results we got from the analysis, there were, I
5 believe, six different possibilities of the type and caliber
6 of weapon that could've fired it.

7 Q: I guess what I'm asking about is, on the velocity,
8 there's no report on that?

9 A: No, sir.

10 Q: And you did not seek one from anybody, did you?

11 A: Again, we did not request one based on the analysis
12 results we got back from the ---

13 Q: Well, the analysis you got back was that it could be one
14 of six types of bullet or fired from six types of weapon?

15 A: Yes, sir.

16 Q: Did you reach out then and say, hey, it could've been one
17 of these six, tell me about velocity?

18 A: No, sir.

19 Q: Thank you. I don't have anything else.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

21 RECROSS EXAMINATIN OF OWEN LYNAM BY MR. SPRATLIN:

22 Q: Detective Lynam, very, very briefly. Solicitor DeBusk
23 was questioning on his redirect, you have no evidence that
24 that car was taken from the scene of K&W and Amanda Fisher's
25 possession until after that bullet went through her head,

State v. McIver and Freeman
BY THE COURT

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1 right?

2 A: Correct.

3 Q: Thank you.

4 THE COURT: Brand new matter brought up by those
5 questions, Solicitor?

6 MR. DEBUSK: None, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right, sir, you may step down.

8 MR. LYNAM: Thank you.

9 BY THE COURT:

10 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, we're gonna
11 stop for the evening. We're gonna resume again tomorrow
12 morning at 9:30. My expectation is that we'll certainly come
13 to a point tomorrow where this case will be given to you for
14 your deliberations and unanimous decision in this particular
15 matter.

16 Please understand, again, I'm telling you something I've
17 told you every single time. You can't talk about the case
18 when you go home, can't let anybody talk to you about it, you
19 can't do any research, can't do any investigation, don't talk
20 about the case, you'll have all the time you deem necessary to
21 talk about it when I give it to you for your unanimous
22 decision in all of these matters. See you back tomorrow
23 morning at 9:30.

24 Thank you very much.

25 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes

State v. McIver and Freeman
BY THE COURT

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1 THE COURT: No, sir, it's in evidence now.

2 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: It's in evidence now.

4 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 51

6 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

7 THE COURT: So, with that, is the state ready for the
8 jury to come in?

9 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 And Mr. Bellamy?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: And Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

16 All right. Ask the jury to come in.

17 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

18 THE COURT: All right, solicitor, next witness, please.

19 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, the state calls Tabetha
20 Oxendine.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 All right, ma'am, come all the way around right up here
23 to where the clerk's representative is, please.

24 CLERK: Please raise your right hand and place your left
25 hand on the Bible.

24 Q: I'm showing State's Exhibit 61 and ask if you recognize
25 that.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

487

1 A: Yeah, that's my aunt's beach house.

2 MR. DEBUSK: The state would move 61 into evidence.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right. It's in evidence without
7 objection, you may proceed.

8 STATE'S EXHIBIT NUMBER 61

9 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE

10 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish, Your Honor?

11 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

12 BY MR. DEBUSK:

13 Q: Is that where you were staying, at the house?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Where is it?

16 A: It's in North Carolina by Oak Island.

17 Q: Okay. Let me show you State's Exhibit 4. Is it up here
18 in the Supply area?

19 A: Yes, sir; yes, sir.

20 Q: Who was staying there with you?

21 A: My mom, my dad, my sister, and brother-in-law, my kids.

22 Q: Were you down here on vacation?

23 A: Yes, sir.

24 Q: Where was Amanda at that time; where was she living?

25 A: At her grandparents' beach house.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Is that also in ---

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: Now, on July 8th, what were you doing?

4 A: We were hanging out at the beach and stuff with the
5 family.

6 Q: Okay. Down at Holden Beach, the nearest beach?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: Okay. When you finished at the beach, what did you do?

9 A: We went back to my aunt's beach house and went swimming
10 for a little bit.

11 Q: What were you swimming in?

12 A: The pool.

13 Q: There's a pool?

14 A: Yes, in the back.

15 Q: Okay. Did you have plans for that weekend or for the
16 rest of that night?

17 A: Yes, me and Amanda was gonna go to Myrtle Beach and get a
18 room to hang out for my birthday.

19 Q: Okay. Did you have hotel reservations?

20 A: Yeah.

21 Q: Who took care of that?

22 A: Amanda.

23 Q: How were you gonna get down there?

24 A: Amanda, in her car.

25 Q: She was gonna drive?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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- 1 A: Yes.
- 2 Q: Do you remember what kind of car she had?
- 3 A: A white car, I don't know the model; I forgot.
- 4 Q: I show you State's Exhibit 1 and ask if you recognize
- 5 that?
- 6 A: Yes, that's her car.
- 7 Q: Why were you just taking one car?
- 8 A: Yeah, just one car, cause I don't have a vehicle.
- 9 Q: Okay. When did you leave for Myrtle Beach?
- 10 A: It was around like 12ish maybe.
- 11 Q: Midnight?
- 12 A: Yeah.
- 13 Q: Okay. That would've been midnight between the Friday the
- 14 8th and Saturday the 9th?
- 15 A: Yes, sir.
- 16 Q: Okay. Do you remember where you went?
- 17 A: I forgot the name of the motel room.
- 18 Q: Do you remember the name of the hotel?
- 19 A: No, it's Sands-something.
- 20 Q: Okay. I show you State's 21 and 24 and ask if you
- 21 recognize those.
- 22 A: Yes, sir.
- 23 Q: What are they?
- 24 A: That's where we stayed at and that's where our room.
- 25 Q: Was anybody gonna stay in that room except you and

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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- 1 Amanda?
- 2 A: No, there was no plans of nobody staying.
- 3 Q: Okay. How long were you planning on staying?
- 4 A: Just until the next morning.
- 5 Q: Did you later change your plans about staying?
- 6 A: Yeah, we were gonna go back and hang out with family at
- 7 the beach and then go back later on.
- 8 Q: For Saturday night?
- 9 A: Yes, sir.
- 10 Q: Were the two of you together when you checked in?
- 11 A: Yes, sir.
- 12 Q: And, of course, Amanda made the reservation, she was the
- 13 one who checked in?
- 14 A: Yes.
- 15 Q: Do you remember roughly what time you checked in?
- 16 A: Around 1 o'clock.
- 17 Q: Okay. Do you remember where Amanda parked?
- 18 A: It was away from the room. We had to walk to the car.
- 19 Q: Okay. Not right in front of the hotel?
- 20 A: No.
- 21 Q: Do you remember what number room you stayed in?
- 22 A: 420 on the 4th floor.
- 23 Q: Okay. What did y'all do after you checked in?
- 24 A: We walked on the balcony and stood out there.
- 25 Q: Anything happen when you were out on the balcony?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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- 1 A: That's when we met the two guys.
- 2 Q: So, you were on the 4th floor and you talked to them down
- 3 on the ground?
- 4 A: Yes.
- 5 Q: Did you talk to each other?
- 6 A: Yes.
- 7 Q: Did you exchange phone numbers?
- 8 A: Yes, sir.
- 9 Q: What did you do after that?
- 10 A: Then we walked downstairs and went on the beach.
- 11 Q: So, you walked out on the beach. What happened after you
- 12 walked on the beach?
- 13 A: Then we all went back to the room. We met up with them
- 14 and went to the room.
- 15 Q: You met with them on the beach?
- 16 A: Yeah.
- 17 Q: You already had phone contact, I guess?
- 18 A: Yes.
- 19 Q: Okay. When you went up to the room, what did you do?
- 20 A: Just hung out in the room and got to know each other.
- 21 Q: Uh-huh, (affirmative response). Was there any alcohol or
- 22 drug use?
- 23 A: Yes.
- 24 Q: Who was participating?
- 25 A: Everybody.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

492

1 Q: Did you know either of these individuals?

2 A: No..

3 Q: You just met them that night?

4 A: Yes, sir.

5 Q: Did either one say they knew you?

6 A: They -- Nick said that he went to school with me at Sun
7 Valley.

8 Q: By Nick you mean Nicholas McIver?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Did you go to school with him at Sun Valley?

11 A: No.

12 Q: Did you learn their names?

13 A: I -- we learned that his -- the Terrell, but he told us
14 his name was Jacob.

15 Q: So, Terrell would be Terrell Freeman?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: That's the defendant sitting at the end of the table
18 there?

19 A: Yes. And he told us his name was Jacob.

20 Q: Did you find out where they were from?

21 A: Charlotte, North Carolina.

22 Q: Okay. Is it safe to say you were hitting it off and you
23 were having a good time?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Okay. During those early morning hours of Saturday,

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 where did you spend most of your time?

2 A: In our room.

3 Q: In your room. Did there come a time when you would leave
4 from time to time?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: Were you spending more time with one or the other of the
7 two defendants?

8 A: With Freeman.

9 Q: Freeman. Was Amanda spending more time with one or the
10 other?

11 A: Jacob.

12 Q: Okay. Now, let me ask you, did there come a time when
13 there was some sexual activity with you and Mr. Freeman?

14 A: Yes, sir.

15 Q: Was that filmed?

16 A: That I didn't know about.

17 Q: Did you later learn that it was filmed?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: Was that done with your approval?

20 A: No.

21 Q: Okay. That was a private moment between you and Mr.
22 Freeman?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: Who took the video, do you know?

25 A: I guess McIver.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK.

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1 Q: When that was happening, where was Amanda?

2 A: In her room, cause it was split rooms.

3 Q: Go back to State's 24. Does this show how the rooms were
4 separated?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: There was just a door between them?

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish?

9 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

10 BY MR. DEBUSK:

11 Q: So, when that -- that sexual activity first happened in
12 the room, were you and Amanda ---

13 A: Yes, sir.

14 Q: Okay. Did there come a time when you went over to the
15 hotel with the other ones were ---

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: Was there some more sexual activity?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: More videos?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: Did you approve of it that time?

22 A: No.

23 Q: How long did you stay over at the other hotel?

24 A: Not for long.

25 Q: When you came back it was it already light?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

495

1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Where was Amanda when ---

3 A: At our room.

4 Q: So, she stayed at the Holiday Sands Motel ---

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: --- and you went over alone to the other ---

7 A: Yes, sir.

8 Q: When did you see Amanda again?

9 A: When I got back to the room.

10 Q: Okay. And once you got back to the room and reunited
11 with Amanda, what did y'all do?

12 A: We got ready to leave to take me back to my aunt's beach
13 house.

14 Q: Okay. What did you and Amanda have planned for that day?

15 A: To go hang out with family on the beach and then go back
16 to Myrtle Beach later on.

17 Q: Okay. So, and why did you have to go back to North
18 Carolina?

19 A: To get my kids and be with family at the beach.

20 Q: It was a family vacation?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Okay. How were you gonna get back to your kids in North
23 Carolina?

24 A: Amanda.

25 Q: We're talking about up in Supply right?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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- 1 A: Yes, sir.
- 2 Q: You were going to Supply, okay. When did you see the
- 3 defendants again?
- 4 A: I didn't. Oh, when did I see them again?
- 5 Q: After you and Amanda left the room at the ---
- 6 A: We went to the car and then we rode over to their room
- 7 where they were staying.
- 8 Q: Did you wait in the parking lot?
- 9 A: Yes, sir.
- 10 Q: When you walked downstairs they were ---
- 11 A: There, yes.
- 12 Q: In fact, Mr. Freeman, did he not walk up to you and ---
- 13 A: Yes.
- 14 Q: He embraced him, didn't you?
- 15 A: Uh-huh, (affirmative response).
- 16 Q: You had your arms around him?
- 17 A: Yes, sir..
- 18 Q: Later on, were you in the car with him when you went to
- 19 North Carolina?
- 20 A: Yes, sir.
- 21 Q: How were you -- were you close to him then?
- 22 A: Yes, I was sleeping on his lap.
- 23 Q: You were sleeping on his lap. During that time, when you
- 24 hugged him and you were sleeping on his lap, did he have a gun
- 25 on him?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

497

- 1 A: No, sir.
- 2 Q: Would you have known it if he did?
- 3 A: Yes, sir.
- 4 Q: Now let's step back to the -- when they met you in the
5 parking lot, did y'all have a discussion there in the parking
6 lot?
- 7 A: Yes.
- 8 Q: You and Amanda, I think you already said were heading out
9 to go to North -- to Supply, to take you back there, right?
- 10 A: Yes.
- 11 Q: What happened after?
- 12 A: We went to the car and then we drove over to where they
13 were staying?
- 14 Q: Why did you go over there?
- 15 A: To tell our last goodbyes.
- 16 Q: Okay. What happened while you were over there?
- 17 A: They decided to ride with us to drop me off.
- 18 Q: Who was it that decided?
- 19 A: McIver asked if he could ride back.
- 20 Q: Did you think that was a good idea?
- 21 A: No.
- 22 Q: Did Amanda approve it?
- 23 A: Yes.
- 24 Q: It was her car, right?
- 25 A: Yeah.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 Q: Okay. So, you were over at the other hotel, was it
2 called the Lancer?

3 A: Yes.

4 Q: State's Exhibit 20, do you recognize that?

5 A: Yes, sir.

6 Q: What is that?

7 A: That's where they were staying.

8 MR. DEBUSK: May I publish, Your Honor?

9 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

10 BY MR. DEBUSK:

11 Q: So, you went over to the Lancer. McIver asked to ride
12 along and -- and do they?

13 A: Yes.

14 Q: So, what was the plan gonna be, you -- the four of you
15 would go to North Carolina and what was gonna happen?

16 A: They were gonna drop me off and then come back down to
17 Myrtle Beach.

18 Q: Who was gonna drive up to North Carolina?

19 A: Amanda.

20 Q: In which vehicle?

21 A: Her white car.

22 Q: In that white car, was the air condition working?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: When you were in the car going back to North Carolina,
25 who sat where?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

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1 A: Amanda and Nick was up front, and me and Freeman was in
2 the back.

3 Q: So, Amanda was driving, right?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Mr. McIver was beside her in the front passenger seat.

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Were you behind Amanda or behind McIver?

8 A: McIver.

9 Q: And Freeman was behind?

10 A: Amanda.

11 Q: Amanda. So, do you remember the ride from the Lancer
12 back up to ---

13 A: No, I slept the whole ride.

14 Q: Okay. Do you remember any stops?

15 A: We stopped at a Taco Bell and they were walking back out
16 when I sat up to look at them.

17 Q: Okay. But mostly you were tired?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: You had pretty much spent the evening partying?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: Okay. And the day before at the beach?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: So, you were probably wore out. What, what was the mood
24 of the people in the car; was it happy, was it ---

25 A: They all seemed fine.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

500

1 Q: Did you see any tension?

2 A: No.

3 Q: If there had been tension, would y'all have gotten them
4 to ride with you?

5 A: No.

6 Q: Did there come a time when they dropped you off at your
7 house?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: Or, I'm sorry, your aunt's house?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: About what time, do you remember?

12 A: It was before noon.

13 Q: Okay. Did you see them leave?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: Where was everyone sitting when they left?

16 A: The same spot.

17 Q: Nobody moved?

18 A: No.

19 Q: And McIver still sitting in the front seat?

20 A: Yes, sir.

21 Q: And Freeman was still sitting behind Amanda?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Did -- I think you told us this already, but did they
24 express intentions of what they were gonna do?

25 A: Go back to the beach, Myrtle Beach.

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

501

- 1 Q: And what was the plan for you?
- 2 A: To go hang out with family at the beach.
- 3 Q: And then after that?
- 4 A: Go back to my aunt's house and then Amanda was gonna pick
5 me up later on.
- 6 Q: Did that ever happen?
- 7 A: No.
- 8 Q: Did you ever see Amanda again?
- 9 A: No.
- 10 Q: How did you find out she had been killed?
- 11 A: Through my aunt.
- 12 Q: Did the police come by and talk to you?
- 13 A: Yes.
- 14 Q: Did you tell them what you could?
- 15 A: Yes, sir.
- 16 Q: Did you, in fact, give them some pictures from your
17 phone?
- 18 A: Yes.
- 19 Q: The police came?
- 20 A: Yes.
- 21 Q: When the police came and talked to you, did you -- I'm
22 sorry, I know it's difficult, Tabetha, but when the police
23 came and talked to you, who was there? When the police came
24 and talked to you ---
- 25 A: Who was there?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - DIRECT BY DEBUSK

502

1 Q: Yeah.

2 A: My mom, my dad, my aunt, my uncle, their parents, my
3 kids, my niece.

4 Q: When you say your aunt and your uncle, was that Amanda's
5 parents?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And their parents would be Amanda's grandparents?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: During the time you were with the defendants and Amanda,
10 did you see or hear anything that made you think something
11 awful like this would happen?

12 A: No, sir.

13 Q: Do you remember what everyone was talking about?

14 A: No.

15 Q: Did you go to Amanda's funeral?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: Where was she buried?

18 A: She wasn't; she was cremated.

19 Q: Once again, when you were in close contact with Terrell
20 Freeman, when you hugged him at the Holiday Sands and laid in
21 his lap, did he have a gun on him?

22 A: No, sir.

23 Q: Thank you. Please answer any questions the defense has.

24 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

25 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY BELLAMY

503

1 CROSS EXAMINATION OF TABETHA OXENDINE BY MR. BELLAMY:

2 Q: Ms. Oxendine, I know it's difficult for you being here,
3 but I've got some questions I have to ask you. I hope you
4 understand that I've got a job to do and that sort of thing.

5 There was no prior contact or plan to meet Mr. Freeman or
6 Mr. McIver before you came from Shallotte, was there?

7 A: No.

8 Q: Okay. And as you stated, this was a purely random
9 meeting?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: And everything was consensual, there was no force,
12 coercion, or anything of that nature, correct?

13 A: All but the videoing.

14 Q: Well, let's talk about the video. Mr. McIver, was he
15 hiding in the closet? He was in the room with you when you
16 were having sex?

17 A: I didn't see him.

18 Q: Well, the video would probably be the best evidence of
19 that, would it not?

20 A: I didn't know it was about the video until afterwards.

21 Q: My point being ---

22 A: Until they brought it up.

23 Q: I understand. But the video itself would probably
24 reflect whether you knew someone was in the room or not, would
25 it not?

State v. McIver and Freeman
TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY BELLAMY

504

1 A: I guess.

2 Q: Okay. And Mr. McIver and Mr. Freeman didn't try to --
3 they told you where they were from, correct?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: There was phone numbers exchanged, correct?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Names given and Mr. McIver's name is Jacob, Nicholas
8 Jacob McIver.

9 THE COURT: Was that a question?

10 MR. BELLAMY: I'm sorry, Judge.

11 BY MR. BELLAMY:

12 Q: No one tried to hide their identity, did they?

13 A: I guess not.

14 Q: Okay. And they didn't try to hide where they were
15 staying because they took you over there, did they not?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: And the room at the Lancer Motel isn't two rooms; it's a
18 single room, is it not?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: And a video was made there, correct?

21 A: I guess.

22 Q: And that's just a single room, but you're saying you
23 didn't know Mr. McIver was in the room?

24 A: He was in the bathroom when it was going on. I didn't
25 know the door was open.

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1 Q: Okay. But again, the video would be the best evidence of
2 that, wouldn't it?

3 A: I guess.

4 Q: Okay. And everybody or Ms. Fisher was okay with Mr.
5 McIver riding back, correct?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And because y'all had only, I guess, planned to stay one
8 night, she needed to go get more clothes, correct?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: To come back to the beach.

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: And she was getting those clothes because she was gonna
13 spend another night at the beach with these two people, right?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: And you sensed no tensions, nothing?

16 A: No.

17 Q: And you got dropped off at 9:45, I -- is that correct?

18 A: Yes, about that time.

19 Q: And then they would've had to have left your residence or
20 where you were staying and go to where Ms. Fisher was staying,
21 correct?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: And then leave there and go back to the beach?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: Okay. Now, the solicitor has asked you several times

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1 about he didn't have a gun, he didn't have a gun. Did you put
2 your hands -- you don't know 100 percent sure whether he had a
3 gun or didn't have a gun, do you?

4 A: The way I was hugging on him and everything, I did not
5 feel a gun.

6 Q: You didn't feel one. So, you don't think he had one?

7 A: I don't think.

8 Q: But did you put your hands in his pockets or anything?

9 A: I was laying on his lap, so I was on his pocket.

10 Q: Okay. So, but do you know if he had it in his back
11 pocket; you wouldn't have known it, would you?

12 A: That I don't -- that I don't know.

13 Q: You wouldn't have known it, would you?

14 A: No.

15 Q: Okay. So, you're making some assumptions, aren't you,
16 Ms. Oxendine?

17 A: Just answering your questions; I don't know.

18 Q: I'm asking you the question are you making some
19 assumptions about whether he did or didn't?

20 A: I guess; I don't -- yeah.

21 Q: Okay. Now, you also used your phone to photograph them,
22 did you not?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: They knew you had photographs of them, correct?

25 A: Yes.

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1 Q: Okay. So, when the police came to you to let you know
2 what happened, you had a lot of information that you could
3 give to them about who was with Ms. Fisher right before
4 whatever happened, didn't you?

5 A: Yes.

6 Q: You had names? Ma'am?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: You had phone numbers?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: And you even had a photograph of these people that they
11 knew that -- Mr. McIver knew you had?

12 A: Yes.

13 Q: You knew where they were from?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: You knew what kind of car they were driving, at least
16 generally, right?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: So, it wasn't very hard for law enforcement to figure out
19 who these people were, was it?

20 A: No.

21 Q: Ms. Oxendine, did you ever hear Mr. McIver talk to Mr.
22 Freeman about doing any harm to Ms. Fisher?

23 A: No, I didn't.

24 Q: Or to yourself?

25 A: No.

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: It's a fact that if it was anything like that at all,
2 they wouldn't have been riding back to North Carolina with
3 you, would they?

4 A: Hu-huh, (negative response).

5 MR. BELLAMY: Court's indulgence?

6 THE COURT: Yes, sir..

7 BY MR. BELLAMY:

8 Q: Again, Ms. Oxendine, I apologize for you being here and
9 me having to question you about these things that are very
10 personal. I don't have any further questions.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 Mr. Spratlin?

13 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 CROSS EXAMINATION OF TABETHA OXENDINE BY MR. SPRATLIN:

15 Q: Good morning, Ms. Oxendine?

16 A: Good morning.

17 Q: I'm Martin Spratlin. I represent Terrell. I just have a
18 couple of questions for you. I know as Mr. Bellamy and the
19 solicitor stated, this is tough on you. I appreciate you
20 being here answering my questions.

21 When Mr. Bellamy asked you a question about did Nick ever
22 say anything about threatening or harming Amanda. Did you
23 ever hear Terrell say anything threatening or harming Amanda?

24 A: No, sir.

25 Q: And if you did, obviously that would've put you on alert,

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 wouldn't it?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: And you had no reason to be on alert around Terrell,
4 right?

5 A: No.

6 Q: In fact, Terrell seemed like a great guy?

7 A: Yes.

8 Q: You were hugging on him, y'all got all -- you got along
9 great?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Never felt anything on Terrell to cause you to be
12 concerned?

13 A: No, sir.

14 Q: Never felt a weapon, a gun, knife, anything like that?

15 A: No, sir.

16 Q: Now, Ms. Oxendine, did you have a phone at the beach?

17 A: Yes.

18 Q: Okay. Why was Amanda's phone used to call Terrell rather
19 than yours?

20 A: Mine went dead.

21 Q: Yours went dead, so you didn't have -- you had a phone,
22 but you didn't have access to it?

23 A: No, it was dead.

24 Q: Now, so were you using Amanda's phone or was Amanda using
25 it?

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Both of us, back and forth.

2 Q: So, some of the phone calls to Terrell, could've come
3 from you?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Do you remember if you were the first one to call Terrell
6 or Amanda?

7 A: I don't -- I wasn't -- I really don't remember.

8 Q: All right. But you were -- you and Terrell were
9 obviously kinda together during this whole incident, right?

10 A: Yes.

11 Q: Now, I know that you said that Nick may've said something
12 along the lines of he went to school with you or something
13 like that, right?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: Did Terrell say he ever knew you before?

16 A: No.

17 Q: Did you ever know Terrell before?

18 A: No.

19 Q: Do you think before this night you'd ever laid eyes on
20 him in your entire life?

21 A: No.

22 Q: Now, Ms. Oxendine, I'm gonna ask some questions that are
23 -- are very intimate and I apologize for this, but I think
24 it's important that we get the full story for this jury here
25 today. All right? When y'all were all in the hotel room, was

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 it the front or the back bedroom that you and Terrell were in?

2 A: The front.

3 Q: The front. So, both Amanda and Nick, if they were to go
4 -- not be in the room, they'd have to be in the back bedroom,
5 right?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: So, in order to get to and from the back bedroom, they
8 would've had to walk by you and Terrell being intimate?

9 A: Yes.

10 Q: Do you remember if they in fact did walk past you and
11 Terrell?

12 A: I don't remember.

13 Q: You don't remember?

14 A: Huh-uh, (negative response).

15 Q: Okay. And you were drinking a lot that night, right?

16 A: Yes.

17 Q: And you were doing some other drugs, right?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: So, your judgement might not and your memory might not be
20 the greatest?

21 A: Right.

22 Q: Okay. Y'all stayed at your hotel for a couple of hours,
23 right?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: All together, mostly you and Terrell together?

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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- 1 A: Yes.
- 2 Q: Were Amanda and Nick supposedly in the back bedroom?
- 3 A: Yes.
- 4 Q: Was the door open or closed?
- 5 A: It was cracked.
- 6 Q: Cracked, okay. Now, at some point, you and Nick leave
- 7 that hotel room, right?
- 8 A: Yes.
- 9 Q: And y'all go back to the boys' room at the Lancer?
- 10 A: Yes.
- 11 Q: Just you and Nick?
- 12 A: To get the cooler, yes.
- 13 Q: I'm sorry?
- 14 A: To get a cooler.
- 15 Q: To get a cord. I understand this is difficult, Ms.
- 16 Oxendine, but isn't the real reason that you and Nick went
- 17 back there is that you were going to have sex with Nick as
- 18 well?
- 19 A: No.
- 20 Q: So, you never went there to have sex with Nick where
- 21 Amanda couldn't see?
- 22 A: No.
- 23 Q: All right. So, your plan was to go to the hotel, the
- 24 Lancer, with Nick, right?
- 25 A: Yes.

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- 1 Q: To get the cord?
- 2 A: The cooler.
- 3 Q: This is the only time you and Nick are alone, right?
- 4 A: Yes.
- 5 Q: All right. And your plan is, I assume then to get the
- 6 cord and come back to where Terrell is, right?
- 7 A: Yes.
- 8 Q: All right. But then Terrell actually goes and joins
- 9 y'all over at the Lancer, right?
- 10 A: Yes.
- 11 Q: And there are obviously videos of you doing stuff at the
- 12 Lancer as well, right?
- 13 A: Yes.
- 14 Q: And all of that was consensual, right?
- 15 A: Yes.
- 16 Q: I know it's difficult, but are you sure you didn't go
- 17 over there for the purpose ---
- 18 A: I'm positive.
- 19 Q: --- of having sex with Nick?
- 20 A: I'm positive.
- 21 Q: Okay. Because Amanda was interested in Nick, right?
- 22 A: Yes.
- 23 Q: So, it would've hurt her if you had sex with Nick?
- 24 A: I guess, yes.
- 25 Q: It's a fair assessment, you're, I mean -- all right.

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Now, you come back alone from the Lancer back to the hotel,
2 right?

3 A: Yeah.

4 Q: All right. You then, I presume, go back to your room,
5 right?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And you talk with Amanda, right?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: And then you -- let me get the exact time. You actually
10 come back to the room about 6:54 in the morning, right?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: Give or take. And in fact, you left with Nick at 6:18 in
13 the morning, right?

14 A: I guess, yeah.

15 Q: Give or take, roughly. So, is it safe to say you were at
16 the boys' hotel room for approximately -- let me do some quick
17 math here; it's not my strong suit -- about 46 minutes?

18 A: I guess, yeah.

19 Q: All right. That wouldn't be a false statement, right?

20 A: Right.

21 Q: You come back to the hotel room and did Nick leave a T-
22 shirt or something there?

23 A: Yeah.

24 Q: All right. So, at some point, the boys are coming back
25 to the hotel where y'all are, right?

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: And that's to get the shirt that Mr. McIver left or Nick
3 left -- or Jacob as you knew him, left in the room?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: All right. Now, have you had a chance, has the
6 solicitor's office or anyone ever showed you any videos from
7 this -- involving your time at the Holiday Sands?

8 A: No.

9 Q: All right. So you've never seen the surveillance
10 footage, right?

11 A: (Inaudible.)

12 COURT REPORTER: Excuse me, answer aloud, please.

13 A: No.

14 MR. SPRATLIN: I'm sorry, Ms. Dixie.

15 BY MR. SPRATLIN:

16 Q: Now, when Terrell and Nick get back to your hotel room,
17 they pull up in their -- the pickup truck, right?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Did you know whose truck it was?

20 A: No.

21 Q: Okay. But they pull up in a truck?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Terrell is driving, right?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: All right. And you and Terrell are pretty immediately

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 friendly again, right?

2 A: Yes.

3 Q: Hugging, right?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: Pretty -- pretty intimate?

6 A: Yep.

7 Q: At first, watching that video, you seemed to be a little
8 upset with Terrell, right?

9 A: No.

10 Q: You weren't -- Amanda didn't tell you that Terrell told
11 her that you and Nick were having sex?

12 A: No, I didn't have sex with Nick.

13 Q: So, Amanda never saw -- did Amanda ever express to you
14 that she thought you and Nick were having sex?

15 A: No.

16 Q: Because if she did or she thought that, she would be
17 upset?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: And she would be upset with you, right?

20 A: Yes.

21 Q: And she'd probably be upset with Nick?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Now, after collecting the shirt, after kinda saying your
24 goodbyes, from watching the video, is that a fair assessment
25 that the boys -- Nick and Terrell then leave?

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 A: Yes.

2 Q: Okay. And the next time you see Nick or Terrell is over
3 at their hotel, right?

4 A: Yes.

5 Q: And you and Amanda actually come over there, right?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: Get in Amanda's car, drive over to their hotel room?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: And that's when a decision is made that these guys can
10 just drive along with y'all to North Carolina, right?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: And now you said that Amanda and Nick were in the front,
13 right?

14 A: Yes.

15 Q: And you and Terrell were in the back, correct?

16 A: Yes, sir.

17 Q: All right. And you said that you were sleeping?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: You were actually sleeping on Terrell's lap basically,
20 right?

21 A: Yes.

22 Q: Laying across him pretty much?

23 A: Yes.

24 Q: At that time, you never felt anything that caused you to
25 be concerned?

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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- 1 A: No.
- 2 Q: Didn't feel a weapon of any kind?
- 3 A: No.
- 4 Q: And Terrell seemed happy, you seemed happy, right?
- 5 A: Yes.
- 6 Q: And how did Amanda seem?
- 7 A: Fine.
- 8 Q: How did Nick seem?
- 9 A: Fine.
- 10 Q: When they dropped you off, they dropped you off, I
- 11 believe you said at the beach house?
- 12 A: Yes, my aunts.
- 13 Q: All right. Just to verify State's Exhibit 61, that's the
- 14 beach house?
- 15 A: Yes.
- 16 Q: Okay. And now, you said that the plan was or your
- 17 present sense impression of where they were going next was to
- 18 Amanda's house, right?
- 19 A: They were supposed to be going back to Myrtle Beach. I
- 20 didn't know they were going to her house.
- 21 Q: Okay. Didn't know they were gonna stop by to get clothes
- 22 for Amanda or anything like that?
- 23 A: No.
- 24 Q: All right. So, nobody told you that?
- 25 A: No.

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TABETHA OXENDINE - CROSS BY SPRATLIN

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1 Q: Would it be unusual or surprising for Amanda to do that;
2 would that be out of the ordinary?

3 A: Not really.

4 Q: Okay. Because she didn't really have a whole lot of
5 clothes in Myrtle Beach, right?

6 A: No.

7 Q: Because y'all were coming for one night, right?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: You were gonna go back the next morning and go hang out
10 at the beach?

11 A: Yes.

12 Q: So, no need for her to pack a lot of clothes?

13 A: No.

14 Q: Didn't know she was going to be hanging out for an extra
15 day?

16 A: Right.

17 Q: And your plan was to come back to Myrtle Beach that
18 night, right?

19 A: Yes.

20 Q: And your -- I'm assuming you were going to meet up with
21 Terrell again, right?

22 A: Yes.

23 Q: Because you had a good time?

24 A: Yes.

25 Q: No issues, no complaints?

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BY THE COURT

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1 A: No.

2 Q: You said you went over to the Lancer the first time to
3 get a phone cord?

4 A: No, it was a cooler.

5 Q: I'm sorry, what?

6 A: A cooler.

7 Q: Cooler, okay. Was it a blue cooler?

8 A: I guess, I can't really remember.

9 Q: So, Terrell Freeman is pushing a cooler out the door when
10 he leaves the Holiday Sands to go back to the Lancer where you
11 are, can you explain why you ---

12 A: They were supposed to have a cooler -- no, we went to get
13 the cooler together.

14 Q: Okay. Did you ever bring a cooler back to the hotel
15 room?

16 A: No, because I left by myself.

17 Q: One more time, Ms. Oxendine. I understand that this
18 might be embarrassing for you, but isn't it true, you went
19 over to that hotel ---

20 A: No, it's not, no.

21 Q: --- room -- all right. Thank you.

22 BY THE COURT:

23 THE COURT: Redirect?

24 MR. DEBUSK: Nothing, Your Honor, thank you.

25 THE COURT: All right, ma'am, you may step down.

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. DEBUSK: May we have a moment, Your Honor?

2 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

3 MR. DEBUSK: May I consult with Madam Court Reporter one
4 moment?

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 All right. Further witnesses by the state?

7 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor. At this time, the state
8 rests. Thank you.

9 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

10 Are there matters of law that you wish the Court to
11 address at this time, Mr. Bellamy?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

16 All right, ladies and gentlemen, at the end of the
17 state's presentation, this case, every criminal case that
18 there are matters of law that the Court must discuss with
19 counsel regarding the matter at hand. Obviously, I have to do
20 that outside your presence and so I'll send you to your jury
21 room. It will take a little bit of time, but we'll call you
22 back out as quick as we can.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
25 place outside the presence of the jury.)

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MOTIONS

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1 MOTIONS:

2 THE COURT: All right. So, motions, Mr. Bellamy?

3 MR. BELLAMY: I believe Mr. Spratlin will go first for
4 these motions, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Mr. Spratlin?

7 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor, I have no objection to
8 going first in regards to these motions and these motions
9 only. Your Honor, my client is charged with four offenses.
10 He is charged with, and this is a motion for a directed
11 verdict in regards to the lack of evidence on the state's case
12 from which any reasonable juror could find my client guilty of
13 the offenses as charged under the appropriate laws.

14 If I may proceed, Your Honor?

15 THE COURT: Yes, sir, go ahead.

16 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you. My client is charged with
17 three or four charges. First off and the most seriously of
18 all, murder, the unlawful killing of another with malice
19 aforethought. He is also charged with kidnapping. Unlawfully
20 confining, inveigling, decoying, kidnapping, or abducting
21 another person. He is also charged with the possession of a
22 weapon during the commission of a violent crime. I assume
23 that being either the murder or the kidnapping. Furthermore,
24 Your Honor, he is charged with grand larceny value \$2,000 to
25 \$10,000.

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1 Now, under the laws of the State of South Carolina as I
2 understand them, Your Honor, and I understand the Court is
3 much more knowledgeable about this than me, there are two ways
4 that the state can prove a defendant guilty. One is they can
5 prove that he was in fact the principal. That is that he, by
6 his own actions, for example, with the murder and the facts
7 specific to this case, used a gun to shoot Ms. Fisher causing
8 her death or used a gun, or however else, kidnapped Ms. Fisher
9 or stole the car.

10 Regarding the ability to prove that my client was the
11 principal, first and foremost, Your Honor, there is no direct
12 evidence in the record showing any witness testimony, any
13 forensic evidence, anything proving or even insinuating that
14 my client shot Ms. Fisher or that he kidnapped her, no direct
15 evidence. The state could also seek to prove it and it could
16 go to the jury if the state has proven or presented
17 substantial circumstantial evidence. In this matter, Your
18 Honor, there are no circumstances that the state has shown, no
19 circumstantial evidence which would raise to the level of
20 substantial circumstantial evidence that my client was in fact
21 the person who shot, that my client was in fact the person who
22 kidnapped, that my client had possession of a weapon during
23 the commission of a violent crime. There is no circumstantial
24 evidence that would rise to the level of substantial
25 circumstantial evidence in regards to him being a principal of

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MOTIONS

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1 any of those offenses, Your Honor.

2 Now, I stated that one way the state could prove my
3 client guilty was to the principal, showing that he was in
4 fact the principal actor in this case. The other theory is
5 what is commonly referred to as hand of one hand of all. Your
6 Honor, I understand that this Court is well aware of the law,
7 but I do have a case that I would like to hand up, more for,
8 not so much as facts of the case, but the Appellant Court's
9 interpretation of the law of the theory hand of one hand of
10 all. This is *State v. Kareem Harry*, a case that Your Honor
11 tried in Trial Court. If I could approach and hand copies to
12 co-counsel, the state, and Your Honor?

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

14 MR. SPRATLIN: As I stated, Your Honor, my -- my use of
15 this case is not geared towards the facts specific to this
16 case as I believe they are sufficiently different than this
17 case or sufficiently different than this trial for this case
18 to be of any benefit. However, I do think it is of great
19 benefit under the law and analysis section located on the
20 third page of the handout, which I highlighted for the Court,
21 co-counsel, and the state. The doctrine of accomplice
22 liability arises from the theory that the hand of one is the
23 hand of all. Under this theory, one who joins with another to
24 accomplish an illegal purpose is liable criminally for
25 everything done by his confederate incidental to the execution

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1 of the common design and purpose. Where two persons combine
2 to commit an unlawful act in its execution a homicide is
3 committed as a probable or natural consequence thereof, all
4 present and participating in the unlawful act are as guilty as
5 the one who committed the fatal act. And then it goes on to
6 say, Your Honor, except in rare situations, a person
7 committing an unlawful act is legally responsible for all
8 natural or necessary consequences thereof. One combining
9 confederating with others to accomplish an illegal purpose is
10 criminally liable for everything done by either him or his
11 confederates which follows incidentally in the execution of a
12 common design as one of the probable and natural consequences
13 though not intended as a part of the original design or common
14 plan.

15 The common purpose may have been to kill and murder but
16 if it was unlawful, as for instance -- the common purpose may
17 not have been to kill or murder, but if it was unlawful as for
18 instance to break in and steal, and in the execution of this
19 common purpose a homicide is committed by one as a probable or
20 natural consequence of the acts done in pursuance of a common
21 design, then all present and participating in the unlawful
22 common design are as guilty as the slayer.

23 The theory of hand of one hand of all, Your Honor, does
24 not just mean that someone was merely present. It does not
25 mean that there was -- that you were present in the car when

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1 an individual shot, rather the onerous is on the state to
2 prove either by direct evidence or circumstantial evidence
3 that my client, Terrell Freeman, had a common scheme or plan
4 to commit a crime with another perpetrator assuming -- for
5 arguendo in this case, Nicholas McIver. There has been zero
6 evidence presented to this Court of any common scheme or plan
7 to commit a crime. In fact, Investigating Officer Owen Lynam
8 even stated to the testimony that he had no information and
9 saw nothing turned up in his investigation that showed that
10 there was a common scheme or plan at the time that gunshot was
11 fired and Ms. Fisher was murdered, no harm, no ill will meant
12 by my client. Even though my client was in that car, Your
13 Honor, he had to have agreed to commit a crime with Nicholas
14 McIver, for arguendo sake, Nicholas McIver being the shooter,
15 such that it was a natural consequence that this woman got
16 shot. And, Your Honor, there has been no evidence, an absence
17 of evidence completely from the state, showing that.

18 Rather, what I believe the state is gonna rely on in
19 response to my directed verdict motion is the incident after
20 that fact, the actions after the fact. The fact that a
21 witness pointed and stated that my client or two individuals
22 in the car -- they could not even identify who those
23 individuals were -- were pulling or pushing the victim out of
24 the car. And I believe the state is also most likely going to
25 rely on the actions of my client after the fact, fleeing from

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1 the scene and going to the hotel room and then going to North
2 Carolina.

3 Your Honor, I have another case I would like to hand up
4 and hand to opposing counsel, *State v. Richard Brandon Lewis*,
5 403 S.C. 345. If I could approach?

6 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

7 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, this case actually deals with
8 a conviction that occurred under a statutory aiding or
9 abetting in child abuse that is a statutory crime. However,
10 the relevant portions reference cases that dealt with the
11 common law hand of one hand of all, and so I believe that the
12 Court's logic and reasoning in this case, even though it is a
13 case based on a statutory conviction, would be relevant to our
14 discussion here today.

15 I would direct the Court -- I think I gave you the wrong
16 one. I would direct the Court to the end page of the --
17 includes the word conclusion. It's the fifth page. In this
18 case, Your Honor, it's a child homicide case where the person
19 who was convicted was present in the home and he had
20 subsequently had a suicide attempt and also fled and I believe
21 lied about some of his information to the police officers.
22 The state said that he was liable for failure to act, first
23 and foremost. The Court stated that the state -- an overt act
24 is required to be held liable for aiding and abetting, which
25 necessarily excludes the possibility of being held liable for

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1 failure to act. Basically establishing that the state is
2 required to prove some overt act on my client's part that he
3 was in fact aiding or abetting Nicholas McIver in the murder
4 or any other crime, which the natural consequence of the crime
5 was the death of Amanda Fisher. I have heard no evidence,
6 seen no evidence before this Court today or the three days
7 prior which would in any way through direct evidence or
8 substantial circumstantial evidence shows that my client did
9 any act before the murder which aided or abetted Nicholas
10 McIver. He was, in terms of the Court, merely present.

11 The state also relied in *State v. Lewis*, Your Honor, on
12 the flight of the defendant. The Appellant Court in this case
13 stated that the state also asserts Lewis' flight and suicide
14 attempt are sufficient evidence to withstand a directed
15 verdict. We disagree with the state's contention under these
16 facts. The state did not present any evidence on an overt act
17 or the requisite state of mind of aiding and abetting, and
18 thus evidence of flight and a suicide attempt alone will not
19 suffice to withstand a motion for a directed verdict. And the
20 case they reference is *State v. Odom*. I have that case
21 available if the Court would like to see it, but it does
22 redress the common law hand of one hand of all.

23 Regarding just an overview of the law, Your Honor, that
24 -- that it simply ends overview of the law in regards to hand
25 of one hand of all and what the state has to prove to convict

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1 my client as an accessory under the theory of hand of one hand
2 of all.

3 The state has proven by direct evidence and
4 circumstantial evidence of a substantial nature that my client
5 was present at the scene. I submit to the Court that there
6 also is direct evidence that my client was seen either pushing
7 or pulling, and they have proven that my client drove back to
8 the hotel, got out, and eventually left in the pickup truck.
9 They have also proven that there was contact between either
10 voice mails or some sort of telephonic contact between
11 Nicholas McIver and my client after this incident occurred,
12 after both were on the road back to supposedly North Carolina.
13 However, Your Honor, that's where it ends. There is no
14 evidence that there was any sort of a fight at the K&W. There
15 is no evidence that there was any sort of a fight in the
16 parking lot or any time prior to the parking lot of which my
17 client was aware. There is no evidence that there was any
18 other crime intended that led to the death of Amanda Fisher
19 other than the crime of murder or voluntary manslaughter or
20 involuntary manslaughter or however the gun discharged. There
21 is no other crime. There is absolutely no evidence, direct or
22 substantially circumstantial, which shows that these two
23 individuals agreed to commit any crime together, let alone the
24 murder. And I agree, the state does not have to prove the
25 murder. The state does not have to prove that they agreed to

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1 commit a murder. They could prove that they agreed to commit
2 any crime the natural consequence of which was Amanda Fisher's
3 death and that would be sufficient for the case to go to the
4 jury, but they haven't done that.

5 I also believe that the state is gonna look at the fact
6 that a grand larceny was committed and my client drove away or
7 rode away in the car. Drove or rode, not sure where. There's
8 no evidence in the record about where he was, what he did,
9 once that car left K&W.

10 In regards to that, Your Honor, as Detective Lynam
11 testified on the stand, nothing in his investigation -- and I
12 have not heard -- I know this investigation is not all
13 encompassing, but I have also not heard any evidence presented
14 to this Court that there was any agreement or any kind of
15 attempt to take that vehicle prior to that gunshot. The
16 murder was accomplished as soon as that gun went off.
17 According to Dr. Proctor, death was imminent if not immediate.
18 He can't say how long she lived, if she was still alive when
19 the gun went through her head. There's no evidence that my
20 client agreed to take the car or came up to an agreement to
21 take the car, and then the actual consequence of that or that
22 death was even a consequence of that. Grand larceny occurred
23 after the death. So, it cannot be the crime upon which the
24 state relies on for hand of one hand of all because there has
25 to be an agreement under the law before the murder for there

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1 to be hand of one hand of all. Taking the car, leaving,
2 helping get the truck back, contact, that is all evidence of
3 accessory after the fact to which my client is not charged.
4 Could be but he's not.

5 The state has failed to meet its burden in this case,
6 Your Honor. They have failed to present any direct evidence
7 that my client conspired to commit a crime with the
8 codefendant. They have also failed to present any substantial
9 circumstantial evidence that my client conspired to commit a
10 crime with the codefendant, any crime whatsoever, the natural
11 consequence was Amanda Fisher's death. For that reason, I
12 would ask the Court to direct a verdict in favor of Defendant
13 Freeman on the charges of murder, kidnapping, and possession
14 of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

15 Thank you, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 Mr. Bellamy, let me hear your argument, please?

18 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor, and I
19 don't want to just rehash what Mr. Spratlin says but,
20 likewise, I make a motion for a directed verdict of acquittal
21 for Mr. McIver. I think it is clear -- I'm not gonna go
22 through and the legal standard the Court has for review at
23 this point. The Court knows that. But I do want to talk
24 about some facts and lack of evidence.

25 It's clear in this case the state is relying upon the

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1 hand of one is the hand of all. There is no direct or
2 circumstantial evidence to establish that my client shot
3 anybody that day as the principal. And quite frankly in most
4 of these hand of one cases, we do have evidence who's the
5 principal and who would be guilty as under the hand of one
6 hand of all. I submit to you in this case, we don't have the
7 evidence as to who is the principal. You've got two people
8 there, so what evidence has been presented of the hand of one
9 is the hand of all.

10 The law is there must be a knowing agreement by two or
11 more parties to engage in another separate unlawful act.
12 There's been no evidence whatsoever of any agreement, plan,
13 anything between these parties to commit this other unlawful
14 act. I submit the state will argue that it's kidnapping.
15 There's been no evidence from any witness here that there was
16 any kidnapping at all. I don't know what the state's gonna
17 say in response to this, but I believe they may rely on the
18 fact that after, that there was contact and that there were
19 things done to hide, to cover up this, but those are things
20 after. I submit to the Court that the evidence must be -- and
21 they're wanting you to infer, to make that leap of faith that,
22 if you do something after the fact, well you must've had a
23 plan before.

24 And to that point, I would say the circumstances of this
25 case in total are such that this is a random act, that because

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1 everything that happens here indicates that this was a spur of
2 the moment event, middle of the day, parking lot, Kings
3 Highway, you burn the car in a residential neighborhood at 4
4 o'clock in the afternoon with kids running around. There is
5 nothing circumstantially to suggest that there was some sort
6 of plan, no hidden identities, giving names, phone numbers,
7 taking pictures. Everything in this case points to this being
8 a random act, which then puts it on the state, the burden to
9 bring to this Court, to this jury, some evidence that there
10 was some plot, plan, scheme, conspiracy to commit some other
11 crime before the fact. And as Mr. Spratlin said, there is
12 evidence and I've told the jury that this may be an accessory
13 case after the fact, but there is absolutely no evidence to
14 point to anything before the fact. The conduct of my client
15 in North Carolina, I submit to the Court does not suggest that
16 he had an agreement with Mr. Freeman. He may have after the
17 fact, which may implicate both of them in that situation.
18 But, there is no direct evidence or substantial circumstantial
19 evidence, Your Honor, to suggest that this is anything other
20 than a random act by one of these parties and that the state
21 has failed to bring this Court evidence to establish who did
22 what and we would simply be asking this jury to speculate
23 and/or guess as to what happened, and that's why we have this
24 point in the trial where the Court can intervene and direct a
25 verdict. And on behalf of my client, Mr. Freeman, excuse me,

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1 Mr. McIver, I would ask the Court to direct a verdict of not
2 guilty on the charges of murder, kidnapping, possession of a
3 weapon during a violent offense. We would submit that the
4 state has met their burden on the grand larceny.

5 Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: All right, Solicitor, your argument please?

7 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, there is direct evidence on the
8 record that the defendants were with the victim leaving
9 Supply, North Carolina; direct evidence in the form of video
10 on the record that they were together in the victim's car
11 after she was killed, at the Lancer Hotel; there's direct
12 evidence that the two of them both, together, participated in
13 pulling her out of the car within seconds, not days after, not
14 minutes after, within seconds with the shot being fired of
15 pulling her out of the car and throwing her on the ground at
16 the K&W parking lot. There is evidence on the record that as
17 to Mr. McIver that, (a), Mr. Freeman was not armed; and (b),
18 there is video record of him taking what appears to be a gun
19 out of his waistband and sticking it in the truck when they
20 returned to the Lancer.

21 It is unavoidable here that someone in that car put a gun
22 against -- in contact with the victim's head and pulled the
23 trigger shooting her and killing her. That she pulled over
24 during a -- there's circumstantial evidence in that she pulled
25 over with a gun to her head into the parking lot and was

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1 kidnapped. There -- the immediacy of the joint act of pulling
2 her out of the car, the immediacy of it is it's more than just
3 after the fact of flight. It is immediate participation in
4 taking her out of the car while she was probably still moving,
5 according to the witnesses who saw her in the parking lot.

6 There is substantial circumstantial evidence of
7 kidnapping in that she pulled over with a gun to her head.
8 There's substantial circumstantial evidence to go to either of
9 them for being the gunman -- it's more substantial for Mr.
10 McIver, that they were present aiding and abetting each other,
11 that they fled the scene together, that they remained in
12 contact. And although flight by itself cannot be substantial
13 circumstantial evidence, it can be part of substantial
14 circumstantial evidence. Helping at the scene, helping in
15 flight, going to North Carolina, destroying the evidence, the
16 leading of the contact of Mr. Freeman from Mr. McIver's phone,
17 of being the only two in a position to have committed this
18 murder, and one of the two of them had to be the gunman. And
19 while the evidence is better that McIver was the gunman, they
20 were both participating in it immediately after the shot was
21 fired and that is substantial circumstantial evidence of
22 murder, kidnapping, of course grand larceny, and possession of
23 a weapon, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: All right. Any brief reply, Mr. Spratlin?

25 MR. SPRATLIN: Real briefly, Your Honor. Regarding the

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1 kidnapping, the evidence -- there is no substantial
2 circumstantial evidence that the reason Ms. Fisher pulled over
3 into the K&W parking lot was because there was a gun to her
4 head. That is pure speculation and conjecture on the part of
5 the state. She parked in a spot normally, according to the
6 witnesses. There was no screeching of tires heard by anybody
7 on the scene including the only individual who was outside at
8 the time, Mr. Kenneth Thompson. There is absolutely no
9 evidence, especially no substantial circumstantial evidence
10 from which this Court could find and a jury could find that
11 she had a gun to her head when she pulled over in that car or
12 that she was in anyway kidnapped. The evidence is up to
13 speculation and conjecture. It could just have easily had
14 been, as Dr. Proctor testified to, immediate when the gun went
15 against her head that the shot was fired. No time for a
16 kidnapping. No time for her to recognize.

17 As far as the individuals pulling her out of the car or
18 pushing her out of the car that the state mentioned, in
19 regards to that, there's been no testimony about how long
20 Kenneth Thompson's attention was diverted to Highway 17 when
21 he heard the pop. He said he looked to Highway 17 and then he
22 noticed an individual being pulled out of a car.

23 I understand, Your Honor, that the circumstantial
24 evidence is just as good as direct evidence, except that it
25 needs to be substantial for a case to go to the jury. The

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1 direct evidence the solicitor eluded to are the videos, that
2 both puts individuals at the scene of the crime. That is
3 evidence that they were both in the car, direct evidence they
4 were both in the car, does not have any bearing as far as
5 direct evidence on whether or not the murder occurred.

6 The state has failed to meet their burden, Your Honor. I
7 -- you cannot have a case where there are two people in the
8 car, we don't know what happened, but it looks like they're
9 both acting together after the fact, so let's just charge them
10 both with murder and let it go to the jury and sort it out.
11 That is not appropriate under the law. For that reason, I
12 would ask the Court to direct the verdict in favor of my
13 client.

14 Thank you.

15 THE COURT: Anything else, Mr. Bellamy?

16 MR. BELLAMY: Just very briefly. I think what the
17 state's argument, again, is a theory that lacks facts as to
18 the kidnapping. They must establish some evidence of
19 kidnapping. Solicitor DeBusk indicated that the gun was held
20 to her head as she pulled over. There is absolutely no
21 evidence or circumstances that suggests that, and without that
22 this is a case that we should not ask the jury to speculate.
23 And very respectfully, I would ask the Court to direct a
24 verdict of not guilty on the three charges that we have
25 referenced.

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1 Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Solicitor, let's look at the kidnapping. And
3 this is what the Court would charge to the jury, the defendant
4 being charged of kidnapping, the state must prove beyond a
5 reasonable doubt that the defendant knowingly and unlawfully
6 seized, confined, inveigled, decoyed, kidnapped, abducted, or
7 carried away another person without authority of law. To do a
8 thing unlawfully is to do it willfully against the law.
9 Knowingly means with knowledge, consciously, not accidentally.
10 Seize means to take hold of suddenly or forcibly confine, or
11 forcibly, suddenly or forcibly. Confine means to limit,
12 restrict, or enclose within bounds, imprison or shut or keep
13 in. Inveigle means to lure, entice, lead astray by false
14 representation, promises, or other deceitful means. Decoy
15 means to lure, buy, or as if buy -- hold on a second -- as if
16 by decoy. A decoy is something to entice a person into a
17 trap. Kidnap is to remove a person against his will by
18 unlawful force or by fraud. Abduct means to carry off
19 secretly or by force for an illegal purpose. Carry away means
20 to remove. The state does not have to prove that the
21 defendant did all of these things. Instead, if you find
22 beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant did any of these
23 things, you may find the defendant guilty of kidnapping.
24 Something done without authority of law is something which the
25 law does not sanction, permit, allow, condone, or provide

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1 justification for. The kidnapping does not have to be for any
2 personal or monetary gain, for any illegal purpose, but may be
3 for any reason whatsoever.

4 What is the evidence that either of these defendants
5 kidnapped the victim?

6 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, it's circumstantial. She had a
7 gun against her head because of the contact wound. The minute
8 the gun is against her head, she is seized. She is not
9 allowed to move.

10 THE COURT: So that's what you're relying upon is that
11 ---

12 MR. DEBUSK: And also the circumstances of pulling off of
13 the highway into the K&W parking lot indicating that the gun
14 had been to her head before she pulled over.

15 THE COURT: There's no evidence of that. So, that's --
16 that's just mere speculation. The only thing -- and so what
17 you're arguing is at the instant the gun was placed against
18 her head, that's a kidnapping?

19 MR. DEBUSK: She was seized; she was confined.

20 THE COURT: For that immediate millisecond before the
21 bullet enters her head, she was kidnapped; that's what you're
22 saying?

23 MR. DEBUSK: However long the gun was against her head,
24 Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: All right.

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1 MR. DEBUSK: We'd argue ---

2 THE COURT: For whatever period of time the gun was
3 against her head, it's a contact wound, whether it's for just
4 a millisecond before the bullet enters or whatever, for
5 whatever time that is ---

6 MR. DEBUSK: She's seized.

7 THE COURT: She was seized and kidnapped.

8 MR. DEBUSK: Right.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 What say you to that, Mr. Spratlin?

11 MR. SPRATLIN: There's no evidence that she was seized,
12 Your Honor. There's no evidence that she wasn't free to move.
13 The fact that a gun is against her head for a millisecond
14 doesn't restrict her freedom or her ability to move.

15 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bellamy?

16 MR. BELLAMY: May it please the Court, Your Honor? Your
17 Honor, there's simply no evidence that this was not
18 simultaneous, that she even had any idea to have thought that
19 I am not free to move. Again, it's pure speculation and that,
20 again, is at this point why a directed verdict I think is
21 appropriate because it is too speculative and it is a theory.

22 Thank you, Judge.

23 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

24 All right. We'll take a short break.

25 Thank you very much.

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BY THE COURT

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1 RECESS

2 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

3 (On the Record.)

4 BY THE COURT:

5 THE COURT: All right, in this matter, the two
6 defendants, Nicholas Jacob McIver and Terrell Freeman, have
7 been charged by the State of South Carolina with the crimes of
8 murder, kidnapping, possession of a weapon during the
9 commission of a violent crime, and grand larceny value 2,000
10 to 10,000. The defendants have made a motion for a directed
11 verdict on the three charges of murder, kidnapping, and
12 possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent
13 crime. Regarding those three charges, the directed verdict by
14 -- standard by the Court is such that a defendant would be
15 entitled to a directed verdict when the state fails to produce
16 evidence of the offense charged. As the Trial Judge, I am
17 concerned with the existence of evidence, not with weight, not
18 its credibility, not its believability, that's solely for the
19 jury to consider. My job is to decide whether or not the
20 evidence exists. If there's any direct evidence or
21 substantial circumstantial evidence reasonably tending to
22 prove the guilt of the accused, then the case should be
23 submitted to the jury.

24 Now, a directed verdict motion should be granted when the
25 evidence merely raises suspicion that the accused is guilty of

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1 the crime charged. The Trial Court is charged with the duty
2 of granting a directed verdict motion when the jury would be
3 speculating as to the guilt of the accused or where the
4 evidence is sufficient only to raise mere suspicion of guilt,
5 and suspicion implies a belief or opinion as to guilt based
6 upon facts or circumstances which do not amount to proof.

7 In this particular matter, it is clear that the state is
8 relying upon a combination of direct and circumstantial
9 evidence. And in regards to circumstantial evidence, the
10 Court is using the standard that to the extent that the state
11 relies on circumstantial evidence, all of the circumstances
12 must be consistent with each other and, when taken together,
13 point conclusively to the guilt of the accused beyond a
14 reasonable doubt. If the circumstances merely portray the
15 defendants' behavior as suspicious, the proof has failed.

16 In this particular matter regarding the charge of
17 kidnapping, the Court finds that the state has failed to
18 produce or present any direct evidence nor any circumstantial
19 evidence on that standard that I just read, that the jury
20 could rely upon to prove the defendants guilty of that crime.
21 To submit the crime of kidnapping to the jury, would call upon
22 them to engage in pure speculation to engage in theory.
23 Clearly, freedom can be restrained even for an instant, but
24 the victim must be aware -- the victim must be aware if they
25 are to be restrained under the definition of kidnapping, which

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1 I read earlier, they've got to be aware they have been
2 confined, seized, laid hold of in some fashion. Understanding
3 this is a contact wound and right now I'm engaging in pure
4 speculation because there is no evidence. The victim --
5 clearly there's two people in the car other than the victim.
6 That's clear from the evidence. There's no contradiction of
7 that; there's two people in the car. They're in the K&W
8 parking lot. The victim could've had her head turned towards
9 the K&W and the front seat passenger could've put the gun up
10 against her head and killed her instantly, or she could've
11 been looking straight ahead and the person in the backseat
12 could have put a gun up beside her head and killed her
13 instantly because that's how the evidence shows regarding the
14 entrance and exit wound. There's no evidence that other than
15 it being a contact wound that the defendant or that the victim
16 was aware of being kidnapped. They have to be aware of it.
17 There has to be some seizing and it can be even for an
18 instant. No question, putting the gun up beside somebody's
19 head -- I mean, if you're facing them and you put a gun up
20 beside their head and they know about it, they're seized, even
21 for an instant. If that's all it takes to pull the trigger,
22 an instant, they're seized, they're kidnapped. There's no
23 question about that. But, there's no evidence of that in this
24 particular case. There was no injuries that the medical
25 examiner, pathologist, Dr. Proctor, testified to, there's no

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1 injuries to the victim other than the fatal wound. There's no
2 evidence of bruising, scraping, anything. He basically said
3 she was -- as best you can say that, the victim was fine
4 obviously except for the fatal wound. So, there's just no
5 evidence that the victim was aware. And, so I would call upon
6 the jury to speculate, engage in trying to come up with some
7 theory, and that's -- that cannot happen.

8 So, I'm directing a verdict as to the crimes of
9 kidnapping as to the -- as to both defendants, Mr. Nicholas
10 Jacob McIver and Mr. Terrell Freeman.

11 As to the crimes of the other two, the murder and the
12 possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent
13 crime -- the defendants have not made a directed verdict
14 motion as to the other charge, the grand larceny valued 2,000
15 to 10,000. But as to the two charges of murder and possession
16 of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime, the
17 Court declines to grant the motion for a directed verdict.
18 And the reasons for that being and I'm relying upon -- I'm
19 gonna highlight some facts here, okay? These are not the only
20 facts the Court is relying upon. I'm relying upon all of the
21 evidence that's been presented in this matter. But, regarding
22 those crimes, you've got a timeline. This all occurred on
23 July 9th, 2016. Approximately 1:09 A.M., the victim checks
24 into the Holiday Sands. 2:49 A.M., the victim and Mr. Freeman
25 are talking. 2:53 A.M., all four are at the Holiday Sands.

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BY THE COURT

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1 3:16 A.M., all leave the Holiday Sands. 3:52, the victim and
2 Mr. McIver are going in a room. 3:58, Freeman and Oxendine go
3 in the room. 4:40 A.M., the victim changes clothes, leaves
4 the room. 6:16 -- 6:18, the victim leaves to go north on the
5 -- I'm sorry -- at 4:40 the victim leaves the room.
6 Thereafter, at -- the defendant or the victim, Ms. Oxendine,
7 comes back to the hotel, Holiday Sands. The victim and Ms.
8 Oxendine meet the individuals, the defendants in this case.
9 They speak to them at 7:41 A.M. The victim is there and the
10 Malibu is at the Lancer Motel. 8:06 A.M., all four of them
11 leave in the victim's car. 9:45 A.M., Ms. Oxendine is left at
12 the residence in Shallotte, North Carolina. At 11:15 A.M.,
13 the murder occurs. There are two males that are seen by an
14 eyewitness pulling and pushing the victim out of her vehicle,
15 what appears to be the vehicle, the white car. The victim's
16 vehicle is at the Lancer Motel in the possession of both
17 defendants at 11:56 A.M. At 12:10, the vehicle, Mr. McIver
18 leaves. After 12:10, there are outgoing phone calls from Mr.
19 McIver to Mr. Freeman at 12:10, 12:11, 12:15, 12:17, 12:25,
20 12:26, 12:30. Incoming call to Mr. McIver from Freeman at
21 12:38 lasting five minutes and 49 seconds. Another call at
22 12:44 lasting two minutes and 48 seconds. Another call at
23 1:06, three minutes and seven seconds. Another call at 1:16,
24 one minute, 35 seconds. At 1:45, Mr. McIver stops and gets
25 gas in Bennettsville, uses the victim's credit card. 1:54, he

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1 leaves the gas station. At 3:00 P.M., McIver is at the Sunoco
2 in Marshville with the victim's car and had the victim's car
3 in Bennettsville also and has the victim's car, uses the
4 victim's credit card. Between 4:00 and 4:52, there's seven
5 phone calls between them. 4:06, the Malibu is burned. The
6 timeframes that appears to be an hour, approximately, by a
7 MapQuest. An hour and 38 minutes from the Lancer Motel to
8 Bennettsville, an hour and nine minutes from the Bennettsville
9 to Marshville, 37 minutes from Marshville to where the car was
10 burned. There's evidence that Mr. McIver, what the jury could
11 find by looking at the video -- and again, it's up to the jury
12 to make this decision, but they certainly could find that he
13 is -- has a weapon at the Lancer Motel when both of them were
14 in possession of the victim's car after the murder. This is
15 immediately after, after the murder. There's flight from the
16 scene of the crime from the State of South Carolina,
17 possession of the victim's car after she's dead, and
18 destruction of evidence, and communications.

19 No question a murder occurred. The circumstantial
20 evidence is clear, if the evidence is believed by the jury,
21 that these are the only two individuals that could have
22 committed the murder. The timeline does not allow for any
23 other two individuals to have been involved in the murder.
24 Looking at the timeline, clearly with the victim and the car
25 beforehand, clearly with the car of the victim immediately

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NICHOLAS JACOB MCIVER -- BY THE COURT

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1 afterwards, the timeframes that would engage in travel from
2 Shallotte to the K&W and from the K&W to the Lancer Motel,
3 it's -- there's no evidence, there's certainly circumstantial
4 evidence, there's no evidence that any other two individuals
5 could've been involved in the murder.

6 So, regarding the charges of murder and possession of a
7 weapon during the commission of a violent crime, I do find
8 that under the theory of hand of one hand of all, that these
9 charges should be submitted to the jury. And the defendants'
10 motions, Mr. McIver's motion and Mr. Freeman's motion, for
11 those two charges are denied. And obviously, there was no
12 motion as to the grand larceny charge.

13 All right. So, with that then, we are -- the state has
14 rested its case. At this point in time, Mr. Bellamy, is your
15 client, Mr. McIver, ready for the Court to inquire of him as
16 to whether or not he -- to advise him of his constitutional
17 rights and whether or not he wishes to testify in this case?

18 MR. BELLAMY: He is, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right.. Very good. If you would then
20 stand up and place him under oath, Madam Clerk.

21 CLERK: Please raise your right hand.

22 NICHOLAS JACOB MCIVER, HAVING BEEN
23 SWORN TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

24 MR. BELLAMY: Speak up so they can hear you.

25 THE COURT: All right. You can put your hand down. All

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1 presentation of any defense evidence other than what we've
2 already just now covered?

3 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

4 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. So, at this point in time then
6 for the purpose of this trial, obviously we'll do it again in
7 front of the jury, but for the purpose of this trial, on
8 behalf of your client, Mr. Bellamy, then the defense rests for
9 Nicholas Jacob McIver; is that correct?

10 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: And as to your client, Mr. Spratlin, Mr.
12 Terrell Freeman, the defense rests; is that correct?

13 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

14 MOTIONS:

15 THE COURT: At this point in time then, Mr. Spratlin, Mr.
16 Bellamy, do you wish to renew your motions that you made at
17 the end of the state's case?

18 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

19 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Is there any additional argument that you
21 would like to make, Mr. Spratlin?

22 MR. SPRATLIN: Your Honor, my only additional argument
23 would be that since the kidnapping has been removed from the
24 equation, there is no other crime that the state has proven or
25 has even alleged to have been proven that the hand of one hand

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1 of all would apply and the natural consequence of which
2 could've been the murder.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: Likewise, Your Honor, it's the state's
5 theory of this case as they've presented it is that the
6 kidnapping is that crime that in order to accomplish the
7 natural consequence would have been the murder. Your Honor,
8 has directed a verdict there, so I do not believe that
9 they're, at this point, under their theory because there is no
10 evidence direct or circumstantial that my client was the one
11 who shot. Clearly, it's a 50/50 shot for the jury to guess,
12 flip a coin. So, based upon the fact that the kidnapping is
13 no longer available to the jury, we do not think that the
14 murder should go as well.

15 Thank you, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Solicitor?

17 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, the murder itself can be a crime
18 and they can be present, aiding and abetting each other in the
19 murder. The murder itself is sufficient to support present
20 aiding and abetting and accomplice liability.

21 THE COURT: I respectfully decline to grant the
22 defendants' renewed motions for directed verdict as to the
23 charges of murder and possession of weapon during the
24 commission of a violent crime.

25 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: Further motions on behalf of your client, Mr.
2 Bellamy?

3 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

5 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

6 BY THE COURT:

7 THE COURT: All right, sir. We need to discuss the jury
8 charge and then go over the verdict form, but I don't want to
9 keep the jury waiting. It's a quarter of 12:00. The -- would
10 you want the Court to send the jury, tell them to go to lunch
11 and have them come back at some point in time, you know, 1:30
12 or whatever time it would be, and then we would go into the
13 closing arguments and charge on the law.

14 So, the state have a position on that?

15 MR. DEBUSK: That's sounds good, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Bellamy?

17 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor; that would be good.

18 MR. SPRATLIN: That's acceptable, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Very good. All right. So, let's
20 call the jury in and what we'll do is -- what we'll do is I
21 will ask you, Mr. Bellamy, what's the position of the defense
22 and you can tell me that the defendant, Mr. McIver, rests.
23 The same thing for you, Mr. Spratlin. And then I will excuse
24 them for lunch. All right?

25 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

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BY THE COURT

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1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 Go ahead and bring the jury in.

3 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, will you explaining to the jury
4 on the kidnapping that that ---

5 THE COURT: I'll do that. I will.

6 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

7 THE COURT: All right. What is the position of the
8 defendant, Mr. McIver, Mr. Bellamy?

9 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, at this time, on behalf of my
10 client, Mr. McIver, the defense rests.

11 THE COURT: And, Mr. Spratlin, what is the position of
12 the defendant, Mr. Freeman, at this point in time?

13 MR. SPRATLIN: The defense rests, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

15 All right, ladies and gentlemen, two things. One, in the
16 discussion of the matter with the attorneys, the Court has
17 removed the crime of kidnapping from your consideration. You
18 will not be making a decision as to the crime of kidnapping.
19 You will be making a decision as to crimes of murder,
20 possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent
21 crime, grand larceny value 2,000 to 10,000. These will be
22 presented to you.

23 At this point in time, you have received all of the
24 evidence in this case. There will be no more evidence
25 presented to you in this particular matter. What remains in

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BY THE COURT

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1 this case are the closing arguments of the attorneys and then
2 the charge on the law. At that point in time, I will give you
3 the law that you will apply to the facts and evidence you have
4 heard in this particular case.

5 There are still a few things that I need to review with
6 the attorneys. I have to go over the basic elements of the
7 charge with them and so they know exactly what it is that I'm
8 going to be instructing you so that might affect their closing
9 argument in some fashion.

10 I'm going to excuse you until 1:30, so that I have time
11 to go over all those factors with the attorneys and give them
12 some break before they start their closing arguments. So,
13 1:30 we'll resume. We'll have the closing arguments of the
14 attorneys, I'll give you the charge on the law, and then I'm
15 going to submit the case to you for your deliberations and
16 unanimous decision on the three charges that remain.

17 So, with that, you're excused until 1:30.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury exits courtroom. The following takes
20 place outside the presence of the jury.)

21 THE COURT: All right, gentlemen, what we'll do is we'll
22 reconvene at 1:15, I'll go over the charge with you at that
23 point in time and if y'all will hold on for a second, we'll
24 give you a copy of the proposed verdict form so you'll have a
25 chance to look at it, and if there's any exceptions, deletions

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CHARGE CONFERENCE

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1 or corrections that you want to suggest to the Court, then
2 you'll have the opportunity to do so. And obviously, if
3 there's anything y'all want to suggest to me about the charge,
4 you know, now is the time to present that to me if there is
5 any. All right. Thank you.

6 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you.

7 THE COURT: With that, I'll see you back at 1:15. All
8 right?

9 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Judge.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 RECESS

12 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

13 (On the Record.)

14 CHARGE CONFERENCE:

15 THE COURT: All right, gentlemen, we had recessed and I
16 told you I'd go over the charge that the Court intends to give
17 to the jury in this matter and -- so, I'll just go over it
18 briefly and y'all can talk to me about anything you want to
19 add or change.

20 Obviously, we'll talk to them generally about what we
21 always talk to them about, credibility and believability of
22 witnesses. We did have a minor testify, so obviously I'll
23 tell the jury the same sort of thing that we told them earlier
24 that, you know, they have to consider the child's age, ability
25 to observe, remember facts, ability to understand, and whether

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1 the child understood the seriousness of appearing as a witness
2 in the trial and understood the questions and had a good
3 memory and knew the difference between lying and telling the
4 truth.

5 As I told the defendants, I'll charge the jury about the
6 defendants did not testify, and I will tell the jury that that
7 cannot be considered in their deliberations in any way. They
8 can't use it in their consideration of the matter, they can't
9 use it mentally.

10 There was a stipulation by the parties and I'll the jury
11 that a stipulation is an agreement made in a judicial
12 proceeding by the parties, it's binding upon them, and it's an
13 agreement and understanding that they must accept if the
14 parties have stipulated to it.

15 Direct and circumstantial evidence, obviously direct
16 evidence and testimony of the person who asserts or claims to
17 have actual knowledge of a fact. Circumstantial evidence,
18 proof of a chain of facts and circumstances indicating the
19 existence of a fact. As I indicated to you, I will charge
20 them to the extent the state relies on circumstantial
21 elements, all of the circumstances must be consistent with
22 each and, when taken together, point conclusively to the guilt
23 of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt. If the
24 circumstances merely portray the defendants' behavior as
25 suspicious, the proof has failed, and obviously that the

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1 burden rests upon the State of South Carolina to prove the
2 defendants guilty of the crimes charged beyond a reasonable
3 doubt whether the state relies on direct or circumstantial
4 evidence.

5 Presumption of innocence. Reasonable doubt, the kind of
6 doubt that would cause an ordinary, reasonable person to
7 hesitate to act. Charge them the law of murder. The state
8 must prove beyond a reasonable doubt the defendants killed
9 another person with malice aforethought, and then define
10 malice and malice aforethought, expressed or inferred.

11 Possession of a weapon during the commission of or
12 attempt to commit a violent crime. The state has to prove
13 beyond a reasonable doubt the defendant was in possession of a
14 firearm or visibly displayed what appeared to be a firearm
15 during the commission of a violent crime. Murder is a violent
16 crime and the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that
17 the weapon further advanced or helped the commission of the
18 crime.

19 Grand larceny value 2,000 to 10,000. The defendant --
20 the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt the defendant
21 took and carried away the property of another against the will
22 or without the consent of the person. The slightest removal
23 even for an instant is enough. The state has to prove beyond
24 a reasonable doubt that the defendant intended to permanently
25 deprive the owner of the property the value was more than

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1 2,000 but less than 10,000.

2 Define mere presence. At the scene of the crime is not
3 sufficient to prove someone guilty, describe that. The hand
4 of one charge that I previously read to y'all at the very
5 beginning, that's the one I am going to use in this particular
6 matter.

7 The verdict form, I think we passed that out to you. The
8 state have any comments on the verdict form?

9 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor. I was wondering if I need
10 to get a copy of or hear the hand of one hand of all charge.

11 THE COURT: Okay. It's the same one I read to everybody
12 at the very beginning of the case, but I'll read it to y'all
13 again.

14 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: If a crime is committed by two or more who
16 act -- who are -- and obviously, before this, I'm gonna be
17 charging mere presence. So, I'll charge mere presence before
18 I read this to the jury. If a crime is committed by two or
19 more people who are acting together in committing a crime, the
20 act of one is the act of all. The person who joins with
21 another to commit an unlawful act is criminally responsible
22 for everything done by the other person which happens as a
23 probable or natural consequence of the acts done in carrying
24 out the common plan and purpose. The act of one is the act of
25 all or as it is sometimes said, the hand of one is the hand of

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1 all. Prior knowledge that a crime is going to be committed
2 without more, is not sufficient to make a person guilty of
3 that crime. Mere knowledge that another person is going to
4 commit a crime, even if the defendant is present when the
5 crime is committed, is not sufficient to convict the defendant
6 as a principal. Guilt as a principal is shown by actual or
7 constructive presence at the scene as a result of prior
8 arrangement. The state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt
9 by competent evidence the theory of the hand of one hand of
10 all. Principal in a crime is one who either actually commits
11 the crime or who is present, aiding, abetting, or assisting in
12 committing the crime. When a person does an act in the
13 presence of and with the assistance of another, the act is
14 done by both. Where two or more acting with a common plan or
15 intent are present at the commission of a crime, it does not
16 matter who actually commits the crime, all are guilty. The
17 hand of one is the hand of all. Present at the commission of
18 a crime means to be sufficiently near to aid, abet, assist in
19 the commission of the crime. However, mere presence at the
20 scene of a crime is not sufficient to convict one as a
21 principal on the theory of aiding and abetting.

22 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: That's my intention.

24 All right. As to the verdict form, did you have any
25 comments as to the verdict form, Solicitor?

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1 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: As to the verdict form, did you have any
3 comments, Mr. Bellamy?

4 MR. BELLAMY: No, sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Spratlin?

6 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. As to the charge itself, is there
8 anything else from the state?

9 MR. DEBUSK: No, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: From your client, Mr. Bellamy?

11 MR. BELLAMY: Nothing other than what had been submitted
12 by Mr. Spratlin on the flight.

13 THE COURT: All right. And Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor, the verdict form that I
15 got to, Your Honor, as well as the state and Mr. Bellamy, I
16 would ask for the charge ---

17 THE COURT: You said verdict form, do you mean the
18 request to charge?

19 MR. SPRATLIN: I mean request to charge, excuse me.

20 THE COURT: Okay. That's all right.

21 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, just that the defense would request
22 the charge along with the circumstantial evidence charge that
23 flight alone is not substantial circumstantial evidence. The
24 case I would be relying on for that is the case I relied upon
25 in my directed verdict motion, *State v. Lewis*.

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1 THE COURT: All right. The Court respectfully declines
2 to grant that in -- and this is probably earlier than y'all's
3 experience as trial attorneys. It was common for the Court to
4 issue a charge on flight that has been disfavored as a comment
5 on the evidence. That is to be left to counsel to make those
6 arguments if they so choose to do so. Since the Court will
7 not be issuing a charge on flight, I will not charge this as
8 it would be a comment on the evidence, and I will leave it to
9 the -- the attorneys to argue about flight or escape based
10 upon their view of the evidence.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, sir, Your Honor. Thank you.

13 THE COURT: All right. Anything else, Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

16 All right. Well, I told the jury 1:30 and it's not quite
17 1:30, so we'll take a very short break, and then we'll come
18 back and get started with the closing arguments.

19 Just so we're clear on the closing arguments, the state
20 obviously has to give its full and complete argument in this
21 matter because the defendants did not enter any evidence.
22 We'll follow the same procedure that we used throughout the
23 trial. Mr. Bellamy you'll give your argument and then Mr.
24 Spratlin will give his, and then we will go to the arguments
25 or the charge on the law. Okay?

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BY THE COURT

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1 MR. SPRATLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 MR. BELLAMY: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.

4 RECESS

5 *****OFF THE RECORD*****

6 (On the Record.)

7 BY THE COURT:

8 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, is the state ready for
9 the jury to come in?

10 MR. DEBUSK: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: And on behalf of your client, Mr. Bellamy?

12 MR. BELLAMY: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: And, Mr. Spratlin?

14 MR. SPRATLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

16 Ask the jury to come in, please.

17 MR. DEBUSK: Your Honor, may we approach?

18 THE COURT: Sure.

19 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Bench conference is held off the record and
20 outside the presence of the jury.)

21 (REPORTER'S NOTE: Jury enters courtroom.)

22 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, as I
23 explained to you, we're at the stage of the trial where you
24 have received all of the evidence in this case. We are now
25 going to proceed to the closing arguments of the attorneys.

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CLOSING BY DEBUSK

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1 Please remember, as I told you at the very beginning, as in
2 the opening statements, closing arguments are not evidence.
3 You've heard all of the evidence in this case. Now, the
4 closing arguments are important. They're each side's
5 summation to you of what they believe the evidence has shown
6 to you, understanding of course, that you are the judges of
7 the facts of this particular case. After that, I will give
8 you the law that you will apply to the facts and evidence that
9 has been presented in this matter and then I'll submit the
10 case to you for your deliberations and unanimous decision.

11 Solicitor?

12 MR. DEBUSK: Thank you, Your Honor, may I please the
13 Court?

14 THE COURT: Yes, sir.

15 CLOSING BY DEBUSK:

16 MR. DEBUSK: Ladies and gentlemen, Nicholas Jacob McIver
17 and Terrell Freeman killed Amanda Fisher. It's been proven to
18 you by the evidence from the stand. No -- let's back up to
19 the video that might've shown the victim's -- the defendant is
20 driving the victim's car back to the Lancer, wouldn't change
21 that; finding the murder weapon, wouldn't change that, it
22 wouldn't even tell you whose finger was on the trigger. If we
23 had a way to know the residual velocity of the bullet after it
24 passed through the skull, the brain, and the skull again, it
25 wouldn't change that. It wouldn't change the fact that Amanda

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CLOSING BY DEBUSK

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1 Fisher left Supply North Carolina dropping her cousins off --
2 cousin off, the defendants, McIver and Freeman, were the only
3 ones with her. It would not change the fact that at the K&W
4 parking lot, both of them participated in pulling her out of
5 the car while her body was still moving. It would not change
6 the fact that they fled immediately in the victim's car,
7 converting it to their own use, to the Lancer, and then got
8 out of town. Those facts are given. This isn't a whodunit.
9 You know who it was; it was McIver and Freeman. They were the
10 ones in the car with Amanda at the K&W parking lot. There's
11 zero doubt that one of the two of them pulled the trigger.
12 There's zero doubt that both of them together pulled the
13 victim out of the car and dumped her like a piece of garbage
14 on the K&W parking lot.

15 But first, before I get into that in a little more
16 detail, let me talk a little bit about what it is that we have
17 to prove. The state has the burden of proof here and we don't
18 run from it. We have to prove the elements of the crime. The
19 crime murder is the killing of another with malice
20 aforethought. Obviously, Amanda was the one killed and she
21 was shot through the head. What is malice aforethought?
22 Malice is, is ill will, it is the intent to harm another.
23 Clearly, when you put a gun to somebody's head and pull the
24 trigger, you have ill will. You have intent to harm them.
25 What is aforethought? Aforethought is not premeditation.

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CLOSING BY DEBUSK

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1 What it means they had the intent to do harm. They had that
2 malice at or right before the time when the fatal blow was
3 struck. That's what malice aforethought means. It doesn't
4 mean premeditation. Premeditation can be part of the proof of
5 malice aforethought, but it's not necessary. You can deduce
6 malice aforethought from other circumstances and facts. In
7 this case I argue to you that we've got the quintessential
8 case of malice aforethought. Someone takes a gun out, raises
9 it up, puts in contact with the victim's head, and pulls the
10 trigger. That is malice aforethought per se. That is malice
11 aforethought written large. You cannot put a gun against
12 someone's head and pull the trigger without knowing that
13 you're gonna be killing them. That is malice aforethought.
14 It's not premeditation. Like I said, premeditation can be
15 evidence of malice aforethought, but here it's the nature of
16 the injury itself that shows malice aforethought. I ought to
17 tell you that just putting the gun against her head was malice
18 and when that trigger was pulled, that turned that malice into
19 murder.

20 Another thing we don't have to prove is motive. Motive
21 is in the heart and mind of the attacker. We don't know what
22 that is; we've got no way to prove it. We've got no way to
23 distill in the contents of their brain. But you can deduce
24 again from the nature of the injury, from the way they treat
25 the victim after the attack, you can deduce malice from that.

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CLOSING BY DEBUSK

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1 Another crime before you today is grand larceny. That's
2 taking the goods of another without permission and converting
3 it to your own use without intent to return them. Here they
4 took Amanda Fisher's car. Well, it was registered to Jerry
5 Fisher, her grandfather, but it was the car she was using; it
6 was not their property. They took it and converted it to
7 their own use. That use was as a getaway vehicle. They used
8 that car to get away from the K&W parking lot where they
9 dumped Amanda out of it, taking it from her by force, and they
10 took it to the Lancer. Both of them used it that way. They
11 both converted it to their own use. That car, the testimony
12 was that the grandfather had paid between 10 and 16,000 for it
13 just months before. Even giving every benefit of the doubt to
14 the defendants, it was still worth between 2 and 10,000 making
15 it grand larceny. Again, they converted it to their own use.
16 They used it as a getaway vehicle and they had no intent of
17 returning it. They intended to keep using it and using it to
18 cover up the crime. They took it to North Carolina and it was
19 burned, it was destroyed, burned down to ashes, nothing left
20 but the metal. There was no intent to return it; it was
21 intent to deprive.

22 Possession of a gun during a violent crime. There was a
23 bullet hole through Amanda's head. There's the copper jacket
24 of a bullet found next to her body, proof that there was a gun
25 involved in this. They possessed a gun during the murder,

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1 murder being a violent crime. And they are both guilty and it
2 comes under the heading of hand of one hand of all. Hand on
3 one hand of all is another way of saying accomplice liability.
4 Accomplice is someone who is present, aiding and abetting a
5 principal person who does a crime. The classic example is the
6 getaway driver or the lookout in a bank robbery. He doesn't
7 go in, he doesn't confront the teller with a weapon, he
8 doesn't take any money, all he does is stand outside looking
9 for the police or standing at the getaway car ready to -- but
10 he's still guilty as a principal because he was part of the
11 crime. Another analogy, will be kind of like a football team.
12 The quarterback throws the ball; the tight end catches it and
13 runs it over the goal line for a touchdown. Even that wide
14 receiver, who never even threw a block, gets six points.
15 They're all part of the play that resulted in that touchdown.

16 And you -- you don't -- a pre-existing plan is a way to
17 prove accomplice liability, but you can join a plan on the
18 spot. You can see what's happening and start participating on
19 the spot. Like if someone walked into a bank with a friend
20 and the friend started robbing the bank and that person
21 decides well, I'll just be the lookout, or I'll get the car
22 and warm it up and get ready for the getaway; they joined that
23 as an accomplice in process. It's the aiding and abetting and
24 the intent of what they do in the crime that makes accomplice
25 liability.

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1 And again, the pre-existing plan is one way to prove
2 that, but not the only way. Going back to the football
3 analogy, think of an interception. It wasn't planned, but say
4 the cornerback gets the ball and the linebackers stop blocking
5 immediately. They've gone on, they've changed from what they
6 were doing before to offensive players, they're blocking now
7 making room for that run back. On the spur of the moment,
8 they become part of that plan.

9 Now, mere presence isn't enough. Just being there when
10 somebody else commits a crime, that's not enough, and the
11 Judge will instruct you on that. But I put to you that --
12 that when you drag someone's body out of a car, 10 to 20
13 seconds after they've been shot in the head, no hesitation, no
14 wondering what to do, immediate action. Ten seconds, Ken
15 Thompson looks up and she's already being hauled out of the
16 car, someone is already out of the car hauling her out of the
17 car. That's not mere presence; that's participation. That is
18 present aiding and abetting. That is accomplice liability.
19 So, both I would argue are guilty. Both were present when the
20 fatal shot was fired. Again, 10 to 20 seconds after that shot
21 was fired, they both participated in pulling her out of the
22 car, no discussion, no extemporizing, no sitting wondering
23 what to do, immediate action. Remember, Amanda was still
24 moving, still twitching minutes later when the manager came
25 out there to see her. So much so that he -- he spoke to her,

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1 thinking that she needed words of comfort. What was she like
2 right after she had been shot? Was she still breathing, was
3 she moving even more? But, they hauled her out as she was
4 dying and they threw her on the pavement to finish dying.
5 Both there, both participating, one finger on the trigger but
6 both aiding and abetting. Both were part of the crime, all
7 the crimes, grand larceny, possession of gun, and the murder.
8 Both hauled her out of the car as she was dying, both threw
9 her out, like Ken said, like a piece of garbage, both had
10 malice towards Amanda at that moment.

11 Looking further as to what they did after the killing, in
12 addition to what they did at the scene, what did they do
13 afterwards? They fled together. They took Amanda's car and
14 they fled from the K&W; they didn't stick around. They
15 returned to the Lancer and together they're grabbing their
16 goods, put it in the truck, got in the truck and -- one got in
17 the truck and one got in Amanda's car and they fled back to
18 Charlotte. And along the way, even though they were in
19 separate cars, they were in communication. They're calling
20 each other constantly. You've got the phone records, you can
21 look at it. You look, there are a few calls -- there are a
22 lot of calls that are under a minute and you can say maybe
23 they didn't go through, but there are a lot of calls that were
24 over a minute, up to five minutes long, two minutes long,
25 three minutes long. You add up just those ones that go over a

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1 minute, they talked for 20 minutes as they were driving back
2 to Charlotte consulting on what they had done and how to cover
3 it up, continuing the aiding and abetting, continuing the hand
4 of one is the hand of all, furthering their cooperation.

5 As soon as the car was burned, what happens? McIver
6 starts calling Freeman again, and calls him and calls him and
7 calls him. It's on the phone records, you can look, until
8 suddenly it stopped. Why, well look at the pattern of the
9 day. Whenever they were together, there was no phone calls
10 between them. But if they were apart for even a short time,
11 they were probably calling each other. They got back together
12 in Charlotte; that's why the phone calls stopped. Both were
13 participating in the murder of Amanda. Those are the facts.
14 You can wonder about some of the other things like why did
15 Amanda go into the K&W parking lot to begin with. Well, I'd
16 argue to you that she already had the gun to her head and she
17 saw the K&W parking lot, probably saw Ken Thompson's brightly
18 colored car and thought if I get in there, there's a witness
19 and they want kill me in front of a witness, they want hurt me
20 in front of a witness, thought that was her way out, but
21 that's just speculation. What is proven is they were the two
22 together with Amanda when she was shot in the head and killed.
23 They both participated in hauling her out of the car while she
24 was still moving, while she was still dying, and they're both
25 guilty of murder.

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1 And the same way, both had possession of the gun because
2 they were acting together. No matter who pulled the trigger,
3 both are guilty. But, I'm sure you'd say that's not enough,
4 we want to know who pulled the trigger, and I'll tell you the
5 facts in this case prove it was Nicholas McIver that pulled
6 the trigger, Nicholas McIver that had the gun. And you look
7 at it, start with the evidence of premeditation. Why were
8 they armed, or why was McIver armed going to North Carolina to
9 begin with? This was supposed to be a ride out to the beach
10 house, drop her off and come back. There's no need no for
11 that. Nobody had to bring a gun into this. Why prepare
12 yourself by bringing a gun except that you've got something
13 planned. And who had the gun? Nicholas McIver.

14 To show you that, I'm gonna show you a couple more
15 videos.

16 MR. BELLAMY: Your Honor, may we ---

17 THE COURT: Certainly.

18 MR. DEBUSK: Start with the Holiday Sands. Remember the
19 video when the girls came downstairs and the defendants met
20 them at the door. Give us just a moment to get the video up.
21 See here, what does Mr. Freeman do as soon as they meet
22 Tabetha, they embrace. He's got nothing to hide. If he had a
23 gun, she would find it; she would feel it. He's not hiding
24 anything. Where is Nicholas McIver? He stays in the car, no
25 hugging for him. If somebody hugged him, they might find the

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1 gun on him. Obviously, Freeman has got nothing to hide. What
2 about McIver? If we could go to the video from the Lancer
3 after Amanda was shot. They stole her car and they drove back
4 to the Lancer. There they are getting out of it. Freeman out
5 of the passenger side and McIver out of the driver's side.
6 Watch what McIver does when he walks up to the back corner of
7 this pickup truck and watch very closely. It takes just a
8 moment. See him with his hand on his waistband. He walks up
9 there and he takes something out of his waistband, after
10 looking around furtively, he pulls something out of his
11 waistband. Look very closely and you'll see a glint of the
12 metal there. You can play it again, the last little portion
13 of it. Watch very closely, just as he's putting it in, you
14 see a little glint, glint of metal like a stainless steel gun.
15 See that little flash. McIver had the gun. Now, well and
16 then when they left, what did he do, he went right back to
17 that spot before he went and got in that car, went right back
18 to that spot and pulled out whatever it was he put in there.
19 Getting back into the car he stole from a dead woman, he
20 wanted to have his gun. He took it back from the same place
21 he put it. McIver had the gun.

22 Thank you. You can put the lights back up.

23 How about riding to North Carolina to begin with. Why
24 are they riding to North Carolina; they've been partying all
25 night. You know they wanted to do exactly what Tabetha did on

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1 the drive back to Supply, sleep. They could've slept -- gone
2 back to their room, they had another night. They could've
3 slept all day, they could've went out on the beach and laid
4 down. Instead, they get in a car and drive all the way to
5 North Carolina just to ride back. Why? What's the purpose of
6 that? No reason to do it. And it was at McIver's request.
7 McIver was the one that asked can we ride with you to North
8 Carolina, knowing that on the trip back they'd be alone with
9 Amanda.

10 Next, I want to talk a little bit about the angle of the
11 shot. Here we had Dr. Proctor, who testified this was an
12 approximation of the angle which Amanda was shot. The first
13 thing you need to know -- wonder is where were people sitting
14 in that car. Well, we got one source of information and that
15 was Tabetha. She said, when they left Supply, McIver was in
16 the front passenger seat, Amanda of course driving, and behind
17 her, behind Amanda was Freeman. They made a stop, but people
18 are creatures of habit and I'd argue to you that they went
19 back to the same spots. Do we have another source of data?
20 Yes, we do. Ken Thompson. He saw two people pushing Amanda's
21 dying body out of that Malibu in the K&W parking lot. He
22 described the one he saw out of the car that he got a good
23 look at. He said short hair or maybe pulled back, not the
24 unruly dreadlocks that you see on the video on McIver sticking
25 out all over the place, not the unruly dreadlocks, but the

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1 short hair and medium skin tone, not the light skin tone of
2 McIver, but the darker skin tone of Freeman. So, it was
3 Freeman who was out of the car pulling Amanda out. And where
4 does that put him? Because the person pushing was in the
5 front seat, he would've been in the backseat. So, they were
6 in the same place that they were when Tabetha last saw them.
7 And where did the shot come from? Well, you know the shot
8 came out of her head. The gun was actually in contact with
9 the head, but the bullet came out the other side and we know
10 at least some of it did because the jacket was found with her
11 body, the jacket of the bullet. We'd also know it didn't
12 break a window because there was no broken glass at the
13 parking lot when the crime scene took pictures. And if we
14 looked at the videos later in the day at Bennettsville and at
15 Marshville, you can see something strange. The driver's side
16 window is open. Why? This is someone fleeing from a
17 shooting. The last thing he wants is to be seen in that car.
18 He wants to hide behind those dark tinted windows and all the
19 other windows in the car except the windshield were tinted
20 pretty dark. Why have that window open and risk being seen?
21 Plus, it's July. It's 2 or 3 o'clock in July, the hottest
22 part of the afternoon in the hottest month of the year. In
23 Bennettsville, in the midlands of South Carolina, the hottest
24 region of South Carolina, just ask anybody that lives in
25 Columbia, why would that window be open if the air conditioner

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1 in that works fine. I'd argue it's because when that bullet
2 passed out of Amanda's head, whatever was left of it hit that
3 window and also whatever blood and tissue came out of that
4 wound. The remains of the bullet probably broke that window,
5 not enough to go through it because it had that film, that
6 tint film might've held the window together and stopped the
7 bullet but not stopped the breaking. Alternatively, it
8 might've just been all the blood on the window dripping down.
9 You can't drive a car like that around, people will see it and
10 say why has that guy got a bloody window, or it could've been
11 both. The window could've been broken and covered with blood,
12 but that would be a reason for that window to be open. The
13 windshield, you didn't see anything wrong with the windshield.
14 If the bullet had gone from the rear seat, it would've been
15 the windshield that took a hit. It would've been the
16 windshield covered with blood, but it wasn't, it was the
17 driver's side door that was missing. And, if we think about
18 -- that puts the shooter in the passenger seat, the passenger
19 seat where Nicholas McIver was. It also puts Amanda's head
20 slightly turned away from him and tilted down, but she was
21 looking for the door handle, she was looking for a way out.
22 Again, McIver, the shooter. What else? Who winded up with
23 the car? After they got to Lancer, who took the car? Can you
24 imagine what the interior of that car would've been like?
25 Amanda was shot in the head. She would've bled all over the

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1 inside of that car. The window wasn't, for some reason, what
2 I just told you, not there. Hot day, the shooter would've
3 driven that car. Driven it all the way back to Charlotte.
4 What else? Is McIver used the cards. He's on the video doing
5 it, can't deny it. You've got the receipts, you've got the
6 pictures of him using Amanda's cards and Amanda's
7 grandfather's card, which apparently Amanda also had. What
8 else did he do? He tried to burn it. We know that. We had a
9 witness here, a young lady nine years old now, seven at the
10 time, **Minor** **Minor** saw him. She saw the man go in there
11 and burn the car. A memorable incident in a child's life,
12 burning of a car in her neighborhood right down from her
13 house, and she saw that man and she identified him from the
14 lineup. You've got the lineup, State's 44. She picked him
15 out of there 100 percent certain immediately. That was him.
16 What else do we have to link him to the burning of that car?
17 Well, has soon as he leaves Marshville -- you've got the phone
18 records and you've got the timelines. As soon as he leaves
19 Marshville, he starts calling someone named Tyquajua.
20 Tyquajua is the most frequently called number on his phone.
21 You also have those records. State's Exhibit 36, Tyquajua,
22 the girlfriend, lives less than a half a mile from where that
23 car was burned. Look at those numbers, the calls to that
24 number, they were all short. Apparently, he didn't get
25 through. I submit to you that he drove to that house and got

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1 somebody to pick him up after he did what he needed to do.
2 He drove to the closest place to burn that car. It wasn't out
3 in the country, but it wasn't in the densely populated part of
4 Charlotte either. It was a dead-end road with no traffic,
5 houses with big yards, just a few houses, the most remote
6 place close to Tyquajua's apartment, and he burned that car.
7 But as soon they burn that car, what did he do, he starts
8 burning up the phone again calling Terrell Freeman. He calls
9 him and calls him and calls him until he quits. I'd argue
10 again, the time of the day indicates the only time they
11 weren't calling each other is when they were together. He
12 quit calling because they met up again. But it was McIver
13 that pulled something out of his waistband. It was McIver
14 that wasn't willing to get hugged at the Holiday Sands. It
15 was McIver that put that glinting object into the back of the
16 truck and then picked it up again when he drove back to
17 Charlotte. It was McIver that took the car filled with blood
18 and drove it back to Charlotte. It was McIver that used the
19 cards. It was McIver that burned the car. Something else
20 McIver did, somewhere between the Lancer and Bennettsville
21 where he had on long shorts -- or he has on shorts, some sort
22 of denim-looking shorts that just went down to the knee. He
23 changed to sweatpants that went down to the ankle, baggy
24 sweatpants. Why change his clothes? And if you'll also
25 notice something else, when he and Freeman left the Lancer, he

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1 put all his stuff in the back of the truck. He walked over to
2 the -- to the car to drive to Charlotte with nothing but that
3 thing in his waistband that he recovered from the truck, the
4 gun. He didn't have any clothes. At Bennettsville, you can
5 see him on video opening the trunk of that car. He put on a
6 dead woman's pants to hide what he had done.

7 I encourage you to watch the videos. Look also when
8 they're leaving the Lancer. He puts a white cloth in the back
9 of the -- of the truck. Is that another white T-shirt? Did
10 he change white T-shirts? Look at him and you can decide for
11 yourself.

12 McIver was also the one that spent more time with Amanda.
13 You heard Tabetha say that it her and Freeman were the item
14 and Amanda was spending time with McIver. It would've been
15 McIver that would've been able to formulate a motive to do
16 what he did to Amanda. And, again, we don't have to prove
17 motive; we don't know what the motive is. We've got no way of
18 knowing it, of distilling that information, but the person
19 that would've had more contact with her, more likely to have
20 motive would've been McIver. So, all the evidence points to
21 McIver as the -- as the gunman, the one with his finger on the
22 trigger, the one who still had the gun when they got back to
23 the Lancer, the one that would've the gun before they even
24 went to North Carolina.

25 What about Freeman? Well, Freeman's guilty, too, as an

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1 accomplice. Ten to twenty seconds after that shot was fired,
2 Ken Thompson looks up and he sees them pulling and pushing
3 Amanda out of the car. Ten seconds, they're already out of
4 the car. Ten to twenty seconds, they've already got her on
5 the ground where he could see her size and her hair color,
6 which he described. That's immediate action. That's not, let
7 me think about it for a minute, what am I gonna do? That's
8 immediate action; that's taking part in the crime. And what
9 else did he do, he immediately got back in the car and fled.
10 Fled to the Lancer, got his stuff, put it in the truck, and
11 fled to points unknown, presumably Charlotte. What else? All
12 during that flight when they weren't together, they were on in
13 phone contact. They were in contact; they talked for 20
14 minutes. Add it up for yourself; don't take my word for it,
15 look at the records. Twenty minutes during that -- while they
16 were fleeing from Myrtle Beach back to Charlotte, they talked.
17 What happened as soon as McIver burned the car? He starts
18 calling Freeman. He calls him and calls him and calls him
19 until I argue to you that they got back together and the calls
20 stopped. McIver deleted Freeman from his phone. He deleted
21 the contact. Maybe trying to cover this whole thing up, but
22 he could delete the fact of the calls and the fact of that
23 number. McIver and Freeman were together the whole time
24 working together, together the whole time. They knew each
25 other was doing. If McIver had the gun, Freeman would've