

HARDEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION

16-12-0001

TRANSCRIBED BY:

KIM PFEIFFER

DECEMBER 23, 2016

JS: LIEUTENANT JOHN SHIVERS

RW: LIEUTENANT ROSIE WENDELL

JS: THIS INTERVIEW IS TAKING PLACE HARDEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, TODAY'S DATE DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2016, THE TIME'S APPROXIMATELY 2:46 P.M. UH, IT'S IN REFERENCE TO INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS NUMBER 2016-12-001. UH, THE PERSON CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW IS LIEUTENANT JOHN SHIVERS, UH, PERSON TO BE INTERVIEWED IS LIEUTENANT ROSIE WENDELL WITH THE HARDEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. WOULD YOU RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND FOR ME PLEASE? DO YOU SWEAR AND AFFIRM THE STATEMENT YOU'RE ABOUT TO MAKE WILL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

RW: I DO SIR

JS: YOU RESPONDED TO THE CRASH THE OTHER NIGHT, VICTORIA AND MICHAEL?

RW: THAT IS CORRECT

JS: IN YOUR INVESTIGATION OR, OR WHAT YOU LEARNED AT THE SCENE IS, WAS THERE ANYTHING TO INDICATE THAT SHE WAS UNDER, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL?

RW: NOT THAT I SAW JOHNNY

JS: DID YOU SMELL ANYTHING ON HER?

RW: MADE IT A POINT, UH, TO GET CLOSE AND NO I DID NOT

JS: OK, UM, OF COURSE I'VE TALKED, I'VE TALKED TO MICHAEL, THE FACT THAT HE HAD A FEW BEERS IS NOT AN ISSUE IN THIS INVESTIGATION, HE HAD BEEN DRIVING IT WOULD'VE BUT BASED ON WHAT HE TOLD ME I DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO BELIEVE OTHER THAN THAT SHE WAS DRIVING, UH, AND I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW ANYBODY GOT THAT INFORMATION, OTHER, YOU KNOW, NONE, NONE OF THE REPORTS THAT I READ SAID SHE SAID SHE WAS DRIVING OR YOU KNOW WHERE THAT INFORMATION COME FROM, BUT, UM, DID YOU ASK HER WHO WAS DRIVING?

RW: NO I DID NOT

JS: OK, UH, DID ANY, THE DEPUTIES THAT WAS THERE SAY SHE TOLD ME THIS OR SHE TOLD ME THAT?

RW: I ASKED WHO WAS DRIVING AND I WAS TOLD VICTORIA WAS DRIVING

JS: DO YOU REMEMBER WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

RW: PRETTY MUCH THE ONLY PERSON I TALKED TO, JOHNNY, WAS KEVIN AND MICHAEL AND I THINK MICHAEL'S ACTUALLY SAID IT ALSO THAT SHE WAS DRIVING

JS: OK, UH, DID YOU SMELL ANYTHING ON HIM?

RW: NO MATTER FACT

JS: SOMEBODY ELSE MAY HAVE SMELLED

RW: NO, I MADE IT A POINT TO, TO GET CLOSE, UM, I HUGGED HIM  
AND I WAS CLOSE TO HER A COUPLE TIMES, AND NO I DID NOT  
SMELL

JS: OK

RW: ANYTHING ON THE TWO OF THEM, NOTHING

JS: UM, ANOTHER KIND OF SIDE ISSUE IN THE THING IS CLARKS

RW: THE CAPTAIN MENTIONED HER VIDEO

JS: YEAH

RW: I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE UNTIL I WATCHED THE FIRST TWO  
MINUTES AND THAT'S THE ONLY VIDEO IN CAR VIDEO THAT I  
WATCHED, UM,

JS: I DON'T KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE VIDEOS HOW THEY WORK,  
I AIN'T BEEN MESSED WITH ONE SINCE I WENT TO  
INVESTIGATIONS

RW: WE HAVE A DIFFERENT KIND NOW, YES

JS: DO THE MIC'S REGULARLY COME ON AND GO OFF, COME ON  
AND GO OFF?

RW: REGULARLY IS NOT A FAIR STATEMENT JOHNNY, UM, IS IT  
POSSIBLY THAT THEY KEY OFF AND ON ABSOLUTELY, UM,

JS: CAUSE

RW: (INAUDIBLE)

JS: AND I'M ASSUMING YOU WATCHED HER VIDEO

RW: NO I WATCHED THE FIRST TWO MAYBE THREE MINUTES AND  
THAT'S ABOUT IT

JS: WELL ABOUT THAT TIME IT GOES OUT, AND THEN IT COMES  
BACK ON, AND THEN IT GOES OUT AGAIN

RW: OK, I DON'T RECALL OFF ON, OFF ON

JS: NO, I WATCHED THE WHOLE THING AND THERE'S, I GOT IT'S  
ON MY PAD, I GOT IT WROTE DOWN, THERE'S A COUPLE  
MINUTES ITS ON, THEN ITS OFF FOR TWO, THREE, FOUR  
MINUTES OR HOW LONG IT WAS, AND IT COMES BACK ON FOR  
A WHILE AND THEN IT GOES OFF, UH, AND AT SOME POINT,  
AND I GOT TO GO BACK AND LOOK AND SEE EXACTLY WHERE  
IT WAS, SHE GETS IN THE CAR THE RADIO'S TURNED UP SO  
LOUD THE CAR MIC, THE MIC IN THE CAR

RW: IT, THE CAB MIC IS WHAT IT'S CALLED

JS: OK, THE CAB MIC AIN'T PICKING UP ANYTHING IN THE BACK

RW: WHEN I GOT THERE SHE WAS ALREADY IN THE BACKSEAT  
JOHNNY, UM,

JS: WELL THAT, THAT HAPPENED PRETTY QUICK, UH, OF COURSE I  
DON'T, I DIDN'T SEE YOU COME UP, BUT THEN I HEARD YOU  
TALKING TO KEVIN, UH, BUT, BUT, UM,

RW: I, UH, PARKED BEHIND KEVIN AND AS I WAS WALKING UP  
KEVIN WAS WALKING TOWARDS ME



JS: OK, UH, BUT IT ALMOST, WHEN YOU WATCH IT, IT APPEARS THAT YOU KNOW MAYBE SHE'S INTENTIONALLY TURNING IT OFF TO KEEP THINGS FROM BEING HEARD

RW: I'M NOT GOING TO SPEAK FOR JOHNNY, SHE'S VERY PARANOID, AND I USE THE WORD PARANOID AND I DON'T WANT TO PUT SOMETHING ON TAPE THAT, UM, PARANOID IS AN UNDER STATEMENT, UM, AS FAR AS WANTING THE IN CAR VIDEO ON, WANTING THE MIC TO WORK, UM, SHE HAD A PROBLEM WITH HER MIC WELL OVER A YEAR AGO AND I LEARNED THAT SHE WAS USING HER PHONE TO RECORD AND SO I WENT TO KEVIN AND ASKED WHY, WELL THE MIC DOESN'T LAST LONG ENOUGH, IT WON'T LAST INDEFINITE

JS: THERE'S NOTHING THAT, WAS THERE ANYTHING AT THAT SCENE THAT INDICATED TO YOU THAT SHE MAY, MAY HAVE BEEN UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANY KIND OF INTOXICATING BEVERAGE OR DRUGS?

RW: WAS SHE UPSET, JOHNNY? YES. UM, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING TO ME THAT I SAW THAT INDICATED UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, I SPECIFICALLY GOT CLOSE TO SMELL

JS: OK

RW: UM, TWICE MAYBE EVEN THREE TIMES

JS: DID, DID YOU LOOK IN THE CAR?

RW: YES, I HELPED CLEAN IT OUT

JS: OK, WAS THERE ANYTHING IN THE CAR?

RW: NOT THAT I SAW

JS: (INAUDIBLE)

RW: NO

JS: BEER CANS

RW: NO

JS: LIQUOR BOTTLES

RW: NO

JS: YOU KNOW

RW: NO, NOT THAT I SAW, UM, ACTUALLY I HELD THE TRASH BAG  
ON ONE SIDE AND KEVIN PUT THE STUFF IN, WE OPENED THE  
TRUNK, UM, GOT THE STUFF OUT OF THE TRUNK, AND DENNIS  
LAKE ACTUALLY GOT THE STUFF OUT OF THE PASSENGER SIDE  
WHICH WAS A WEAPON IN THE GLOVE BOX

JS: OK

RW: SO, BUT, A FEW PAPERS NOT A GREAT DEAL OF STUFF, I  
EXPECTED AN ABUNDANCE OF ITEMS AND THERE, THERE WERE  
NOT

JS: OK, ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN THINK OF THAT MIGHT BE  
PERTINENT TO THIS INVESTIGATION?

RW: NO SIR

JS: THAT I HADN'T ASKED YOU ABOUT, DIRECTLY

RW: NO SIR

JS: OK, I'M GOING TO END THE INTERVIEW AT THIS TIME, IS IT  
TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE?

RW: YES

JS: ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO CHANGE, ADD, OR DELETE?

RW: NO SIR

JS: TIME'S NOW 2:53.