

1 you think you have to do.

2 MR. SASSER: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: And we will go forward on this  
4 case. We are not going to allow the defendant to take  
5 over the case at this time.

6 Anything further?

7 MR. SASSER: Judge, the other issue I have  
8 is -- and I don't know how to really address that. I  
9 addressed it to you a second ago. I mean, I think  
10 that -- anyway, I can continue to represent her. I can  
11 put that aside professionally and continue to represent  
12 her. It is an issue at some point, I think, that needs  
13 to be brought up on the record.

14 THE COURT: Go ahead and bring it up.

15 MR. SASSER: I don't think I should bring  
16 this up.

17 THE COURT: All right. It's your case.

18 MR. SASSER: My other issue, I'll keep it  
19 to myself at this time, if that's okay. Thank you.

20 MR. BREWER: Ready to proceed, Your Honor.

21 (Witness sworn)

22 (Open court, jury and defendant present)

23 THE COURT: You may proceed.

24 **JOEL GORSKI,**

25 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

**DIRECT EXAMINATION**

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**BY MR. BREWER:**

Q. Sir, please introduce yourself to the ladies and gentlemen of the jury.

A. I'm Sergeant Gorski with the Houston Police Department.

Q. Sergeant Gorski, spell your first and last name for the court reporter.

A. First name is Joel, J-o-e-l. Last name is G-o-r-s-k-i.

Q. Sergeant Gorski, how long have you worked for the Houston Police Department?

A. Twenty-eight-and-a-half years.

Q. And you are the rank of sergeant, correct?

A. I'm a sergeant, yes, sir.

Q. And you are currently assigned to where?

A. I'm assigned the Burglary and Theft Division Financial Crimes Unit on special assignment to the United State Secret Service, the federal task force.

Q. How long?

A. Since 2004.

Q. And 28 years, you said?

A. Twenty-eight-and-a-half, yes.

Q. Twenty-eight-and-a-half is a long time.

Give the ladies and gentlemen of the jury

1 an idea of some of the assignments you've had over those  
2 years.

3 A. Simple forgery cases, credit card fraud cases,  
4 skimming credit card numbers, credit card re-encoded,  
5 embezzlement cases, simple burglary cases, and identity  
6 theft type cases.

7 Q. Do you see many of those same type cases now  
8 that you're over at the federal task force?

9 A. Yes, I do.

10 Q. In fact, the secret service works a lot of  
11 those type cases as well?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. How did you become involved in this  
14 investigation?

15 A. In February 2009 I was contacted by my  
16 lieutenant who had assigned me to work an identity theft  
17 case. This particular case involved a victim by the  
18 name of Dana Slinkard whose husband at the time happened  
19 to be an HPD lieutenant with HPD.

20 Q. Tell us about the first thing you did in the  
21 case.

22 A. Well, what had happened is Ms. Slinkard and her  
23 husband were notified by Macy's regarding a line of  
24 credit that was opened at Macy's in her name. And the  
25 thing was that they did have a Macy's account. This was

1 a new account and it was opened in Honolulu, Hawaii.

2 Q. You mean Nordstrom's?

3 A. Well, originally it was Macy's. There were a  
4 couple of accounts opened. The first one was Macy's.  
5 We soon found out -- once they put a credit alert and  
6 notified the credit bureaus, they found out another  
7 account was opened at Nordstrom's.

8 Q. So, actually, two department stores opened up  
9 in Hawaii?

10 A. Two. And attempted a third one at Sam's all  
11 within the same area.

12 Q. All right. Once you discovered that  
13 information, what did you do?

14 A. Once I discovered the information, I contacted  
15 Nordstrom's, an individual by the name of Todd Pratt,  
16 who advised me that a large transaction was conducted at  
17 Nordstrom's on Mrs. Slinkard's account when the account  
18 was opened for 500 -- I believe it was \$544.50. And at  
19 the same time, the Nordstrom's investigator told me the  
20 suspects were also using another account in the name of  
21 Matthew Wright, which was also a fraudulent account  
22 opened on February 2nd in Dallas.

23 Q. Let's kind of talk about our victims here.  
24 Dana Slinkard, one of the victims, is she a resident of  
25 Harris County, Texas?

1 A. Yes, she is.

2 Q. Do you know where Mr. Wright lives?

3 A. Also a resident of Harris County, Texas.

4 Q. Did either of these people know about the  
5 accounts opened in Hawaii using their personal  
6 information?

7 A. They had no idea.

8 Q. So, now you've got multiple accounts opened and  
9 an attempted account at Sam's. You've got two different  
10 victims. Tell us where you went from there.

11 A. From there, once I began talking to the fraud  
12 investigator at Nordstrom's, they told me about -- the  
13 merchandise purchased at Nordstrom's -- it's kind of a  
14 high-end store. And they have what they call UII codes  
15 attached to some of their merchandise. And this is a  
16 code that identifies items that are purchased and if  
17 that item is returned, where it's returned and purchased  
18 again and where it's returned, just to kind of help them  
19 keep an inventory -- or database inventory on items.

20 Q. With those stickers, were you and the  
21 investigator from Nordstrom's able to determine some of  
22 the items had been returned?

23 A. Yes, we were. On February 16th, these items  
24 were returned at Barton Springs, Texas, which is close  
25 to the Austin area. And those items were returned by

1 the defendant.

2 Q. Again, kind of continue with your  
3 investigation. What's the next major step you took to  
4 help you figure out who was doing this.

5 A. When items were returned by the defendant,  
6 the -- the Nordstrom's loss prevention, they were  
7 suspicious because of the UII codes. And they started  
8 to watch the defendant and followed her out to a vehicle  
9 she had gotten into and they saw a black male driving  
10 that vehicle that they realized had also made a return  
11 prior to the defendant. And that other individual that  
12 was with the defendant had made a return on Matthew  
13 Wright's account. So, the defendant Bailey here was  
14 making a return on Mrs. Slinkard's account receiving  
15 cash back and then Mr. Young was receiving cash back on  
16 the fraudulent Wright account.

17 Q. Now, let me ask you one other thing -- about  
18 one additional thing about what the defendant was doing.  
19 I'll ask you, were you able to get the video of those  
20 two transactions that Shawn Young returned something  
21 purchased using the Wright account and the defendant  
22 Bailey returned something purchased using the Slinkard  
23 account?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. You reviewed those videos, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Once you know what they looked like, were you  
3 able to easily identify the two people?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. We already heard the defendant returned the  
6 items purchased on the Slinkard account and she used the  
7 identification number belonging to Ms. Terro; is that  
8 correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Were you able to locate Ms. Terro?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Where does she live?

13 A. She lives in Jefferson County.

14 Q. That's in the Beaumont area?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How old is she?

17 A. She's 75.

18 Q. And did you talk to her?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. Did she know anything about this account?

21 A. She had no idea. She informed me that her  
22 identity had been stolen and also checks counterfeited  
23 in her name and she had no idea about this transaction  
24 that had taken place in Barton Springs.

25 Q. What was her demeanor when you spoke to her?

1           A.    She was quite upset.

2           Q.    Take us to the next step in your investigation.  
3 Let me lead you off.  Was somebody able to write a  
4 license plate number -- you were just talking about  
5 Shawn Young and the defendant leaving in a dark-colored  
6 vehicle.

7           A.    Right.  Barton Springs Nordstrom's  
8 investigators followed the defendant out of the store,  
9 saw her get into a vehicle.  Nordstrom's investigators  
10 had written down the license plates, provided the  
11 license plate to me.  I ran the license plate in the  
12 Texas Department of Motor Vehicle database we use and we  
13 identified the vehicle as being a lease vehicle from a  
14 Houston area company called Matt Leasing, does business  
15 in the name of Garcia Enterprises.  I subpoenaed the  
16 information from that lease vehicle and they provided me  
17 with the name of Shawn Young.  Shawn Young is the other  
18 defendant we were talking about that was using the name  
19 of Marvin Wright who received cash back.  They provided  
20 me with his driver's license number and I pulled a  
21 picture of him, found out that he lived at an address of  
22 29 Little Trail in Missouri City.

23                         At that point, I conducted a commercial  
24 database check on that address -- or, actually, had a  
25 research specialist in secret service do that and she



1 provided the name of the defendant as living with Shawn  
2 Young at the 29 Little Trail address.

3 Q. Did you obtain a picture at some point of this  
4 defendant to match what you had seen in the video?

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. That's when you were able to positively make  
7 the identification as the person in the video, LaJuan  
8 Cecile Bailey, correct?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. And did you take the opportunity to run  
11 criminal histories for Ms. Bailey and for Mr. Young?

12 A. Yes, I did. And found both of them had  
13 fraud-related histories and were convicted felons.

14 Q. Did you ask the U.S. postal inspectors to do  
15 anything regarding that house at 29 Little Trail?

16 A. Yes, I did. I conducted surveillance of the  
17 address. In addition to that, requested through the  
18 postal service or postal inspectors that they do mail  
19 cover on that address to see who's receiving mail at  
20 that location.

21 Q. What is a mail cover specifically?

22 A. Mail cover is basically where the postal  
23 service will -- obviously, they don't open the mail, but  
24 will take a photocopy of the front of the mail to show  
25 who is receiving mail at that address.

1 Q. What was the purpose for you doing that?

2 A. To determine who was receiving mail at that  
3 address, whether or not it was Ms. Bailey and Shawn  
4 Young.

5 Q. Did you think at this time that it wasn't just  
6 a simple credit card related fraud, but that there also  
7 might be more extensive identity theft involved based on  
8 this stage of your investigation?

9 A. I believed that it would be very extensive.

10 Q. And sometimes if you do a mail cover might you  
11 also be looking for mail that's coming not just in the  
12 name of the people that live there, but other people's  
13 names who may be victims?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. So, were you able to -- and kind of breeze  
16 through -- the part Mr. Cahill spoke to, we'll move  
17 rapidly through it. Were you able to obtain videos of a  
18 number of transactions at Nordstrom's?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Were you able to obtain the supporting  
21 documentation regarding those transactions at  
22 Nordstrom's?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. All right. And from the videos and the  
25 transactions and your other investigations, were you

1 able to determine positively absolutely 100 percent that  
2 the defendant and Mr. Young were involved?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Let's talk a little bit, based on your 28 years  
5 of experience, of the hows and whys of doing this.  
6 First of all, how is it they were given a credit -- how  
7 is it they were given a credit card that was being  
8 billed to a Dana Slinkard or a Mr. Wright -- is it  
9 Marvin Wright?

10 A. Matthew.

11 Q. Matthew Wright. How is that happening, if you  
12 know?

13 A. Well, what happens in that case is the  
14 individual would apply for the credit either in person  
15 or online. And then they would get the -- basically get  
16 a card. In this case, Nordstrom's would provide a card  
17 to them that had a bar code on it that allowed them to  
18 use that line of credit until the credit card actually  
19 came in the mail.

20 Q. That's starting out by opening the account  
21 pretending to be the victim, Wright?

22 A. Right.

23 Q. What happens if somebody asks you for  
24 identification? What do you do then if you're not  
25 Matthew Wright or not Dana Slinkard?

1 A. You have a counterfeit driver's license or I.D.

2 Q. Are those things hard to get or easy to get in  
3 Houston, Texas?

4 A. Those are things fairly easy to get. They can  
5 be made on the computer.

6 Q. Are there places online that you can go online  
7 and order them?

8 A. Yes, you can.

9 Q. All right. Let me -- based on your entire  
10 investigation, the videos that the jury's already seen,  
11 at some point did you obtain a warrant to search the  
12 location that you told us about, that 29 Little Trail?

13 A. Yes. I received -- obtained an arrest warrant  
14 for identity theft for 29 Little Trail, for the  
15 defendant, and also Mr. Young, also a defendant in this  
16 case. And we did a search of that location and found  
17 many items.

18 Q. And I actually misspoke. I did not mean to say  
19 search warrant.

20 A. Arrest warrant.

21 Q. Charging them with those crimes, correct?

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. By way of the search, you received consent or  
24 permission -- is another word -- from Mr. Young to  
25 search the residence; is that correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. On a written form signed by and witnessed by  
3 the secret service?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So, let's talk a little about that search. Do  
6 you recall the date? You may have said it and I wasn't  
7 paying attention.

8 A. I believe that occurred on the -- I may have to  
9 look in the report. I think it was the 22nd.

10 Q. What did you say?

11 A. 22nd.

12 Q. Of?

13 A. April.

14 Q. 2009?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Let's talk a little about what you found at  
17 that search -- during that search while you were  
18 executing the arrest warrants. First of all, was the  
19 defendant living there?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Did you arrest the defendant for a charge?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Was Mr. Young there?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Was Mr. Young arrested for a charge?

1           A.    Actually, the defendant was arrested for two  
2 charges.  I had also filed the Jefferson County charge  
3 on the defendant.  She was arrested for the Harris  
4 County and Jefferson County charge.

5           Q.    Let's kind of be clear about that.  The reason  
6 why there's a charge in Harris County is because  
7 Ms. Dana Slinkard is a resident of Harris County, so the  
8 charge would be filed here; is that correct?

9           A.    That's correct.

10          Q.    When she used -- when the defendant used  
11 Ms. Terro's information, Ms. Terro is a resident of  
12 Jefferson County, so you had to go to Jefferson County  
13 to file those charges?

14          A.    That's correct.  Myself and the secret service  
15 agent.

16          Q.    All right.  I'm going to show you what has been  
17 marked as State's Exhibit No. 2000.  Do you recognize  
18 this as a disk of the photographs that were taken in the  
19 arrest and search scene on April 22nd?

20          A.    Yes.

21                   MR. BREWER:  I'll offer State's Exhibit  
22 No. 2000, Your Honor.

23                   **(State's Exhibit No. 2000 Offered)**

24                   MR. SASSER:  No objection, Your Honor.

25                   THE COURT:  Admitted.

1                   **(State's Exhibit No. 2000 Admitted)**

2                   MR. BREWER: May I publish it to the jury,  
3 Your Honor?

4                   THE COURT: You may.

5                   MR. BREWER: Thank you, Your Honor.

6                   (Exhibit published)

7                   Q. (By Mr. Brewer) First of all, what are we  
8 seeing, Sergeant Gorski?

9                   A. That is the residence that the defendant and  
10 Mr. Young were living in.

11                  Q. Can you tell us, if you know, what the value of  
12 that residence was?

13                  A. In the neighborhood of seven to \$800,000  
14 residence.

15                  Q. Now, is this the residence in Brazoria County?

16                  A. This was in Fort Bend County.

17                  Q. This isn't the Brazoria County house, is it?

18                  A. No.

19                  Q. There's another big house in Brazoria County  
20 that the defendant lived in in 2010, right?

21                  A. That's correct.

22                  Q. What do we see there?

23                  A. That's a couple of motorcycles in one of the  
24 garages at that residence.

25                  Q. I'm going to move through some of the things we

1 see here. Actually, I'm going to -- let's stop this.  
2 We might go through the photographs in a minute. I want  
3 to do something else. Make this a little more pointed.

4 I want you to take a look at all these  
5 exhibits and see if you recognize them, all these  
6 documents obtained by you with the exception of that.  
7 I'll have you explain the search of the house. So, just  
8 yes or no (indicating).

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 MR. BREWER: Your Honor, we would offer  
13 State's Exhibit No. 2001 through 2012. I'll bring them  
14 over there, Jeff.

15 **(State's Exhibit No. 2001 through 2012**  
16 **Offered)**

17 MR. SASSER: They were found in the search  
18 of the house? No objection.

19 THE COURT: Admitted without objection.

20 **(State's Exhibit No. 2001 through 2012**  
21 **Admitted)**

22 Q. (By Mr. Brewer) With the exception of one, I'll  
23 have him explain it and I'll show you one thing first.

24 (Off-the-record conversation between  
25 prosecutor and defense attorney)



1 MR. BREWER: May I proceed, Your Honor?

2 THE COURT: You may.

3 Q. (By Mr. Brewer) Let's talk about some of the  
4 things that were found in the house, Mr. Gorski. Excuse  
5 me.

6 First of all, there was some question as to  
7 whether or not the defendants were in Hawaii, this  
8 defendant and her co-defendant were in Hawaii back when  
9 the accounts were open. Is that fair to say? I won't  
10 call it a question, but evidence of it would have been  
11 appreciated. Correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Did you find, in fact, Delta Airline tickets in  
14 the name of LaJuan Bailey and Shawn Young indicating  
15 travel to Hawaii in February of 2010?

16 A. Those were the return flights. Those were the  
17 return tickets from Hawaii. The actual flight to Hawaii  
18 was with Continental Airlines, which is who I subpoenaed  
19 and had received information from Continental Airlines  
20 that they had flown on tickets that were purchased with  
21 a stolen credit card.

22 Q. So, the trip to Hawaii, the flight was paid for  
23 the same way the clothes were paid for at Nordstrom's,  
24 with somebody else's credit?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. Would you agree with me 2007 is a checkbook  
2 that you found? Do you recall where you found that  
3 checkbook (indicating)?

4 A. I'm not exactly -- there were quite a few  
5 checkbooks. That's in the name of Roderick Sofus.

6 Q. Who is Mr. Sofus?

7 A. I believe Mr. Sofus is an old boyfriend of  
8 LaJuan. It was in the kitchen area.

9 Q. You had a chance to look at your notes,  
10 correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Where did you find that?

13 A. In the kitchen area.

14 Q. You talked about a vehicle that the defendants  
15 got into when they left Barton Springs after returning  
16 items and receiving -- I think the testimony was well  
17 over a thousand dollars in cash between the two of them,  
18 you talked about a license plate number. Did you find  
19 some license plates in the search of the house?

20 A. Yes, I did.

21 Q. I'm showing you a baggy in which it contains  
22 State's Exhibit No. 2002. They're license plates. Is  
23 this the license plate number the folks at Nordstrom's  
24 wrote down (indicating)?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. Based on your training and experience, why  
2 would you have found -- and you found these where?

3 A. Those were found in the garage, the double-car  
4 garage at the residence.

5 Q. Did you find a vehicle that matched the  
6 description?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. So, why would these have been taken off the  
9 vehicle, if you know, based on your training and  
10 experience?

11 A. Well, because the defendants did not -- they  
12 wanted to report those plates as being stolen and have  
13 new plates through the leasing company put on the  
14 vehicle in case something did come back from the  
15 fraudulent transactions they could say: Well, my plates  
16 were stolen. I don't know anything about, you know,  
17 who -- whomever did that.

18 Q. Did you find evidence of rental car bills in  
19 excess of \$500 from Hawaii, from Honolulu, apparently  
20 the airport in Honolulu?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you ever go to 20602 Hidden Shore address  
23 looking at State's Exhibit No. -- look -- let's look at  
24 State's Exhibit 2012. Did -- where did you find this  
25 (indicating)?

1           A.    That was -- that was on the -- that was some of  
2 the paperwork in the kitchen, I believe, where it was  
3 marked.  It's regarding the home builder trying to evict  
4 the defendant and the co-defendant.

5           Q.    This is April of 2009 that you were executing  
6 this search.  This -- according to this document, they  
7 contracted to buy the house back in the summer of 2008,  
8 almost a complete year, about ten months earlier.  
9 Correct?

10          A.    That's correct.

11          Q.    Was there a shredder in the house?

12          A.    Yes, there was.

13          Q.    Did you find in the bottom of the shredder  
14 remnants of shredded credit cards?

15          A.    That's correct.

16          Q.    Is that what we have in the baggie marked 2001  
17 (indicating)?

18          A.    That is correct.  And the little stapled bag in  
19 that plastic bag, we tried to put those credit cards  
20 back together.  Those are what I believe to be some of  
21 the Nordstrom's credit cards, but I couldn't put enough  
22 of the numbers together.

23          Q.    So, you don't know if it was exactly the ones  
24 used?

25          A.    To identify, that's clear.

1 Q. Who is Calvin Ward? State's Exhibit No. 2003  
2 is several books of checks made out in the name of  
3 Calvin Ward. Do you know who he is?

4 A. Calvin Ward lives in the Fort Worth, Texas  
5 area.

6 Q. The checks say he lives in Missouri City.

7 A. That is not true.

8 Q. Go ahead. Who is he?

9 A. I spoke to Calvin Ward. He lives in Fort  
10 Worth. He did not have any idea about this bank account  
11 or about a vehicle that was purchased in his name.

12 Q. And let's talk a little about that vehicle.  
13 Where did you find that vehicle?

14 A. The vehicle was in the double-car garage of the  
15 residence. It had just been purchased from a Dodge  
16 dealership in Fort Bend County, the Stafford area in  
17 Calvin Ward's name. And I had gotten Mr. Young, the  
18 co-defendant, identified as purchasing that vehicle.

19 Q. And although this has not been opened, State's  
20 Exhibit No. 2004, something from Wachovia Bank in the  
21 name of Calvin Ward at that same address, I guess this  
22 could be his -- maybe his payment book or something like  
23 that, huh (indicating)?

24 A. Yes. He also has an account with Conn's that  
25 he didn't know about where electronics were purchased.

1 And I believe that may have been in some of that  
2 evidence.

3 Q. Do you know who -- this sheet of paper marked  
4 2011, State's Exhibit 2011, do you know who Tanisha Burr  
5 is? What information is that on there (indicating)?

6 A. That's Tanisha Burr's identifying information,  
7 her driver's license number, her I.D. number.

8 Q. If you're an I.D. thief, why is it important to  
9 have a person's height and color of eyes and expiration  
10 date? Why is that important?

11 A. To make a counterfeit driver's license.

12 Q. With that person's name?

13 A. With that person's name.

14 Q. Who's face do you want on it?

15 A. In Tanisha Burr's, I would think the defendant  
16 would put her face on that, or whomever is committing  
17 the crime.

18 Q. Whoever is using the fake I.D., right?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. This was found in the home as well?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. There's a baggy marked State's Exhibit No. 2005  
23 that has a large number of cards in it. Let's talk  
24 about some of those cards. First of all, this is --  
25 what it says is a state of North Carolina identification

1 card. Is that a real state of North Carolina  
2 identification card (indicating)?

3 A. That is not a real card, but it looks like a  
4 North Carolina state identification card.

5 Q. And for clarification, 2006, you did not find  
6 this sheet of paper in the house, correct (indicating)?

7 A. That's correct. That was something we had  
8 pulled off the computer to compare to what was found in  
9 the house.

10 Q. To see if, in fact, they had attempted to make  
11 something that looked like a genuine government  
12 document, right?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. And we see that there are certain things that  
15 match. The format is the same, big picture, small  
16 vehicle, vehicle in the background, et cetera, et cetera  
17 (indicating)?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. But to be clear, 2006 is something you pulled  
20 off the Internet for comparison purposes?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Also in the same bag, State's Exhibit No. 2005,  
23 we have a Wachovia check card in the name of Calvin Ward  
24 and a Premier Mastercard in the name of Calvin Ward; is  
25 that correct (indicating)?

1           A.    That's correct.

2           Q.    And by the way, do you recall enough to tell us  
3 where these items were found?

4           A.    I'm -- I'd have to look at the bag, the item,  
5 to itemize them.

6           Q.    Well, let's go on.  Also in that bag you have a  
7 series of these Visa gift cards valued at \$100 apiece.  
8 One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight \$100 in  
9 Visa cards there.  Tell us in the context of this type  
10 of crime, how does this make sense?  Why would you  
11 expect to find this if someone is in full-blown identity  
12 theft (indicating)?

13          A.    What happens in identity theft cases, the  
14 defendants go in and use somebody else's personal  
15 information to obtain credit and do a return, get cash  
16 back.  Many merchants give you cash back in the form of  
17 gift cards, debit cards like this.  It's another way of  
18 receiving the cash back.  If they get cash, the  
19 defendants use that cash to buy gift cards that they  
20 could actually give to their friends or sell to their  
21 friends that also were in this type of crime or involved  
22 in this type of crime.

23          Q.    Is it easier or harder, if you know, to trace  
24 gift cards from a law enforcement perspective?

25          A.    It's harder to trace gift card.



1 Q. So, in essence, it would be a pretty effective  
2 way to launder money?

3 A. That's correct.

4 MR. BREWER: May I approach the witness,  
5 Your Honor?

6 THE COURT: You may.

7 Q. (By Mr. Brewer) I'm showing you what has been  
8 marked as State's Exhibit 2013, the contents of 2013.  
9 Can you just tell us if those are additional items that  
10 were recovered at the scene (indicating)?

11 A. Yes, they are.

12 MR. BREWER: I'll offer State's Exhibit  
13 2013 in evidence, Your Honor. I'll show it to defense  
14 counsel.

15 **(State's Exhibit No. 2013 Offered)**

16 MR. SASSER: No objection, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Admitted without objection.

18 **(State's Exhibit No. 2013 Admitted)**

19 Q. (By Mr. Brewer) And can you just tell us some  
20 of the things that you found in -- first of all, where  
21 were the items in the envelope marked 2013, where were  
22 those items found (indicating)?

23 A. These items were found in the single-car  
24 garage.

25 Q. You talked to us about a double-car garage.

1 This house had a double-car garage and single-car garage  
2 as well?

3 A. The single-car garage is where the two  
4 motorcycles were parked.

5 Q. Tell us about some of the contents of that  
6 envelope.

7 A. We have a credit report.

8 Q. Why would that be useful for people  
9 committing -- credit report for who first?

10 A. Credit report for Mr. Yee living out of Sierra  
11 Madre, California.

12 Q. Why would that be useful?

13 A. To apply for credit in his name.

14 Q. Continue.

15 A. A residential loan application, receipts from  
16 various stores, Macy's, Walmarts. This was a check  
17 stolen out of the mail to a Prescott Legal Professionals  
18 made payable to Douglas Stockton.

19 Q. Did you ever talk to Mr. Stockton?

20 A. We talked -- we did talk to Stockton. What  
21 happened was this check was stolen and a counterfeit  
22 driver's license with the defendant Young who he had  
23 made a counterfeit driver's license that looked like  
24 they were fixing -- or he was fixing to go cash this  
25 check or pass a check.

1                   There's also driver's licenses in here that  
2 were stolen in burglaries along with credit cards. And  
3 more credit cards and a few gift cards.

4           Q.    While you're looking through that, one of the  
5 vehicles you found in the garage did it have -- is this  
6 some additional paperwork receipts and things that you  
7 found (indicating)?

8           A.    Yes.

9                   MR. BREWER:  May I approach the witness,  
10 Your Honor?

11                   THE COURT:  You may.

12           Q.    (By Mr. Brewer) I show you what's been marked  
13 State's Exhibit 2014.  This is a photograph of -- a  
14 photograph taken out of the house during the search  
15 (indicating)?

16           A.    Yes.

17                   MR. BREWER:  I'll show State's Exhibit 2014  
18 to defense counsel.

19                   **(State's Exhibit No. 2014 Offered)**

20                   MR. SASSER:  No objection.

21                   THE COURT:  Admitted without objection.

22                   **(State's Exhibit No. 2014 Admitted)**

23           Q.    (By Mr. Brewer) Sergeant Gorski, let me show  
24 you State's Exhibit 2014 and see if I can get you to  
25 identify where this came from (indicating).

1           A.    That was a photograph of -- a photograph taken  
2 in the living room of the residence that the defendant  
3 was living in.

4           Q.    Who is in that photograph?

5           A.    The defendant, the co-defendant Shawn Young,  
6 the defendant's daughter.

7           Q.    That's Lauren Roper?

8           A.    Lauren Roper.

9           Q.    Her here in the pink (indicating)?

10          A.    Yes.  And the individual next to her, I'm not  
11 sure who that person was.  I tried to find out who the  
12 person was without success.  And the other individual I  
13 believe to be Tamra Turner.

14          Q.    Of those people we already know about the  
15 defendant, Mr. Young.  We also know about the defendant.  
16 Is Ms. Turner also part of this whole scheme?

17          A.    That's correct.

18          Q.    Is she going to be charged as well?

19          A.    Yes, she is.

20          Q.    If you know, what else -- was there anything  
21 significant going on in Hawaii that might have attracted  
22 the attention of this defendant and Mr. Young in  
23 February of 2009?  Other than the stores, credit cards,  
24 and other people's money, things like that.  Any events?

25          A.    The Pro Bowl.

1 Q. And what is the Pro Bowl?

2 A. It's where -- pro football players go play the  
3 Pro Bowl in Hawaii every year. And in my conversation  
4 with Mr. Young, I believe, he had made mention they were  
5 there --

6 MR. SASSER: Objection. Hearsay, Your  
7 Honor.

8 THE COURT: Sustained.

9 Q. (By Mr. Brewer) Let me try to get one thing  
10 straight. There are some rumors of Mr. Young having  
11 played pro football for the Texans. Anything to that?

12 A. Nothing to that. I had that checked out  
13 through the NFL director of security for the Texans. He  
14 in no way was affiliated with any NFL team, any NFL pro  
15 team.

16 Q. Period, including the practice club?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. Did y'all have an opportunity at some point to  
19 look up the defendant in this case -- and there's a  
20 database you can use to find out if a person has been  
21 working, correct?

22 A. That is correct.

23 Q. Did you or did someone else look the defendant  
24 up to see if -- during this time period of all this  
25 investigation to see if the defendant was employed?

1           A.    We could not determine that the defendant was  
2 ever employed.

3                       MR. BREWER:   Pass the witness, Your Honor.

4                       THE COURT:   All right.   Cross-examination.

5                                       **CROSS-EXAMINATION**

6 **BY MR. SASSER:**

7           Q.    The two accounts, the Slinkard account and  
8 Wright account --

9           A.    Yes.

10          Q.    -- the Wright account was opened by Shawn  
11 Young; is that correct?

12          A.    That's correct.   That account was opened on the  
13 2nd of February.

14          Q.    Do you know who opened that account?

15          A.    I believe Mr. Young opened the account.

16          Q.    And when you say you believe, are you sure or  
17 what is your percentage of being sure when you say that?

18          A.    I believe the video shows he and Ms. Bailey  
19 were both there.   I haven't seen the video in awhile.  
20 I'd have to look at the video piece by piece to look at  
21 it again.

22          Q.    Actually, in the video I think we see Mr. Young  
23 and we see Ms. Bailey.   We also see -- I believe you  
24 said her name was Tamra?

25          A.    Tamra Turner.

1 Q. -- Tamra Turner, the lady in the middle. We  
2 see her there on February 2nd also, right, in the  
3 Nordstrom's?

4 A. That was on February 7th at Nordstrom's. Are  
5 you talking about the Hawaii incident?

6 Q. When the account was opened, the day the  
7 account was opened at Nordstrom's.

8 A. Slinkard or Wright?

9 Q. Slinkard.

10 A. Slinkard was opened on the 7th in Hawaii.

11 Q. At Nordstrom's?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And when was the Wright account opened?

14 A. On the 2nd in Dallas.

15 Q. Okay. All right. You're right. So, we see  
16 the Wright account being opened in Dallas. Is the  
17 Slinkard account the one that was opened up in Hawaii?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. And do you know who opened that account?

20 A. My belief is that the accounts were -- that  
21 account was opened by Tamra Turner and that they all  
22 obtained merchandise from that account, along with the  
23 Wright account.

24 Q. Okay. And the gift cards you were showing  
25 John, all the gift cards, I believe they were

1 hundred-dollar gift cards, were you testifying about  
2 that, about the scam, how the scam is done; or are you  
3 saying those cards -- you can prove they were actually  
4 bought with other people's credit cards?

5 A. I was just explaining how the scam was done.

6 Q. I mean, those gift cards, you don't have any  
7 direct route to the fraudulent credit cards; you're  
8 saying it's a possibility?

9 A. Right, that's --

10 Q. All that property that you were showing from  
11 the house where you searched, was all that property --  
12 can you attribute all that property to the defendant?

13 A. I would say between the both of them,  
14 between --

15 Q. All those credit cards you had out there that  
16 you were shuffling through, I'm not sure -- the exhibits  
17 of all those cards were of other people other than Shawn  
18 Young and LaJuan Bailey?

19 A. That's correct. These are in other people's  
20 names. I believe these are cards that were stolen in  
21 burglaries, some of these.

22 Q. I'm sorry. Stolen where?

23 A. Some of these cards were stolen in burglaries.

24 Q. Okay. Okay. But, I mean, you don't have any  
25 way of linking those to this defendant, do you, other



1 than they were found in the house shared by her and  
2 Shawn Young, correct?

3 A. That's correct. I have not personally linked  
4 every one of these cards to the defendant.

5 MR. SASSER: Pass the witness, Your Honor.

6 MR. BREWER: Pass the witness, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right. May this person be  
8 excused?

9 MR. BREWER: Absolutely, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Sergeant, thank you.

11 MR. BREWER: May the State call the next  
12 witness, Your Honor. It will short. May we approach?

13 (At the Bench, on the record)

14 MR. BREWER: The next witness would just be  
15 a complainant, so I've thrown up there typical stuff,  
16 how they did this, I'd say 15 minutes.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. BREWER: I don't have to, but it might  
19 be convenient.

20 THE COURT: Convenient for the witness?

21 MR. BREWER: That's for sure. Any  
22 objections?

23 MR. SASSER: None at all.

24 (Open court, defendant and jury present)

25 MR. BREWER: For the record, State calls