

1 please.

2 (Witness sworn.)

3 THE WITNESS: I do.

4 THE COURT: All right. Feel free to  
5 walk over here and adjust the chair and microphone.  
6 The rule has been invoked. You know about that,  
7 right?

8 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: Answer as directly as you  
10 can.

11 You may proceed.

12 MS. DEANGELO: Thank you, Judge.

13 **PAUL OUZENNE,**  
14 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

15 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

16 BY MS. DEANGELO:

17 Q Would you introduce yourself to the jury?

18 A I am Deputy Ouzenne with the Harris County  
19 Sheriff's Office.

20 Q And what do you do for the Harris County  
21 Sheriff's Office?

22 A Respond to calls, any crimes that's been  
23 committed in Harris County, just public service.

24 Q And are you a certified peace officer in the  
25 State of Texas?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q How long have you been a police officer?

3 A Approximately six years.

4 Q What sort of training and experience have  
5 you had in order to be a police officer?

6 A I went to the academy, graduated, went  
7 through certified schools also, intox...

8 Q What particular division are you assigned  
9 to?

10 A District 4, patrol evenings.

11 Q And is that the same division that you were  
12 assigned to back on January 15th of 2011?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q What shift were you working at that time?

15 A Evenings, 2:00 to 10:00, 2:00 p.m. to  
16 10:00 p.m.

17 Q And in what area of town did your district  
18 cover?

19 A Houston, Cypress, and Katy area.

20 Q On January 15th of 2011, were you called out  
21 to a death investigation?

22 A Yes, ma'am.

23 Q Where did you get called out to?

24 A It's going to be 2131 Garden Landing Drive.

25 Q And is that location in Harris County,

1 Texas?

2 A Yes, ma'am.

3 Q What time did the call come in?

4 A The call came in approximately at 1430  
5 hours.

6 Q So that's about 2:30 in the afternoon?

7 A Yes, ma'am, 2:30.

8 Q What time did you get to the house?

9 A At 2:51 approximately.

10 Q What was happening when you got there?

11 A EMS was called out. Family, friend, three  
12 people was there prior to my arrival, along with the  
13 ambulance.

14 Q Okay. So three friends or family members?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q As well as EMS?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q So you were the first police officer on the  
19 scene?

20 A First, yes, ma'am.

21 Q Was EMS tending to the victim when you got  
22 there?

23 A EMS had already attended to her prior to my  
24 arrival.

25 Q And was she dead when you got there?

1 A She was deceased, yes, ma'am.

2 Q Now, did you have an opportunity to observe  
3 the body?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q Okay. What did you observe?

6 A I observed the deceased lying on the -- on  
7 the floor in the garage, head pointing north and face  
8 facing east.

9 Q Did you notice any particular injury?

10 A Yes, ma'am, the complainant had a pool of  
11 blood, coagulated blood underneath her. She also had  
12 blood on her clothes also.

13 Q And could you tell what kind of injury she  
14 suffered?

15 A No, ma'am. I just seen blood underneath her  
16 body and possibly a lot of coagulated blood  
17 underneath her head, but -- you know.

18 Q Did you see any weapons in the garage?

19 A No, ma'am.

20 Q Any obvious weapons around her body?

21 A No, ma'am.

22 Q Did you -- after going through the garage,  
23 did you go in the house?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What was the purpose of going into the

1 house?

2 A To secure the scene. Make sure there's no  
3 victims or possible suspects in the residence.

4 Q And did you go through the entire house?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Was there anybody inside?

7 A No, ma'am.

8 Q At some point, did other patrol officers  
9 come to assist you?

10 A That's correct, yes, ma'am, to help me  
11 search the residence.

12 Q Okay. How many officers were searching the  
13 residence with you?

14 A Two, along with myself.

15 Q And did the three of you secure the crime  
16 scene?

17 A Yes, ma'am.

18 Q How did you go about securing the crime  
19 scene?

20 A Made sure evidence tape was put on the scene  
21 to keep the area secure.

22 Q When you say "evidence tape," is that the  
23 yellow crime scene tape like we see on TV?

24 A Yes, ma'am, crime scene tape.

25 Q Were there any vehicles at the scene?

1 A None.

2 Q Did you learn what kind of vehicle the  
3 victim drove?

4 A Yes, ma'am.

5 Q What kind of vehicle did she drive?

6 A A 2010 Chevy Camaro.

7 Q Okay. And the Camaro was not there?

8 A No, ma'am.

9 Q While you were on the scene, were you able  
10 to get assistance from OnStar in order to locate that  
11 vehicle?

12 A Yes, that's correct.

13 Q Where was the vehicle located?

14 A The vehicle was located 1470 Melbourne  
15 Street (phonetic).

16 Q What part of town is that in?

17 A It's in Harris County also.

18 Q What part of Harris County?

19 A I believe in the northeast -- northeast,  
20 District 3, yes, ma'am.

21 Q So is that close to or far from the home?

22 A Far.

23 Q Okay. Did anything unusual happen while you  
24 were out there at the crime scene?

25 A Yes, ma'am. I received a phone call from

1 Ms. Sonier.

2 Q From Ms. Sonier. How did she get in contact  
3 with you?

4 A She called Harris County concerned about the  
5 deceased.

6 Q Okay. When you say she called Harris  
7 County, you mean like dispatch?

8 A Yes, ma'am, dispatch, 911, or the  
9 nonemergency number.

10 Q Okay. And the kind of call that she made,  
11 what was that called? What was she asking for?

12 A Welfare check.

13 Q Okay. And what is a welfare check?

14 A It's basically when someone's concerned  
15 about someone's welfare. They feel that they may be  
16 in danger or experienced some kind of harm. So we  
17 check on their welfare to make sure they're okay.

18 Q And who was Ms. Sonier calling in a welfare  
19 check for?

20 A For the deceased.

21 Q And did you personally speak with  
22 Ms. Sonier?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q And were you able to learn why she was  
25 concerned?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

2 Q Okay. How many times did you talk to her?

3 A I talked to her twice. She called Harris  
4 County twice.

5 Q Okay. Based on your conversations with  
6 Ms. Sonier, were you able to learn the name of a  
7 potential suspect in the case?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q And who was that?

10 A It's going to be Joe Shaw.

11 Q Okay. Did you learn that Mr. Shaw lived at  
12 that particular residence?

13 A Yes, ma'am.

14 Q Okay. Did you find him at that residence?

15 A No, ma'am.

16 Q Okay. Did you manage to get a cell phone  
17 number for Mr. Shaw?

18 A Yes, ma'am.

19 Q Did you try to get in touch with Mr. Shaw  
20 while you were at the scene?

21 A Yes, ma'am.

22 Q And did you?

23 A No. I left a message for him. That's it.

24 Q Okay. So you called but there was no  
25 answer?



1 A None.

2 Q Okay. Did he ever call you back?

3 A No, ma'am.

4 Q Once you and the two other deputies secured  
5 the scene, did any other officers arrive?

6 A Yes, ma'am. Sergeant, supervisor, and also  
7 crime scene and homicide.

8 Q Okay. Once the crime scene unit and the  
9 homicide detectives made the scene, did you  
10 communicate with them?

11 A Of course, yes, ma'am.

12 Q Okay. And did you tell them everything you  
13 had learned from speaking with Ms. Sonier?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. Now, as a patrol officer, once  
16 homicide and the crime scene gets there, what is your  
17 role?

18 A Just to assist them, and that's it. I'm no  
19 longer primary.

20 Q Once you kind of turned the scene over to  
21 them, did you have any further involvement in the  
22 case?

23 A Yes, ma'am.

24 Q What was that?

25 A Ms. Sonier called again in reference to

1 Mr. Joe Shaw trying to contact her.

2 Q She called and told -- and -- and  
3 communicated to you that the defendant was trying to  
4 contact her?

5 A Yes, ma'am.

6 Q Okay. And did you also relay that  
7 information to the detectives?

8 A Yes, ma'am.

9 Q Other than that, did you have any further  
10 involvement?

11 A No.

12 MS. DEANGELO: Pass the witness, Your  
13 Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right. Any questions?

15 MR. VILLARREAL: I have no questions,  
16 Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: All right. May this  
18 witness be excused?

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20 MS. DEANGELO: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: All right. Thank you,  
22 Deputy.

23 THE WITNESS: All right.

24 THE COURT: What says the State.

25 MS. DEANGELO: The State calls Deputy

1 Zavala.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 THE BAILIFF: He has not been sworn,  
4 Judge.

5 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

6 Good afternoon, Deputy. Raise your  
7 right hand, please.

8 (Witness sworn.)

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: All right. Feel free to  
11 adjust the chair and microphone over here, and just  
12 answer as directly as you can. And also, the rule  
13 has been invoked. You know about that?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: All right. You may  
16 proceed.

17 MS. DEANGELO: Thank you, Judge.

18 **JESUS ZAVALA,**  
19 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

20 **DIRECT EXAMINATION**

21 BY MS. DEANGELO:

22 Q Would you introduce yourself to the jury?

23 A Officer Jesus Zavala.

24 Q What do you do for a living?

25 A I work for the Houston Police Department.