JOSE PENA,

having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. EPLEY:

- Q. Can you please introduce yourself to the ladies and gentlemen of the jury?
- A. My name is Jose Pena and I've been a Houston police officer for the last 13 years and I'm assigned to the crime scene unit. Been there for about five years.
- Q. Do you need any special education or training in order to be a part of the crime scene unit at HPD?
- A. You do. There is a process, a selection process for crime scene investigators where you do a rotation for about a month at the unit and then there is a selection process where you interview and based on your background, experience that you have as far as classes and training, then you're selected at that point.

Once you are selected into the unit, you go under the wing of a senior CSU. You're on probation for about a year. And while you're on probation, they are taking you by the hand step-by-step how to take photographs, how to collect evidence, how to document evidence and so on.

Q. And what about -- where did you grow up?

I grew up on the north side of Houston, Texas. 1 Α. 2 I emigrated here from Mexico at seven years of age in 1977. 3 And after high school, did you get any more 4 O. 5 schooling? 6 Α. No, I did not. I did join the military and I 7 was part of the United States Army for six and a half 8 years and I did a tour in Kuwait and also served in 9 Croatia and Hungary and Bosnia for about ten months. 10 After your tour in the United States military, what made you want to be a police officer? 11 12 Well, my decision to be a police officer goes back before that. 13 14 MS. VALENTINE: Objection, relevance. THE COURT: Overruled. 15 16 My decision to be a police officer was made 17 when I was 13 years old. As I stated, I grew up in the 18 north side area, by the Fifth Ward area. I don't know 19 if some of you are familiar with it or not. 20 And my dad was robbed and after that -after that, I decided I wanted to be police officer. 21 22 Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) You need a moment, Officer? 23 Α. No. 24 I hadn't asked you that question before today, Ο. have I? 25

Jose Pena - May 1, 2012 Direct Examination by Ms. Epley

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No, ma'am. (Officer loses composure.)
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         Α.
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                   MR. MARTIN: Maybe we can take a break or
 3
     something, Judge?
                   THE COURT: Do you need a break.
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                   THE WITNESS: No. I'm okay.
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                   THE COURT: Okay.
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              (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, after becoming a
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     member of the crime scene unit, do you work a particular
     shift?
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         Α.
              Yes, I do. I work the night shift.
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              And were you working on May 5th, 2011?
         Q.
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         Α.
              I was, yes, ma'am.
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         Q.
              Were you working the night shift that night as
     well?
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         Α.
              I was.
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         Q.
              Do you recall at some point receiving a phone
     call in regards to this case?
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              I did. I received a call from Sergeant Graley
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         Α.
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     (phonetic) at about 232 hours. That's 2:32 in the
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     morning.
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              And at some point did you arrive at this crime
         Ο.
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     scene.
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              I did at 3:47. I was dispatched to 12600
         Α.
24
     Dunlap to the Pines of Westbury apartment complex.
25
         Q.
             And that's in Harris County, Texas?
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A. Yes, ma'am.

- Q. Officer, why would it take a little over an hour for you to arrive?
- A. In these cases we have to gather our equipment, load up the vehicle. I work out of the downtown office, the headquarters at 1200 Travis, and this is located down the southwest side or sector of Houston, Texas.

 So, it's quite a ways off.
- Q. When a Crime Scene Unit responds to a scene, what are the goals? What are you trying to achieve?
- A. When we arrive at a scene, what we're trying to get is basic information from the officers. The officers have already done the hard part for us. That's basically push the people back, set up the crime scene tape and establish a crime scene for us. At some point if they have enough time to where they go and locate evidence for us, make our job a little bit easier.

What I am trying to do when I get there is talk to the primary officer, get the information down and then tour the scene with them. When I mean tour the scene with them, I go to the locations where the evidence is located or what we think at that point is evidence that we might need. And basically I walk the location from end to end.

Q. And I'm going to pause for just a moment.

Officer, did you work last night? 1 I didn't. I took off. I have a couple days on 2 Α. vacation. 3 So, you were able to get some sleep? 4 Ο. 5 Α. Oh, yes, ma'am. 6 Ο. So, when you arrive at the crime scene unit, 7 you want to get basic information, make sure the tape is 8 set up, the evidence is identified? That's correct. Α. 10 Ο. Are those the procedures that you took on May 5th, 2011? 11 12 Α. Yes, ma'am. 13 Ο. Let's start from the beginning. When you first 14 arrived at 12600 Dunlap Street, what is the first thing you see? 15 16 I see the scene has already been secured. that, what I mean, they have officers on either end of 17 the scene because it is an extensive scene that curves 18 19 around an apartment building. And you're looking at a 20 location that's about 50 feet in one direction and about 150 feet in another direction. And the officers have 21 22 already secured the scene. And there are primary 23 officers there at the scene that I meet with. 24 Okay. You said you try to get basic 0.

information from the primary officers. What kind of

1 information?

- A. The information I usually get from them is the case number. I verify the location. If I didn't see the name of the complex on the way in, I verify that as well. And if I am not familiar with all the areas of town, I verify which direction is north and as long as two of us are in agreement, then that's what we start using. And, of course, as I discussed earlier, by touring the scene and making notes of evidence.
- Q. You will notice that State's Exhibit 2 is up on the screen beside you. We had a little confusion earlier and since you just mentioned directions, I thought you could help us.

Can you see the screen well enough for me to ask you a question or should I bring the from up to you?

- A. No, that's fine.
 - Q. Okay. Can you please identify which direction is north on this map?
 - A. The location on here should be -- is this Fonmeadow up here?
 - Q. You're going to need the --
 - A. Is this Fonmeadow down here?
- Q. This is Main. This is Fonmeadow here.
- 25 A. That would be north.

1 Q. Fonmeadow?

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- A. Yes. And this location here.
- Q. This is north?
- A. Correct. And Fonmeadow is an east-and-west street.
 - Q. When you arrive, Officer, is the victim, Walter Moore, still on the scene?
- A. No, ma'am. He had been transported by medical personnel.
- Q. When you arrived, what type of crime do you think that you're investigating?
- 12 A. I'm investigating a murder at this point as far as I know.
- Q. Were you able to identify any witnesses on the scene?
- 16 A. No, ma'am.
- 17 Q. What about evidence?
- A. Evidence, there was some evidence already
 located by the officers, as I stated. There was
 clothing and some coins and a hat and an extensive
 amount of blood. And we also ended up with some casings
 and a fired bullet towards the end.
- Q. Now, Officer, in addition to looking at individual items, do you guys have a way to kind of summarize the evidence at the scene?

Summarize? Do you by --1 Α. Like a diagram, for example? 2 O. 3 Α. Oh, yes, ma'am. May I approach the witness? 4 MS. EPLEY: 5 THE COURT: You may. 6 0. (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, I'm showing you 7 what's been marked as State's Exhibit 3. Do you 8 recognize this document? 9 Yes, ma'am. It's a copy of the finished Α. diagram that I made at the scene. 10 11 Okay. And without going into the contents, 12 would you say that this fairly and accurately depicts 13 the scene as you saw it that day? It does, yes, ma'am. 14 Α. 15 MS. EPLEY: State offers State's Exhibit 3 16 and tenders to opposing counsel. 17 THE COURT: Any objections? 18 MS. VALENTINE: No objections. THE COURT: State's Exhibit 3 is admitted 19 20 without objection. 21 (BY MS. EPLEY) Now, Officer, do you think it 0. 22 would be better in helping the jury understand evidence 23 if they looked at the diagram first or if we go through the individual evidence first and then the diagram? 24 25 Α. Whichever you please. The diagram depicts

- about the location of the evidence. It's up to you,
 ma'am.
 - Q. Let's start with the first piece of evidence that you found. Let's actually go through the evidence in the way they were marked.
 - A. Yes, ma'am.
 - Q. Comfortable with that?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

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- Q. So, tell me what's the first thing you found.
- A. The first thing should have been a hat with a coin or a penny, a U.S. penny that was out there. And that should have been on the southwest corner of the complex.
- 14 MS. EPLEY: Your Honor, may I approach the witness again?
- 16 THE COURT: You may.
- Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, I'm going to show what's been marked as State's Exhibit 4 through 29.

 Would you take a moment and look at each of these
- 20 individually?
- A. Ma'am, these are all copies of photos I took at the scene that night.
- Q. Do they fairly and accurately depict the things that they're intended to depict in each and every one of those photographs?

- A. They do, yes, ma'am.

 Q. Okay. I'm going to set these aside for just a
 - moment and I'm going to show you State's Exhibit 31, 36 through 46 -- let me say that again. State's 31, 36, then 37 straight through to 46.
 - A. These are all copies of photos I took that night.
 - Q. Do they fairly and accurately depict the items displayed therein?
 - A. They do, yes.
- MS. EPLEY: At this time, Your Honor, the

 State offers State's Exhibit 4 through 29, State's

 Exhibit 31 and State's Exhibit 36 through 46 and tenders
- 14 to opposing counsel.
- 15 MS. VALENTINE: No objection.
- 16 THE COURT: Then State's Exhibit 4 through
- 17 | 29, 31 and 36 through 46 are admitted.
- 18 MS. EPLEY: Permission to publish, Your
- 19 Honor?

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- THE COURT: You may.
- Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, I'm going to
 start with the markings. You have a copy of the diagram
- 23 in front of you, correct?
- A. I do, yes, ma'am.
- Q. Okay. I'm going to start with the markings in

terms of the exhibit number and then I'll give you the marking number, or at least identify what they relate to.

A. Yes, ma'am.

- Q. First we have Marking 1, State's Exhibit 4. Do you know what this is?
- A. Yes, ma'am. That's a hat. Once -- you don't see it on the photo, but once the hat is picked up, the penny is around that location as well.
- Q. Okay. And approximately where was this in terms of the apartment complex parking lot?
- A. It was hard in this apartment complex, for one reason, the buildings for some reason didn't have any numbers and I couldn't get ahold of anybody during my course of the investigation or at a later date to get building numbers. But it is on the southwest corner of the apartment complex.
- Q. Okay. Quickly, I'm going to show the jury what's been marked State's Exhibit 3. This is the diagram we were referencing a moment ago, correct?
 - A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
- Q. To get a reference point, we spoke about the map in regards to the southwest corner of the complex.

 Do you agree with me that's here?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- Q. This space here is the parking lot?
- A. That's correct.

- Q. What is going up to this line here?
- A. That's the sidewalk and this is the building here. And this is another building. As I put on that diagram, there is no building number.
- Q. And Items 18 and 19 are up here -- and I'll explain those to the jury in a moment -- in the upper right-hand corner, what area is this?
 - A. That's the north middle sector of the complex.
- Q. Okay. If the jury heard earlier that the blood traveled from the original point east and then north, do you -- is this where the markings go in regards to your diagram?
- A. That's correct. The blood trail starts somewhere around here where No. 5 is and travels all the way up here to No. 19 in that location, in this direction here.
- Q. Now, Officer, when we look at State's Exhibit 4, the hat, and you referred to the southwest corner of the complex, is this the first item of marking?
 - A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. After the hat, what is Marking 2 shown in State's Exhibit 5?
- 25 A. That's a piece of paper that the officer put

- down with two pebbles to keep the paper down. What
 we're actually focusing on is this right here, the spent
 casing.
 - Q. The circled item is a spent casing?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

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- Q. And, I'm sorry, I was a little distracted. What are these on the paper?
- A. Just a piece of paper that the officers -- the first responders put down to identify evidence.
 - Q. Okay. What about Marking 3, State's Exhibit 6?
- 11 A. It's another casing and as you can see, I put
 12 the tent marker or yellow marker over the paper and
 13 that's the casing there.
 - Q. Are those items actually collected from the scene?
- 16 A. Yes, I collected them.
- 17 THE COURT: Are you able to tell what caliber they are with?
- 19 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. They were .32.
- 20 .32 autos.
- Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) Were you able to determine what caliber of bullet the casings were in Marking 2 and 3 shown in State's Exhibit 5 and 6?
- $24 \mid A$. Yes, ma'am. They are .32 auto.
- Q. That's something you were able to tell at the

1 scene?

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- A. All you have to do is take a casing, wearing gloves of course, and look at the back of the casing.
- Q. And after looking at the casing determining that it was a .32, did you recover it?
 - A. I did, yes, ma'am.
 - Q. Were those items brought to court today?
- A. They were. At your request I have them in that package back there in the room.
- Q. Okay. We'll come back to the packages in a moment. We're going to do the photographs for now.
- We have State's Exhibit 7, Marking No. 4.
- 13 What is this?
- A. This is an area where blood is located. You see here the dark spots, it's all blood in this location here.
 - Q. And, Officer, was this found near any other items?
 - A. Yes, ma'am. That's in close proximity to No. 5 and, of course, No. 3, which are in close proximity to those. The spent casing is No. 3 and then No. 5 is where the blood trail begins.
 - Q. Referring back to State's Exhibit 3, the diagram, if here is 1 and 1A, the penny and the hat; 2 and 3, the casings; 4 is in the same general area as the

- 1 other evidence that begins the case, correct?
 - A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
- Q. Okay. What is shown in Marker No. 5, State's Exhibit 8?
- 5 A. It's more small drops of the blood. All that 6 you see here, blood.
 - O. Same for Marker 6 in State's 9?
 - A. That's correct.

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- 9 Q. Now, give the jury some perspective. I'm
 10 showing you State's Exhibit 10. In looking at this
 11 item, if we zoom in, do you agree this is Marker 6 -- 5
 12 and 6, the blood?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. Marker 1, the hat, which you can see in the diagram?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Two and 3, the casing; and 4, the beginning of the blood?
- 19 A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
 - Q. Okay. After leaving the parking lot, where does the blood trail lead next?
 - A. It goes on to the sidewalk that's north to south sidewalk between the buildings and continues on from there from No. 10, but from 5 to 10 is in the parking lot area.

- Q. Okay. So, going through these quickly, State's Exhibit 11, 12, 13 here, and 14, which takes us through Marker 10, all depict blood leading from the parking lot to the sidewalk.
 - A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
- Q. Okay. Referring back to State's Exhibit 3, we've concluded the travel through the parking lot and we're now headed up to this walkway, correct?
 - A. That's correct, ma'am.
 - Q. What's the first marker here?
- 11 A. The first marker should be No. 10, that cluster of photographs that you see there.
 - Q. From 10 to 15?

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- A. That's going to be additional blood. The blood trail travels all the way from No. 5 all the way to No. 17.
- Q. Yes, sir. Showing you State's Exhibit 20, do you recognize this?
 - A. Yes, ma'am. It was a continuation of the blood and, of course, as you go more north on the sidewalk, it is more clusters, it's more blood leaking out of somebody in this case. That's why you have a bigger cluster.
- Q. Officer, you refer to the blood that the complaining witness in this case, Walter Moore, is

- 1 losing. Have you been on scenes that have blood before?
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q. On few or many occasions?
- A. Many occasions. I've worked over 400 homicide cases either by myself or with other CSUs and I would say maybe about 150 scenes where we had extensive amount of blood.
- Q. In your training and experience, is this amount of blood a small or a large amount for one individual to lose?
- 11 A. It's a large amount.
- Q. Looking at State's Exhibit 20, this is leading up to a walkway to a door?
- 14 A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
- 15 | 0. In regards to No. 17.
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Are we yet at the place where the complaining witness, Walter Moore, is going to collapse?
- 19 A. We are not, no, ma'am.
- Q. State's Exhibit 22?
- A. This is more blood and you see also footprints or shoe prints within the blood at these locations here.
- 23 That's why it looks like that.
- Q. Now, these shoe prints, were you able to determine whose they were?

Yes. Later on, you can see a photograph where 1 Α. 2 there is a shoe print and a shoe with it. And we 3 determined that they belonged to the complainant, Mr. Moore. 4 5 Officer, I'm going to show you what's been Ο. marked State's Exhibit 31. Is that the photograph you 6 7 were just referencing? 8 Α. Yes, ma'am. 9 Okay. How can you tell the footprints were the Q. 10 same? If you look at the markings on the shoe and the 11 12 blood, of course, more testing has to be done, but, you know, for easy reference, we put the shoe next to the 13 14 blood print here and it kind of sort of matches. Testing has to be done later, but I don't think it was 15 16 done in this case. 17 THE COURT: Do you think you're going to 18 be much longer? I mean, I want to give the jury a break 19 right now, afternoon break, if you want one. And Myrna 20 is -- I promised her we would break every hour and a half. 21 22 So, why don't we take a quick break and we'll come back out. 23 24 So, all rise for the jury. 25 (Jury out.)

All right. We're still with 1 THE COURT: 2 Ms. Epley on direct. 3 MS. EPLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. (BY MS. EPLEY) You had explained to the jury 4 0. 5 how you could tell the footprints belonged to the 6 complainant, correct? 7 That's correct, that particular shoe, ma'am. Α. 8 Ο. Let me ask this differently. Where was the shoe that you're holding found? 9 It was not far from that location. If you go 10 back to the previous photo with No. 17 marker on it --11 12 0. If you don't mind, let me show you State's 13 Exhibit 24 instead. And you see Marker No. 19 here. That's correct. The shoes are located in this 14 Α. location and this area back here would be the little 15 16 area in front of the apartment where No. 17 was with all the excessive blood around this area here. 17 18 Q. Why would a person's clothes be cut off the 19 body and left here? 20 Α. That's probably developed by Houston Fire Department a couple years ago. We had issues where the 21 22 complainant was shot or stabbed and was taken to a 23 hospital and then the clothing comes up missing once 24 they get there and we couldn't collect it as evidence. 25 So, they usually leave it at the scene for us and that's 1 what they did, as I understand.

- Q. Okay. So, the pair of blue jeans, the black button-up shirt and the brown leather shoes, who do you understand them to belong to?
- A. From the person who got shot in this case. It was Mr. Moore.
 - Q. Just to be thorough, because we have gone through Markers 1 through 17 and then 19, what is Marker 18 in State's Exhibit 23?
 - A. It's another piece of clothing that's away from all the blood and everything. We don't know what it is; so, we go ahead and tag it anyway. It was a smaller size T-shirt, I think it was, like, a 10 or 12. So, it didn't match the other clothing. We didn't know where it fit in, but we collected it as evidence.
 - Q. In looking at the totality of the scene,
 Officer Batiste (sic), do you have any reason to think
 Marker 18, the item depicted in State's 23, has
 relevance in this case, now that you've looked at it?
 - A. It does not.
- O. I'm sorry. Officer Pena.
- 22 A. I'm Pena, yes.
- 23 O. Sorry about that.
- 24 A. It's all right.
- Q. Do you have any reason to think that item

1 marked 18, State's Exhibit 23, has a bearing in this 2 case?

- A. Not that I'm aware about and I'm not aware there was any testing done to determine anything on it.
- Q. Thank you. We are going to just about conclude. The markers go through 20, correct?
- A. That's correct, because later on, we find another, what we call fired bullet in this case. It was a bullet jacket that we found later on once we recanvassed the scene towards the end of investigation.
- Q. Okay. Then we'll explain Item No. 20 in just a moment. Let's return to State's Exhibit 3.

If you yourself, then, could explain to the jury, based on your training and experience, what you are able to determine as a crime scene unit on May 5th, 2011, based on the evidence that you have marked?

- A. Because on the evidence at this location, there was a person involved in some type of struggle and that person starting running away from the location and here with No. 5 there, the blood drops start dropping there at that location and also at No. 4. And they increase as he's running in this location and ends up over here by No. 19.
 - Q. Okay. Do you have any reason to think there is

a second victim?

- A. No, ma'am. Based on the blood and the way the blood is running -- and when I say "running," I have to go into the blood spatter analysis of it and that might take about 30 minutes. But in this case, just to simplify, it's just one person running to the location and running up to that location there. And in my experience and my training, the blood is only coming from one person.
- Q. Okay. I'm now going to return you to the physical evidence outside of the blood. And you mentioned an item that's going to be marked or is referenced in the offense report as Item 20. It's State's Exhibit 27. There is no marker number. Why is that?
- A. The reason for that if because once we videotape the scene and once we take photos, sometimes towards the end of the scene, like in this case, we get daylight; so, we recanvass the scene and look for more evidence. In this case, Sergeant McPherson found this bullet jacket in front of that vehicle in the sidewalk area north of that parking lot, the one we've been talking about.
- Q. Now, when you say Sergeant McPherson found it, you don't have any reason to think that he touched it?

- He has instructions specifically from me not to Α. move anything. All the officers and/or investigators who go out there with me, they get those instructions upon arriving at the scene. If they find something, mark it with something, don't touch it. Let me know about it.
 - It's a pretty important rule, correct? Ο.
 - Α. Yes, ma'am.

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- Now, do you have any doubt your officers Q. understand why they are not to touch pieces of evidence?
 - Α. They are aware, ma'am.
- O. Do you have any reason to think that an officer might just go ahead and pick a bullet up anyway?
- Α. We have had situations like that, yes. And in this case, it didn't happen.
- Q. Okay. And you would agree with me that it doesn't happen often?
 - Α. It doesn't happen often, no, ma'am.
- And here, State's Exhibit 26, is this item the Ο. officer is pointing at the same bullet jacket he is looking at?
- Α. That's my sergeant. He was new in the unit. So, I was out there just running him through the process of what we do. He is identifying the location of the bullet jacket in proximity to that vehicle.

Q. Now, Officer, now that we have gone through

Items 1 through 20, I want to talk to you a little about

your methodology with the pictures.

Is this the middle of the day?

A. No, ma'am. Actually it's the middle of the morning, sometime around 6:30.

- Q. Okay. Would you agree it's still a little dark outside?
 - A. No, it's not, because it was already daybreak.
- Q. What about some of your other photographs?

 They look dark in one moment and bright in another. How might that happen?
- A. That's because we use a technology that follows available light photography. And basically what you do is you put the camera on a tripod and you leave the camera with the lens open and the camera is sucking in all the available light that's around there, if there is no available light because it's too dark, then I would shoot a flashlight for a couple of seconds into the photo. And that would give me that bright-of-day photograph that you saw earlier where there was multiple markers.
- Q. Okay. I am going to move and show or tell the story a different way. Starting with State's Exhibit 44, can you tell me what items are found here?

- A. Yes, ma'am. Over here you see No. 4. No. 3 back here in the distance. No. 1 and No. 2.
 - Q. And this is where you were explaining to the jury you believe the shooting would have began, correct?
 - A. That's correct.

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- Q. Looking at State's Exhibit 41, would you agree with me that the hat and the bullet casings were found back this direction such that Walter Moore would have run forward?
- A. That's correct, ma'am.
- Q. And then I'm going to show you State's Exhibit 39. After you run through the parking lot, these
- markings show the way he entered the parking lot?
- A. Between those two buildings and going in the north direction.
- Q. Now I'm going to show you State's Exhibit 37, the walkway he would have taken, correct?
- A. That's correct. Continuation of the blood trail.
- Q. Is this green grass inside this bright picture an example of the available light you were talking about?
- A. This one is not. I have such a good camera issued by the department. This one is flash photography.

Okay. Other than Item 20, though, the rest of 1 Q. the photographs were taken in the dark, right? 2 3 Α. That's correct. MS. EPLEY: May I approach, Your Honor? 4 THE COURT: You may. 5 (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, I'm sorry I 6 0. 7 misspoke your name earlier. 8 So, now I'm going to have you look at this 9 envelope. Do you recognize this? 10 Yes, ma'am. This is an envelope that I use to 11 tag evidence. And the reason I know is because they put 12 this fancy label in the property room on it with my information on there. 13 14 Ο. Who brought this to court today? 15 Α. I did, at your request. 16 Q. Do you know whether or not this envelope was 17 sealed when you brought it here? 18 Α. It was sealed. I just opened it a minute ago. 19 Do you know who would have the authority to 0. 20 package it or to ensure that it was stored in evidence 21 correctly the first time? 22 Α. That would be me. 23 Okay. Do you have any reason to think it was Ο. 24 tampered with or anything?

Not that I am aware of.

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Α.

Q. From the moment that we opened the outside of this envelope, does it appear to be in the same condition as when you last saw it?

A. Yes, ma'am.

Q. Now, who opened this envelope?

A. I opened it today, but it had been opened in the past. The reason you can tell, it has markings where it was opened. I guess somebody opened it to test

MS. VALENTINE: Objection calls for
speculation.

the evidence or conduct analysis on the evidence.

THE COURT: Sustained.

- Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer, based on your training and experience, do items that need to be tested by a lab get opened by someone other than you?
 - A. That's correct, a lab technician.
- Q. What purpose would the lab technician have to open the item?
- A. They would get a request from the homicide investigator that they need analysis and they would go get the item out of the property room and take it to their office and open it and do whatever they do, which I'm not aware of.
- Q. Based on just common sense and your training and experience, would they have reason to open this

1 envelope?

- A. As far as I'm concerned, yes.
- Q. Do you have any reason to doubt that someone other than someone working for the crime lab opened this envelope?
 - A. As far as I know, no.
- Q. Now, looking inside the envelope, I'm going to show you what's has been marked as State's Exhibit 73, 74 and 75. Can you take a moment and look at that?
 - A. This is evidence --

THE COURT: She'll ask you another question.

- A. This is evidence I collected at the scene and placed in these individual ziploc bags. And the reason I told you is I marked with my handwriting on here and the case information and location and the date and the particular tent marker that the items relate to.
- Q. So, I see that, for the record, State's Exhibit -- well, before we get there.

Do you have any reason to think that someone other than yourself has opened these sealed ziploc baggies?

- A. Only if they were submitted for testing.
- Q. Is there anything on the outside of these envelopes that suggest to you they had been tested?

Yes, ma'am. The blue handwriting on these two Α. 1 envelopes here. 2 But for the blue handwriting on the outside of 3 State's Exhibits 73, 74, 75, do these items appear to be 4 5 in the same or substantially the same condition as when 6 you last saw them? 7 Α. They do, yes. 8 MS. EPLEY: Your Honor, at this time State offers State's Exhibit 73, 74, 75 and tenders to 9 10 opposing counsel for review. 11 MS. VALENTINE: No objection. 12 THE COURT: State's 73, 74 and 75 are 13 admitted without objection. 14 MS. EPLEY: For the record, State's Exhibit 73, 74 and 75 all came out of an envelope that 15 16 I'm now going to label 73A -- no? I don't need the 17 label? 18 Permission to publish, Your Honor. 19 THE COURT: You may. You may do it manually as well, if you like. 20 21 MS. EPLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. 22 Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) First, I want to show you here. 23 Can you please show the jury where State's Exhibit 2 is? 24 Α. In this location right there, ma'am. What is that? 25 Q.

- 1 A. That's one of the spent casings.
- Q. What about State's Exhibit 3?
- A. They would be right here at this location.
- Q. State's Exhibit 2 -- excuse me. The Item No. 2
 in your diagram in State's Exhibit 3, is that the same
 as the item contained in State's Exhibit 73?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

8

9

- Q. And State's Exhibit 74, do these correspond to No. 2 and 3 respectively?
- 10 A. They do, yes, ma'am.
- Q. I'm not suggesting one -- for example, this is
 12 73 or this is 74, but these two items come from those
 13 two spots?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- Q. And State's Exhibit 75 is labeled No. 20. Car you please identify for the jury on the diagram where that was found?
- 18 A. At that location from that corner.
- Q. Okay. Now, State's Exhibit -- what I am now going to refer to as State's Exhibit 73 and 74, the casings, can you remind the jury what kind of bullet -- ammunition is used.
 - A. It's a .32 automatic.
- Q. And what about Item No. 20 in your diagram now labeled State's Exhibit 75?

- A. As far what caliber that is, I have no idea.
- Q. Is that the type of information the firearms lab might be able to tell us?
 - A. That's correct.

- Q. Other than the items we have already discussed, did you mark anything else at the scene?
- A. I did. I marked the clothing as we discussed and all the blood trail. I used tent markers on that as well. And also the hat and the penny that was under the hat.
- Q. But all of the items you just listed are contained within the diagram as Items 1 through 20?
 - A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
- Q. Other than Items 1 through 20, were there any other pieces of evidence you collected in this case?
 - A. I did not, no, ma'am.
- MS. EPLEY: May I approach, Your Honor?

 THE COURT: You may.
 - Q. (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, I'm showing you what has been marked as State's Exhibit 84. Do you recognize this item?
 - A. Yes, ma'am. This is a copy of the scene video.

 And the reason I say it's a copy because we shoot 8

 millimeter at that time. Now we're using digital.
 - Q. This has been digitally converted so it can be

Jose Pena - May 1, 2012 Direct Examination by Ms. Epley

```
on a disk?
 1
              That's correct.
 2
         Α.
              All right. And is it a fair and accurate
         0.
 3
     depiction of what you videotaped on that day?
 4
                           I viewed it.
 5
         Α.
              Yes, ma'am.
 6
                   MS. EPLEY: Offer State's Exhibit 84,
 7
     tender to opposing counsel.
 8
                   MS. VALENTINE: May we approach, Your
     Honor?
 9
10
                   THE COURT: Yes.
11
                   (At the Bench, on the record.)
12
                   MS. VALENTINE: Judge, my objection is
13
     that this is a crime scene video and at this point it
     has not been redacted so there is audio on it that could
14
15
     lead to testimony. Also, this being admitted, would go
16
     back to the jury and they would be able to see it.
                   MS. EPLEY: And if I may clarify, Your
17
             State withdraws our offer at this point and I'll
18
     Honor.
19
     just lay the predicate and we'll make the decision
20
     later.
21
                   THE COURT:
                                Okay.
22
                   MS. VALENTINE:
                                    Thank you, Your Honor.
23
                   MR. BURDETTE: Just for the record, if we
24
     intend to offer it, we will redact all audio and just
25
     offer the video copy. Is that agreeable?
```

Jose Pena - May 1, 2012 Direct Examination by Ms. Epley

```
MS. VALENTINE:
 1
                                    Yes.
                                Then all right.
 2
                    THE COURT:
                                Thank you, Your Honor.
 3
                   MS. EPLEY:
                    (End of bench discussion.)
 4
 5
                   MS. EPLEY: May I proceed?
 6
                    THE COURT: You may.
 7
         0.
              (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer Pena, who is
 8
     responsible for collecting and bagging evidence?
              I am at the scene.
 9
         Α.
              In the case involving this evidence, did you do
10
         O.
11
     that?
12
         Α.
              Yes, ma'am.
13
         O.
              After creating the diagram, measurements,
14
     taking pictures, doing the video, what else did you do?
              We recanvassed the scene and looked for
15
16
     additional evidence and make sure we didn't leave
     anything, miss anything or, you know, anything that
17
     might have been missing when there was darkness.
18
19
              Was Officer Batiste on scene what you arrived?
         Ο.
20
     Do you know?
21
              He was, but I didn't speak with him. I spoke
         Α.
22
     with another officer.
23
              Do you have any reason to think that the scene
24
     had not been secure after the shooting?
25
         Α.
              I did not. They had the scene set up. As you
```

```
can see in the photos, the crime scene tape was put up
 1
 2
     prior to me getting there.
 3
                    MS. EPLEY: If I can have just a moment,
     Your Honor?
 4
 5
                    THE COURT:
                                You may.
 6
                   MS. EPLEY:
                                May I approach?
 7
                    THE COURT: You may.
 8
         0.
              (BY MS. EPLEY) Officer, I'm showing you what's
 9
     been marked as State's Exhibit 85. Do you recognize
     this box?
10
11
                            This is the box I placed the
         Α.
              Yes, ma'am.
12
     clothing in, along with the hat, the T-shirt, the blue
13
     jeans and such.
14
         Ο.
              That would be the hat in Item 1, correct?
15
         Α.
              That's correct.
16
         Q.
              The jeans, brown shoes and shirt from Item 19?
              That's correct.
17
         Α.
              The blue shirt from Item 18?
18
         Q.
19
              That's correct.
         Α.
20
         Q.
              Is there anything else?
21
         Α.
              That should be it. It should say up here on
22
     the box.
23
                    Yeah, that's it.
24
              Do you see any indication that these items have
         0.
25
     been tampered with since they left your custody on
```

```
May 5th, 2011?
 1
              No, ma'am. Everything is still the same as
 2
 3
     when I tagged it.
              Same or substantially the same as the last time
 4
         Ο.
 5
     you saw it?
 6
         Α.
              That's correct.
 7
                   MS. EPLEY: The State offer State 85 and
 8
     tenders to opposing counsel.
 9
                   MS. VALENTINE:
                                   No objection.
10
                   THE COURT:
                               Then State's 85 is admitted
11
     without objection.
12
                   MS. EPLEY: We have two more items PWAUFT
     CAN'T UNDERSTAND HER ON SYNC OR TAPE) because they are
13
14
     reported in the chain of custody and then we will be
     finished.
15
16
                   THE COURT:
                                Okay.
17
                   MS. EPLEY:
                               May I approach, Your Honor?
18
                   THE COURT: You may.
19
                   MS. EPLEY: For purposes of a clean
20
     record, I'm going to approach the defense for a moment.
21
             (BY MS. EPLEY) I'm showing you what's been
         0.
22
     marked as State's Exhibits 85 and 86 and keep them
23
     below. Eighty-six and 87, if you can keep them below.
                   Do you recognize these items?
24
25
         Α.
              I did not, but I did bring them here at your
```

```
request this morning.
 1
              Okay. Have you tampered with them in any way
 2
         Ο.
     since you picked up this evidence?
 3
              I have not, no, ma'am.
 4
         Α.
                   MS. EPLEY: State will offer these items
 5
 6
     at a later time, Your Honor. We just wanted to preserve
 7
     the questions for chain of custody.
                   THE COURT: Okay. No objections?
 8
 9
                   MR. MARTIN: No, not if it's nothing to
10
     object to right now.
11
                   THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, sir.
12
         0.
              (BY MS. EPLEY) And, Officer Pena, the last
13
     items you brought, State's Exhibit 90, 91, 92, 93 and
14
     94, would you agree that all of those envelopes are
     sealed?
15
16
         Α.
              Yes, ma'am.
17
              Are they items that you can speak to or that
         Ο.
18
     you have logged in?
19
         Α.
              These items were checked out of the property
20
     room at your request to bring here today to court.
21
         Ο.
              Have you tampered with the envelopes in any
22
     way?
23
         Α.
              I have not.
24
                   MS. EPLEY: Again, the State will be
```

offering these later. Just asking questions for

Jose Pena - May 1, 2012 Direct Examination by Ms. Epley

```
purposes of the record.
1
                    Pass the witness.
 2
 3
                    THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Epley.
                    Mr. Martin or is it Ms. Valentine?
 4
 5
                    MS. VALENTINE: Thank you, Your Honor.
 6
                         CROSS-EXAMINATION
 7
     BY MS. VALENTINE:
 8
         Ο.
              Good afternoon, Officer Pena. How are you?
 9
         Α.
              Afternoon, ma'am. I'm great.
10
         O.
              You talked earlier about -- you said you've
     been with HPD for 13 years, correct?
11
12
         Α.
              That's correct.
              Five of those you have been with the crime
13
         Ο.
     scene unit?
14
              That is correct.
15
         Α.
16
         Q.
              And before that, you were in the Army for six
17
     years?
              Six and a half, yes, ma'am.
18
         Α.
19
              Okay. Now, you take your job as a police
         Ο.
20
     officer very seriously; is that correct?
21
         Α.
              I do, yes, ma'am.
22
         Q.
              You also take your job working with the crime
23
     scene unit very seriously; is that correct?
24
         Α.
              I do, yes, ma'am.
25
         Q.
              You do your best to do a good job no matter
```

- what the task is; is that right? 1 That is correct, ma'am. 2 Α. When you become a police officer, you actually Ο. 3 take an oath; is that correct? 4 5 Α. That is correct. 6 O. To uphold the law, ensure that justice is 7 served, that type of thing; is that right? 8 Α. Yes, ma'am. 9 That's something you take seriously? Q. 10 Α. Yes. 11 Earlier the prosecutor asked you what kind of Ο. 12 scene you thought you were investigating; is that right? That's correct. 13 Α. 14 And you said initially, you thought you were 0. 15 investigating a murder scene; is that right? 16 That's the information I was given from 17 Sergeant Bridges at the homicide desk. 18 Q. But given that you do your job effectively, you 19 would take your job seriously whether you were
 - A. That's correct.

21

22

23

24

25

Q. You wouldn't make any type of distinctions of those things; is that correct?

an aggravated robbery scene; is that correct?

processing a murder scene or whether you were processing

A. Of course not.

- Q. So, say you're responding to an aggravated robbery instead of a murder. You're not just going to leave evidence there because it's not a murder; is that right?

 A. That's correct.

 Q. So, regardless of what kind of scene you're processing, you take it seriously; is that right?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

- Q. You are going to do the most effective job that you know to do regardless of what type of scene it is?
 - A. I agree, yes, ma'am.
- Q. Officer, I want to turn your attention to the diagram that you prepared. And it's on the screen as State's Exhibit No. 3? Three, believe it is?
 - A. Yes, ma'am, it's 3.
- 16 MS. VALENTINE: Judge, may I approach?

 THE COURT: You may.
 - Q. (BY MS. VALENTINE) Officer Pena, I want to ask you, in particular, about -- now you have on here that the diagram is actually not drawn to scale; is that right?
 - A. That's correct, measurements are approximate.
 - Q. You do take measurements, but you're not sure they are actually right to scale?
- 25 A. That is correct. We don't do diagrams to

1 scale.

5

6

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

- Q. According to the bottom of the screen, it does appear that you do have some type of measurements there; is that right?
 - A. As far as this location? Where are you talking about?
- Q. At the bottom. It looks like -- trying to see.

 THE COURT: Are you talking about the
 train tracks?
 - A. You talking about this line here?
- 11 Q. (BY MS. VALENTINE) Yes.
 - A. Okay. This depicts the 6-foot chain link fence that was in the back of that property separating it.
 - Q. Okay. All right. Now, Officer Pena, you indicated that the shooting is alleged to have occurred right where you have No. 1, No. 1A, No. 2, No. 4, that general area; is that right?
 - A. I allege that some incident started at that location. The reason I say shooting is because you have two spent casings there.
 - O. But the blood does not begin until Area 5?
- A. Well, there's some right here on 4, but from 5 on.
- 24 Q. From 5 on?
- A. Yes, ma'am.

- Q. Incidentally, Officer Pena, did you do any type of measurements to see how much space there is between Marking 4, Marking 5?
 - A. Yes, ma'am.

- Q. What are those measurements?
- A. I would say it's about -- using this, if you see that right here, it is a RP. That's my reference point to get the measurements to all these locations here. When we take measurements, we take measurements from two different locations.

In this case, this being east and west and this being north and south, then we would take measurements from this corner here down south. So that would be north-to-south measurements. Then we would take measurements from, in this case, east to west to the location of them. The measurement you're looking for would be between 4 and 5, looking at about a hundred feet.

- Q. What about the measurements between Nos. 2 and 3?
- A. You want east or west measurement or north and south measurement?
 - O. The north and south measurement.
- 24 A. Between 2 and 3?
- 25 Q. Yes.

- I would say that's about 80 feet. 1 Α.
- Now, Officer Pena, you indicated when you first 2 Ο. got to the scene, one of your jobs is to talk to the
- primary officer there? 4

5

9

21

22

23

- Α. That's correct. It's protocol.
- 6 O. In this instance you were actually dispatched out at 2:32 a.m.? 7
- 8 Α. About, yes, ma'am.
 - Q. And you arrived there at 3:47 a.m.?
- 10 Α. Yes, ma'am.
- But when you got there, the fire department had 11 0. 12 already been there; is that right?
- 13 Α. That is correct.
- 14 Mr. Moore had already been taken away; is that Ο. 15 correct?
- 16 Α. Yes, ma'am.
- And the initial arriving officers had already 17 Ο. been there for at least a few hours? 18
- 19 Α. That is correct. I'm not aware what time they 20 got dispatched. Yes, ma'am.
 - Now, Officer Pena, although the officers may Ο. have secured the scene when they got to the scene, you don't know what had happened before the officers arrived; is that correct?
- 25 That's correct. Α.

- Q. So, if somebody had touched something or something like that before the officers were able to secure the scene, you would not be able to testify to that?
 - A. No, ma'am.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

- Q. As an indication of that, you had indicated you had marked No. 18, which had been kind of like a white T-shirt.
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. That's something that you marked at the time, but later on, when you were going through the evidence, you realized it probably had no bearing at all in this particular case?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Given that you were able to find maybe some piece of clothing or something else that you initially marked for evidentiary value, there could have been other things that could have been at the scene prior to you getting there?
 - A. That's correct, yes, ma'am.
 - O. And prior to this incident in total?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. And possibly even after but before the police got there to secure the scene?
- 25 A. That is correct. That's why in CSU we have a

```
saying. We go out there and try to collect what's
 1
     fresh. Fresh is a good word in CSU because we try to
 2
     get stuff that we know hasn't been out there baking in
 3
     the sun for a month, like cigarette butts, beer cans.
 4
 5
     And with our experience, we can pretty much tell if it's
 6
     fresh.
 7
         Ο.
              Okay.
 8
                   MR. MARTIN: May we have a moment, Your
 9
     Honor?
10
                   THE COURT: You may.
11
                   (Pausing.)
12
                   MS. VALENTINE: May I approach, Your
13
     Honor?
14
                   THE COURT: You may.
              (BY MS. VALENTINE) Officer Pena, I'm going to
15
         0.
16
     show you -- do you recognize this document?
17
              Yes, ma'am. This is a copy of my diagram with
         Α.
18
     the measurements.
19
              Okay. So, you had two different diagrams, one
         Ο.
20
     with measurements and one without?
              It's not two different ones. When I completed
21
         Α.
22
     it, I have one with measurements and one without because
23
     that's what the investigators like.
24
              So, even though you have one with measurements,
         Ο.
25
     the one that you're looking at right now is State's 3
```

```
and the one that has been admitted is one without
 1
 2
     measurements?
 3
              That's correct, yes, ma'am.
                   MR. MARTIN: Could we have a moment,
 4
 5
     Judge?
 6
                   THE COURT:
                               You may.
 7
                   (Pausing.)
 8
         0.
              (BY MS. VALENTINE) Officer Pena, do you have
 9
     an approximate measurement from Marker No. 20 that was
10
     found to Marker No. 2?
11
                   THE COURT: Would you draw that line on
12
     the diagram?
13
         Α.
                    You would have to blow up the whole
14
     diagram here so I can draw the line like the Judge
     requested. And you are talking about No. 2 here to
15
16
     No. 20?
17
         0.
              (BY MS. VALENTINE)
                                 Yes.
18
         Α.
              That location? This one, there is not going to
19
     be a measurement for it. The reason for it, if we find
     evidence after we take a video and we take measurements,
20
     then there is no measurement to it. I can get one for
21
22
     you. And basically all you have to do is count the
23
     parking spaces. Each packing space is about 8 to 9 feet
24
     wide and then just do the math.
25
         Q.
              Okay. You indicate that Item 20 was actually
```

- found when it was light outside and you were able to see a lot more than you could when it was dark?
 - A. That's correct. Sergeant McPherson found that for me at this location.
 - Q. That is the casing you're unable to identify what kind of caliber?
 - A. It's not a casing, ma'am.
 - Q. A live bullet? I'm sorry.
 - A. It's not a live bullet either.
- 10 Q. Live jacket?

5

6

7

8

9

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- 11 A. It's a bullet jacket.
- Q. You are not able to determine what kind of caliber that's from?
 - A. Just by looking at it, no.
 - Q. Officer Pena, do you know why a particular crime investigator would want a diagram without measurements?
 - A. No. It's actually for several reasons that we do two types of diagrams, with measurements and without measurements. One, when you look at your diagram and you look at this one, you see a bunch of the legends where it describes the evidence, then you see measurements. You get a cluster. So, if you try to do everything on one diagram on one sheet, it's just going to be a big cluster. And it's going to confuse them and

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```
1
     it's going to confuse you guys and it's going to confuse
 2
     the jury.
 3
                   So, for that reason, we do two. Just make
     it easier on the eye for everybody.
 4
 5
                   MS. VALENTINE: May I approach?
 6
                   THE COURT: You may.
 7
              (BY MS. VALENTINE) Officer Pena, just showing
         0.
 8
     you what's been marked as State's Exhibit 95. Is that a
 9
     copy of the diagram with the measurements?
10
              Yes, ma'am, it is.
                   MS. VALENTINE: Judge, I would move to
11
12
     offer State's 95 into evidence.
                   MR. BURDETTE: It's an agreed exhibit,
13
14
     Judge.
15
                   THE COURT: State's or it's your exhibit,
16
     isn't it?
17
                   MR. BURDETTE: Judge, I had already marked
18
     it. So, we can offer it as an agreed exhibit.
19
                   THE COURT: State's Exhibit 95 is admitted
20
     without objection.
21
                   MS. VALENTINE: Thank you. And pass the
22
     witness.
23
                   THE COURT: Redirect?
24
                   MS. EPLEY: Quickly, Your Honor.
25
```

REDIRECT EXAMINATION 1 BY MS. EPLEY: 2 Officer Pena, as to the one without 3 measurements, when you came to my office, did we discuss 4 5 both? 6 Α. Yes, we did. 7 Would you agree that it was discussed that it Ο. 8 was easier to present the one without measurements because it didn't have longitude and latitude? 9 Α. 10 That's correct. I made that suggestion to you, 11 ma'am. 12 0. But, otherwise, State's Exhibit 95 is an exact 13 replica of the one we've been using all day? 14 MS. EPLEY: Permission to publish, Your 15 Honor? 16 THE COURT: You may. 17 0. (BY MS. EPLEY) And here in this middle part, 18 I'll go through this quickly, but you still see, for 19 example, 1 2, 3, 4 line from 5 to 9, and then 10 up to 20 19 here, correct? 21 That's correct, ma'am. Α. 22 Q. The difference could be just numbers here, for example, here across the length and then this main 23 24 section right here?

That's correct.

25

Α.

Q. There's nothing that was on it earlier in the prior diagram is now missing, for example?

- A. No, ma'am. We take a lot of time to complete these diagrams -- don't get me wrong -- sometimes we might have a measurement that's missing or something from one with the measurement to one without the measurement, but rarely happens. Rarely happens.
- Q. Just a couple more in regards to casings that were found here, 2 and 3. These were the .32 caliber casings.

Now, Officer, how does a casing get ejected from a gun? Do you know?

A. Yes, ma'am. You're in luck because of my military training.

All weapons basically, unless you're a left-hand shooter or if it's a semiautomatic weapon, and what I mean by semiautomatic weapon, it's the semiautomatic weapon is a weapon that's a square-looking weapon that you see most of the time and what we use in the police, whatever, not the cowboy weapon that you see with the little circle in it. These weapons are designed to eject a fired bullet out the muzzle and then the casing goes out to the side, to the right and to the rear. And most of them are designed that way.

As I stated earlier, if you're a

```
left-handed shooter, then they are going to eject to the
 1
     left and to the rear, but that's rarely.
 2
         Ο.
              Okay. But, Officer, you can't say just because
 3
     the typical casing ejects out and to the rear doesn't
 4
 5
     mean you can tell where someone was standing based on
 6
     where the casing is, right?
 7
              You can, but you have to go into hours and
 8
     hours of testimony in how to determine that and you can.
 9
     Yes, you can.
              Well, anything is possible in science. So,
10
     let's say the casing is ejected and I kick it. How do
11
12
     you know where I was standing?
13
         Α.
              If it's windy out there and you have nice
14
     Italian tile or granite, it's just going to slide off.
15
     And you're correct on that, yes, ma'am.
16
         Q.
             Okay. What about -- no, I think you answered
17
     it..
18
                   MS. EPLEY: No further questions.
                   THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Martin, recross --
19
20
     Ms. Valentine?
21
                   MS. VALENTINE:
                                    No.
22
                   THE COURT:
                               Then, Officer, thank you very
23
     much. You're excused.
                   MS. EPLEY: State calls Officer Nelson.
24
25
                   (Witness sworn.)
```