ROY SWAINSON,

2 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MS. SPENCE:

1

- 5 Q. Good morning, sir. Please introduce yourself.
- A. My name is Roy Swainson. Shall I go on? A little more introduction than that?
- Q. Well, I called you Officer Roy Swainson, but that's not really true anymore; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's is correct.
- 11 Q. Why is that?
- A. I served the Houston Police Department for 35
 and a half years. I started back in 1977. I retired
 just this past May, just a few months ago after serving
 and a half years. Twenty of those years I was in the
 homicide division as an investigator.
- Q. And so now you're living the carefree days of an ex-cop in Texas or another state?
- A. I carry a Texas address. I still have family here. But I do live in Colorado, and I was notified we were going to trial. I drove the 1100 miles to attend court and testify this week.
- Q. And we appreciate that, ex-Officer Swainson?
- A. Retired officer, thank you, not ex, that has that negative.

- Q. All right. So, let's go back to when you were actually employed at the Houston Police Department

 June 3rd of 2011?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. Did you catch a case that day involving a four-year-old child by the name of Betsabeth Sandoval?
 - A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And where were you when you were assigned that gase?
- A. I was in the homicide office probably working another case when I was assigned to go out there.
- 12 Q. And where did you go?
- A. We were told that this scene was at 5801 West
 Sunforest, Apartment 3011, but we were also aware that
 the child was transported to Northwest Memorial
 Hospital, so my partner, Sergeant Tom Hanslik, went to
 the scene and I went to the hospital.
- Q. When you got to the hospital, what did you encounter?
- A. Medical employees, EMTs, doctors, nurses, the crime scene unit officer, patrol officers that were protecting the scene which would have been in Trauma Room 19, which is where I found the four-year-old baby or child.
- Q. Who did you talk to when you got there first?

- A. First, it would have been the patrol officer
 whoever it was. I'm sorry, I don't have the name of
 that patrol officer, but it would have been the patrol
 who introduced me to what they had, the child in the
 trauma room and led me to the hospital officials to get
 chart numbers and doctors' names and things of that
 nature.
 - Q. And so did you speak to medical personnel?
- 9 A. Yes.

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- Q. By the time you got there, had Abigail, I'm sorry, Betsabeth Sandoval, been pronounced deceased at that point?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. So, did you speak to medical personnel and get sort of an idea of what her injuries were at that point?
 - A. They advised me of what they saw and then led me to the room, and then I actually made the observation of the child.
- Q. And were you able to obtain some photographs of the child that day of her condition, of her body?
 - A. Photographs were taken in my presence that day.
- Q. Were the photographs available for your use that particular day?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Were you able to view Betsabeth's body,

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I'm sure, at the hospital?
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2
       Α.
            Yes.
                 MS. SPENCE: Your Honor, may I approach?
3
                 THE COURT: You may.
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       Q.
            (BY MS. SPENCE) Let me show you what has been
5
6
   marked as State's Exhibit No. 218. Do you recognize
7
   that photograph?
8
       Α.
            Yes, I do.
       Q.
            And does that photograph fairly and accurately
10
   show Betsabeth at the hospital?
11
       Α.
            Yes.
12
                 MS. SPENCE: I offer into evidence State's
   Exhibit No. 218.
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14
                 (State's Exhibit No. 218 offered.)
15
                 MR. GONZALEZ: No objections, Your Honor.
16
                 THE COURT: State's Exhibit No. 218 is
17
   admitted without objection.
18
                 (State's Exhibit No. 218 admitted.)
19
       Q.
            (BY MS. SPENCE) When you saw Betsabeth
20
   Sandoval's body, did you actually look at it from all
21
   angles?
            Obviously, you didn't touch her, but just
22
   looking at the various parts of her body?
23
       Α.
            Yes, I did.
24
       Q.
            So, after you did that, who did you speak with?
25
            I introduced myself to the mother, Maciel
       Α.
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Sandoval.

- Q. And had you ever met her before that day?
- A. Never.
- Q. When you talked to her, what did you ask her to do?
- A. Well, initially I'm going to introduce myself as a Houston police officer and that I'm investigating because I know that the hospital personnel are going to advise her that police are coming and they're going to hear that it's a homicide investigator coming. So, you want to put them a little at ease. So, I introduced myself telling her I would be back to talk to her, and also the fact that we're going to want to go to the house and I'm going to need your consent to go into the house and conduct our investigation.
 - So, I introduced myself, gave her the form, instructed her on what the consent was going to be; and then I returned back to the room where I made my observations of the child. And then eventually when that's completed, I came back; and I interviewed her.
- Q. Okay. Now, after you received that consent to search, did you call somebody and advise them that you had obtained that consent to search?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Who was that?

- Α. My partner, Sergeant Tom Hanslik.
- 2 Q. That's for legal reasons so the scene can be 3 processed, correct?
- Α. Correct. 4

20

- So, after you did that, did you -- you said you Q. 5 6 went and talked to Maciel Sandoval, correct?
- 7 Went back to the body, examined, saw the Α. injuries and then returned to Maciel; and I did a audiotape, digital audio regarding of Maciel.
- 10 Where was that done?
- 11 Α. In what they call the family grieving room 12 outside the presence of the body in the trauma room around the corner. 13
- 14 So at that point, in your mind, what did you Q. know about this case? You're not even at the scene yet, 15 16 correct?
- 17 Α. That's correct.

Α.

- 18 So, what do you know when you're about to go Q. 19 into a room with Maciel Sandoval?
- Actually, I know nothing other than the fact 21 that I know there's the parties back at Apartment 3011, 22 that an ambulance was called to the house, this is the 23 mother, and now I have a child with all these injuries 24 from head to toe. And then -- go ahead.
- 25 When you said you knew there were parties at Q.

- 1 the scene, did you know the relationship of the parties 2 to Maciel Sandoval?
- 3 A. No.

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- Q. So, would it be fair to say that your knowledge of what was going on was extremely limited when you went to speak with her?
 - A. I knew nothing about the relationship, the dynamics of the relationship, who watches who, time periods, people were there, gone, I knew nothing.
 - Q. Those injuries that you saw on Betsabeth Sandoval, to you, to your homicide eye from 30 years at that point in time, did they appear to be accidental in nature?
- A. They were quite extensive and not by accident.

 I'm a grandfather. I got a three year old. I know how
 they run around.
- Q. So, what time did your -- approximately what time did your interview with Maciel Sandoval begin?
- A. I believe 2:55 is when it started. Initially,
- 20 2:45 when I kind of introduced myself and gave her the
- 21 consent form, but the actual audio recording began about
- 22 2:55 ending at 3:42.
- Q. 3:42. Did you document that, and that's how you know?
- A. Yes, yes.

- Q. And this was just audio only, correct?
- A. That's correct.

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- Q. During your conversation with Ms. Sandoval, what was her demeanor that you were observing? She had just lost a child, not lost a child but the child had just passed away that day. What was the demeanor that you were observing?
- Α. There were periods in that 50 minutes that I was with her where she would cry, and she would make comments regarding what happened to my baby. And I know I can't explain details of the conversation, so I won't go there. But to characterize her, I felt initially that it was somewhat theatrical, her expressions and her emotions. And then as I questioned her, I felt that she was quite deceptive and was covering up things. And, in fact, there's several times in there without going into detail where she blatantly wouldn't answer a question for some time. She would pause while she was thinking about how she wanted to respond to those questions. again, 20 years in homicide and hundreds of interviews, I was picking up the fact that theatrical emotion and quite deceptive in her responses.
 - Q. Was she reluctant to give you some information?
- A. Specifically, when it came to family contacts, people I could talk to, blank. Why do you need to know

- 1 that? Sorry. The only name that she provided -- and 2 may I mention what that name was?
 - Q. Yes.

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- A. The only name she would give me was her sister,

 Sylvia, but she wouldn't tell me contact information,

 phone number, where she lived. She did not mention

 other folks that I know have testified because I found

 them, the sisters, sorry.
 - Q. Now, after you finished your conversation with Ms. Sandoval at about 3:42 that afternoon, did you have any better or clearer idea of what happened to Betsabeth Sandoval before you walked into that room?
- 13 A. No.
 - Q. Where did you go from the hospital?
- A. I went to the scene, 5801 West Sunforest,
- 16 | Apartment 3011.
- 17 Q. Why did you go over there?
- A. Again, as an investigator, I like -- I know my partner, Tom Hanslik, and the CSU that was documenting everything was, you know, they'd do an outstanding job.

 But for me to do effective job going forward as far as interviewing, I wanted to get an eye on what was going on at the scene. So, I went to the scene just so I
- Q. And when you went out to the scene, did

could visualize what I was getting into.

- 1 Sergeant Hanslik point out a broken, what looked like a 2 broomstick handle?
- 3 A. Yes, he did.
- Q. Did you know about that broomstick handle or that broken piece of wood when you were talking to Maciel Sandoval in the hospital?
- 7 A. No.
- Q. Did he also point out some letters, and it looked like hearts and teddy bears and that sort of thing?
- 11 A. Signs of affection posted on the wall, yes.
- 12 Q. Did you know anything about that when up you 13 were talking to Ms. Sandoval?
- 14 A. In fact, just the opposite.
- Q. Did she, in any way, indicate any type of romantic relationship with Elida Herrera at that time that you talked to her at the hospital?
- 18 A. At that time just a friend.
- 19 Q. So, after you left the scene, did you go to -20 back to the homicide division?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. While you're out at the scene, do you learn the name Angel Hernandez?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Were you able to speak to him that particular

1 day?

10

- 2 A. No.
- Q. When you went back, when you went to the homicide division that same day on June 3rd of 2011, who was there?
- A. The Defendant, Judith, well, they referred to
 her as Judith, but I guess her name is Elida Judith
 Herrera-Garcia, she had been transported from the scene
 to homicide because of the Spanish language barrier, and
- 11 Q. What about Maciel, was she at the homicide 12 division as well?

we had the Spanish speakers interviewing her.

- A. Maciel had also been transported from the hospital to the homicide division.
- Q. Did you speak with Maciel, again, when you went to the homicide division?
- 17 A. Yes, I did.
- 18 Q. Very briefly?
- 19 A. Briefly.
- Q. And what sorts of things did you point out to her that you didn't know before?
- A. The discrepancies in her earlier comments
 regarding her relationship with Judith and what I found
 at the apartment as far as sleeping arrangements, beds,
- 25 love notes, broomstick, the pillow, Valentine-type

- 1 pillow up on the wall.
- 2 Q. Was she anymore forthcoming with you at that
- 3 point in time, June 3rd?
- 4 A. Yes, yes.
- 5 Q. Did you speak to her about the stick?
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. Was she forthcoming as to any type of explanation of why the stick would be right there in the middle of the bed in the master bedroom?
- 10 A. Evasive and comments that made absolutely, they
 11 were ludicrous, their comments.
- Q. After that particular day, what else did you do with regards to this investigation?
- 14 A. On that particular day, June 3rd?
- 15 Q. June 4th. The next day.
- 16 A. Oh, the following day?
- 17 Q. Yes.
- A. Okay. June 4th, we attended the autopsy. We also went to AutoZone where Maciel Sandoval was employed to get her work records and employment records and times that she was at work, and then also made additional
- 22 attempts to try and find this Angel Hernandez fella in
- 23 | Apartment 1903.
- Q. No luck that day?
- 25 A. No luck that day, either.

- Q. So, let's go to Sunday, June 5th, 2011, on that day did Angel make contact with you?
- A. Yes. In my visits to his apartment, I finally found a car that was supposed to be his, I left a note.

 And he was calling me Sunday evening, it was after I left work, but he was already calling, pleading that I make contact with him.
 - Q. And did you eventually interview Angel
 Hernandez and his wife, common-law wife, Juana Sandoval?
 - A. The following morning, yes.

- Q. Describe their level of cooperativeness in this case?
- A. Most folks are reluctant, you got to make several phone calls to get them. When I called Angel, he was at work; and you could tell by the excitement in his voice he wanted to express things that he had seen in that apartment. And when I asked him where can I meet you, you're obviously at work, he said, I'll meet you back at the apartment right now. I could hear him on the phone talking to his boss. He left work and we went to Apartment 1903.
- When I arrived is when I was introduced to Juana. And they were at the apartment very enthusiastic to provide information that they had seen that they had -- you could tell that they held for so long, and

- 1 they were just thrilled to finally provide that
 2 information to somebody.
 - Q. Did you see emotion in Angel and Juana during your conversation with them?
- A. Animated emotional, Juana cried, she wept. It was a spontaneous weeping, when you're talking to somebody and they're visualizing something and so the tears are coming. And then you make the comment that this is disturbing to you, and they would acknowledge that and then they'd carry on with the details of things
- 12 Q. Did she introduce you to another sibling of 13 Maciel Sandoval?
- 14 A. Yes.

that they saw.

3

4

- 15 Q. And who was that?
- 16 A. It was Gloria Sandoval.
- 17 Q. Was she at that same location or another
- 18 | location?
- A. She was at another house. They had to lead me to another location.
- Q. And at that location, did you interview Gloria
 22 Sandoval?
- A. Recorded, audio recorded.
- Q. And what was her demeanor, did she appear to be emotional as well?

- 1 Α. Yes, truthful, emotional about the whole thing.
- 2 Q. Now at that point, were you getting kind of a better picture of what the dynamics were in Betsabeth's 3 immediate household?
- Α. Yes. 5

- Q. At the autopsy, had you also spoken to some CPS 6 7 representatives?
- Α. 8 Yes.
- 9 Q. And based upon those conversations, did y'all 10 obtain some CPS records?
- 11 Α. Yes.
- 12 Did you review those records? Q.
- Yes. 13 Α.
- 14 Okay. And based upon the CPS records and what Q. you were told by the CPS people, did y'all also obtain 15 16 some phone records of Elida Herrera's phone and Maciel 17 Sandoval's cell phone?
- 18 Α. The official record later on, but in our 19 meeting with CPS, we had learned that some phone calls 20 had been made that we thought were interesting.
- 21 Let's look at, let's specifically go to June Q. 22 You had told us that you started your interview at 23 2:55, and you ended it at 3:42; is that correct?
- Α. Correct. 24
- 25 And you made notes of that in your note taking; Q.

is that correct?

- 2 A. Offense report, yes.
- Q. What did you notice when you finally got the records of Maciel Sandoval's phone contacts as to who she called very, very shortly after you finished your conversation with her?
- A. Within minutes of my conversation, she was reaching out to Brian Victorian, who was a CPS case agent.
- Q. At that point in time, had a CPS complaint been made against -- on behalf of Betsabeth Sandoval?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And I'm talking about when the child passed
 away, June 3rd, there was an outstanding CPS complaint;
 tis that correct?
- A. Prior to all that there was an ongoing investigation.
- Q. And as of that day, Maciel Sandoval was not aware of its closure yet?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 Q. And she told you that in a later interview?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. All right. So that -- after kind of getting a better picture from talking to Juana, Gloria, Angel, the CPS people, what did you and Sergeant Hanslik decide to

- 1 do in terms of trying to get answers from Elida Herrera 2 and Maciel Sandoval themselves?
 - A. We scheduled another interview.
- 4 Q. And how did you do that? Did you just call 5 them up?
- A. I simply called them up, and we had the information. We kept our conversations non-accusatory, kept that rapport going with them. And so on the 7th of June, that would have been following all the interviews, autopsy, CPS, I reached out to Maciel and asked if she could come back into the office on her own.
- 12 Q. And did she agree to do so?
- A. She came in with her stepmother on her own in the theorem in the theorem is the theorem in the theorem is the theorem in the theorem in the theorem in the theorem is the theorem in the theorem is the theorem in th
- Q. And did Elida Herrera come with her as well?
- 16 A. Yes.

- 17 Q. And that would be on what?
- 18 A. June 7th.
- 19 Q. Which is the next Tuesday?
- A. Scene happened on Friday, we worked on it
 Saturday, Sunday. Monday I spoke to all the family
 members. Tuesday she was in the office.
- Q. Now, by that time had the pictures been developed that had been taken by the CSU at the hospital?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And did you have access to those photographs?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And by that time did you also have access to other photographs that were given to you by family members?
- 7 A. Correct.
- Q. Do you know if you can recall was that -- by that time had Horacio Ramos, who is Betsabeth's biological father, he had already been spoken to; is that correct?
- A. Sergeant Tom Hanslik spoke to him while I was speaking with the family members.
- Q. And you had photographs that he provided as well?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- Q. So, did you use some of those photographs that you got from the hospital and from family members and Horacio Ramos on that day, on June 7th, when you spoke to Maciel and Elida in person?
- 21 A. When I spoke with Maciel, I did not speak to 22 Elida.
- Q. Who did you have speak to Elida?
- A. Sergeant Padilla.
- Q. And did you also make available to him the same

- 1 | photographs that you used when you spoke to Maciel?
- 2 A. Yes.

4

6

- Q. And were they interviewed in the same room together, anything like that?
- 5 A. Separated.
 - Q. As a matter of fact, you interviewed Maciel first, and then Sergeant Padilla interviewed Elida; is that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 MS. SPENCE: Now, may I approach?
- 11 THE COURT: You may.
- 12 Q. (BY MS. SPENCE) Let me show you photographs
- 13 | that have already been entered into evidence, which is
- 14 | State's Exhibits No. 89, and then these other
- 15 photographs, which is 94, 90. I'm going to put these in
- 16 order, 91, 92, 93, 96 -- 95, 96, 97, 100, 102, 103, 104
- 17 and 105. Are those photographs that you showed to
- 18 | Maciel Sandoval and during your interview with her the
- 19 second time on June 7th?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 THE COURT: So that the record is clear, I
- 22 already made a note on the record that 91 and 95 were
- 23 previously admitted. I don't show that State's Exhibit
- 24 No. 105 has been admitted.
- 25 MS. SPENCE: At this time I offer into

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1 evidence State's Exhibit No. 105.
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(State's Exhibit No. 105 offered.)

MR. GONZALEZ: No objection.

THE COURT: State's Exhibit No. 105 is

5 admitted without objection.

(State's Exhibit No. 105 admitted.)

- Q. (BY MS. SPENCE) Now, when you talked to Maciel Sandoval, was that a video and audio-recorded statement?
- A. Yes, it is.

- Q. How is it that you showed her these photographs? Did you spread them out on the table in front of her? Did you show them to her one by one or what?
- A. We began with going over material that we had discussed earlier, and when it came to finally bringing the conversation to the injuries, I then presented each injury to the mother singular, each photo, explain this particular injury to your child here. And then we went over each one, and obviously what I was trying to attain was what was going on in that house to this little girl.
- Q. Without going into detail, did she give you any explanation of how this child got these injuries other than what -- did she give you any indication of how this child got these injuries?
 - A. Her words throughout the conversation were

- 1 basically --
- 2 MR. GONZALEZ: Objection as to hearsay,
- 3 Your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 5 Q. (BY MS. SPENCE) Did she claim any
- 6 responsibility for the injuries?
- 7 A. None.
- Q. Did she point the finger at Elida Herrera and say that she caused any of the injuries?
- 10 A. She did not.
- 11 Q. As a matter of fact, she absolutely denied that
- 12 she could have committed these injuries, correct?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. I'm going to show you what's been marked as
- 15 State's Exhibit No. 89 that has already been admitted
- 16 into evidence. There are some markings right to the
- 17 | side of it that I'm kind of pointing out. Where did
- 18 those markings come from?
- 19 A. Maciel Sandoval.
- Q. Was that done during the interview?
- 21 A. It was done during the interview of June 7th.
- Q. And what had you asked her to do?
- A. It was based on some of her responses to my
- 24 questions, and --
- Q. What did you ask her to do?

- A. I asked her to describe your child because I'm looking at a very happy, smiley baby here.
 - Q. This photograph, right?
- Yes, that photograph and I put it on the 4 Α. camera; and I showed it to her. I said, look at this 5 beautiful, happy, little child; and her comments were 6 7 not consistent with that kind of description. So I left her with that picture for a few minutes, and I said, well, why don't you show me what kind of child she was 10 because this picture of this beautiful, happy baby is 11 not the baby that you obviously were raising? You 12 characterize her. And then I walked out and left her
- Q. And you had just been to the autopsy a few days before, correct?

with a pen and told her do your best artist rendition of

17 A. Yes.

that child.

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13

- Q. And is this the result of what she came up with?
- 20 A. Yes, that's her writing. I didn't add 21 anything.
- Q. So, what we have up here is kind of a smiley face and the word "sometimes"?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And then we have the words, "most of times,"

- 1 and there's kind of a weird, sort of, mouth here. What 2 is that supposed to signify?
- 3 A. Well, it appears as if --
- 4 MR. GONZALEZ: Objection, calls for
- 5 speculation, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: Sustained.
- Q. (BY MS. SPENCE) Well, is that supposed to be a smiley face per Maciel or teeth or what?
- 9 MR. GONZALEZ: Objection, it calls for 10 speculation, Your Honor.
- 11 MS. SPENCE: Per Maciel.
- 12 THE COURT: That objection is overruled.
- A. She was describing her child as sad and then
- 14 angry. And so that's where you see the word, maybe sad,
- 15 I'm not sure if that's what she was trying to write, but
- 16 she scratches out S-A --
- 17 MR. GONZALEZ: Objection, calls for
- 18 | speculation, Your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: Overruled.
- A. And then immediately following that is the word "mad," which is clearly printed there, mad.
- Q. So, right under here it starts with S-A,
- 23 | correct?
- 24 A. I would agree with that.
- 25 Q. And then mad, all right. That was from her

```
mama?
1
2
            Yes, Maciel Sandoval.
3
            If we believed what Maciel told you on the two
       Q.
   days that you interviewed with her, basically, the child
4
   self-inflicted her injuries; is that right?
5
            Yes.
6
       Α.
7
                 MS. SPENCE: Pass the witness.
8
                 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Ms.
9
   Spence.
                 Mr. Gonzalez.
10
11
                 MR. GONZALEZ: Enjoy your retirement.
12
   Thank you for coming.
13
                 THE WITNESS: That's so surprising. Thank
14
   you.
15
                 THE COURT:
                             Thank you, Mr. Gonzalez.
16
   Officer Swainson be excused?
17
                 MS. SPENCE:
                              No objection.
18
                 MR. GONZALEZ: No objection.
19
                 THE COURT: All right. You are excused.
20
                 Call your next witness, please.
21
                 MS. THOMAS:
                              Judge, the next witness is the
   medical examiner. I don't know if he's made it here
22
23
   yet. He's supposed to be on the way.
24
                 MS. SPENCE: Your Honor, at this time, I
25
   would offer into evidence State's Exhibit No. 204, the
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contents of 204 and 206.
1
2
                 (State's Exhibit Nos. 204 and 206 offered.)
3
                 MR. GONZALEZ:
                                No objection.
                 THE COURT: State's Exhibits 204 and 206
4
   are admitted without objection.
5
                 (State's Exhibit Nos. 204 and 206
6
7
   admitted.)
                 MS. THOMAS: He's en route.
8
9
                 THE COURT: Will the attorneys approach,
10
   please?
11
                 (Bench conference.)
12
                 THE COURT: Do you have any other
   witnesses?
13
14
                 MS. THOMAS: I think that's it.
15
                 THE COURT: Last witness?
16
                 MS. SPENCE: Well, he may be the medical
17
   examiner, Dr. Love; but they're in the same car. We
18
   didn't expect it to go this fast. We told them to be
19
   here at, like, 11:30, we told them.
20
                 THE COURT: All right.
21
                 MR. GONZALEZ: You want to break for lunch?
22
                 THE COURT: No, I don't think so. We'll
   wait.
23
24
                 MR. GONZALEZ: All right.
25
                 (End of bench conference.)
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1
                 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, if you'll
2
   step back to the jury room for a few minutes, we'll
3
   resume testimony shortly.
4
                 THE BAILIFF: Rise for the jury.
5
                 (Jury exits courtroom.)
                 THE COURT: Be seated, please.
6
7
                 (Open court, Defendant present.)
8
                 THE BAILIFF: Ready, Judge?
9
                 THE COURT: Yes, bring in the jury.
10
                 THE BAILIFF: Rise for the jury.
11
                 (Jury enters courtroom.)
12
                 THE COURT: Be seated, please.
13
                 For the record, will you call your next
14
   witness?
15
                 MS. THOMAS: Yes, ma'am, the State calls
16
   Dr. Joseph Chu -- Albert Chu, sorry.
17
                 THE COURT: Doctor, if you will raise your
18
   right hand to be sworn.
19
                 (Witness sworn.)
20
                 THE COURT: You may be seated.
21
                 Ms. Thomas, you may proceed.
22
23
24
25
```

1 ALBERT CHU,

2 having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MS. THOMAS:

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- Q. Sir, will you, please, introduce yourself to the jury?
- A. My name is Albert Chu. I'm the assistant medical examiner at the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.
- 10 Q. And how long have you worked there?
- 11 A. Since 2005.
- 12 Q. Tell us what you do in your line of work?
- A. My job is to investigate any sudden, unexpected or violent deaths that occur within Harris County.
 - Q. Can you give us the benefit of your educational background, training for the job that you do?
 - A. I went to college at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. I also got a Master's degree from that same institution. I went to medical school at State University of New York in Buffalo, New York. I then did a residency training program in anatomic and clinical pathology at The Hospital at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I then did a fellowship in forensic pathology at the office of the chief medical examiner for the State of Maryland in