1	IN THE SUPREME COURT	OF THE STATE OF NEVADA		
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5	LUIS A. HIDALGO, III,	Tracie K. Lindeman  Case NGlesk20s Supreme Court		
6	Appellant,	) Case Notes #202 Supreme Source		
7	V.			
8	THE STATE OF NEVADA,			
9	Respondent.			
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11	RESPONDENT'S APPENDIX			
12	VOL. IV			
13				
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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 1 2 I hereby certify and affirm that this document was filed electronically with the Nevada 3 Supreme Court on July 12, 2011. Electronic Service of the foregoing document shall be made in 4 accordance with the Master Service List as follows: 5 CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO 6 Nevada Attorney General JOHN L. ARRASCADA, ESQ. CHRISTINE ARRASCADA ARAMINI, ESQ. 8 Counsels fro Appellant 9 NANCY A. BECKER **Deputy District Attorney** 10 11 I further certify that I served a copy of this document by mailing a true and correct copy 12 13 thereof, postage pre-paid, addressed to: 14 CHRISTOPHER W. ADAMS, ESQ. 15 Admitted Pro Hac Vice 102 Broad Street, Ste. C 16 P.O. Box 561 Charleston, South Carolina 29402-0561 17 18 19 20 BY <u>/s/ eileen davis</u> Employee, District Attorney's Office 21 22 23 24 25 NAB/Patrick Burns/ed 26 27 28

Silverton, later in that day. Anabel said this is when Little Lou said something about, Don't worry about Deangelo. If you look at the cell phone records, Deangelo had been calling Little Lou. Little Lou called him multiple times, multiple times the night he was arrested. Deangelo wasn't at work and Lou was chirping him. There's a number, and Mr. DiGiacomo may very well have those in his rebuttal argument. I don't -- I don't recall off the top of my head how many there were. There were a number of calls between 7:30 a.m. and about 1:00 in the morning from Little Lou to Deangelo that weren't answered.

There were other calls later that were talked about, and Deangelo was out and about coming around. He didn't work his shift, but he certainly wasn't in hiding and the police didn't have him, you know, not at home at all. There's no evidence of that.

So then we get to the 23rd, which is the big day.

McGrath putting the wire on him so it's concealed so only

Deangelo knows it's there, and he works with him on lies to

tell, lies to tell. This is how we need to get information.

And who did McGrath say they were trying to get information

on? Anabel, Mr. H. Anabel and Mr. H. Didn't say Little Lou.

And they sent him in, prepped him with lies, and the lies were

these two guys are going to snitch and Kenneth Counts is

threatening to kill him. Said, That will get him talking,

that will get us some evidence. Go.

And boy, you know, they were really concerned about Deangelo Carroll and his well being because they had the old exit strategy for him, run like mad and waive at the door, you know, and McGrath, in full candor, said, well, what was your concern? And I think — I believe he said, My concern was if something happened to him, we wouldn't be able to get the evidence. You know, he was not the biggest fan in the world of Deangelo Carroll and he said he didn't find him trustworthy.

But at any rate, he sent him in wired up and there's talk about the rat poisoning. I told you, we told you in opening statement that that tape is critical. The tape and the phone records are critical. There's certainly parts of that CD that we wish weren't on there, absolutely, but the CD speaks for itself. And on that CD there are no questions from Deangelo Carroll about, Why'd you ask me to bring those bats and bags? That's not on there. Why'd you get me into this? Why did you tell me to go meet up with your father about doing this? Those questions aren't on there. Why not?

He's going there to get evidence for the police in a murder investigation. Why aren't those questions on there?

Because McGrath didn't know to prep him to get that sort of information. The other officer — and he's the one officer not from Metro who's at one of the other police departments

who was part of the team that was working with the FBI, and he said they were there and he remembers having the photos of Mr. H and Anabel. Doesn't remember having any about Little Lou. He said he might have, but doesn't remember. It's pretty doggone clear from all the evidence Little Lou was not a suspect, was not anybody's target until his mouth made him a target. But when you listen to the whole tape, not just the rat poison, when you listen to the whole tape, they want to tell you this stuff about TJ and I'm going to talk about that in a few minutes in a little bit of depth — they want you — or to listen to parts of it. I want you — or ask you to listen to it all.

What would you expect Little Lou Hidalgo to say if he'd been at the center of this thing? What would you expect to hear on that tape on May 23rd if he had called Deangelo Carroll and said, Bring bats and bags, we've got to go take --you've got to take care of Hadland for my old man? You haven't known him, by listening to the tape, looking at him in court, hadn't known him to be a really shy shrinking violet type. I suspect you would find -- you may find when you review this evidence and the whole tape that you'd find a lot of comments that would be there if you really thought Lou Hidalgo had been involved with this thing before then.

On the 24th -- and the rat poison comments, there's no doubt about that. I can't run from it if -- I could, but I

can't. We get to the 24th. They come back -- Deangelo comes back to the club. He's -- or back to Simone's. He's again wearing a body wire. He comes in and there's additional talk and then the wire's taken off. And Anabel doesn't know how that wire was taken off. Deangelo wasn't here to tell you how the wire was taken off. The wire's taken off.

The first five or six minutes you hear on there, there's no part about, Man, I told you yesterday, what do you mean those guys got on the bus? I told you to deal with those guys. I told you to get rat poison. There wasn't those follow-up kind of talks. And if he was serious, if he was serious, wouldn't you have expected something more the very next day, something more?

We can skip ahead. They're arrested shortly after that. Everybody talked about Little Lou was always on time, always up in that club like he was supposed to, got the popcorn going, got the bar stocked, got all his jobs done. He didn't that day. People were lined up — the dancers were lined up outside the club and couldn't get in because he'd been pulled over and arrested.

On July the 6th, Anabel Espindola had a death notice filed on her by these prosecutors. It's kind of interesting these prosecutors -- Mr. DiGiacomo said in opening statement she's, worse case scenario, probably only guilty of murder two. They knocked that down. Well, that's not death penalty

eligible. She was death penalty eligible --

MR. DIGIACOMO: Objection to this argument, Judge.

THE COURT: Overruled.

MR. ADAMS: She was death penalty eligible in their eyes on July the 6th, 2005 and remained that way until the day she pled. And they said, Well, she wasn't under the penalty — the death penalty wasn't hanging over her head that day. But, boy, that testimony was clear, they'd come into court the very day before she went back to cut her deal saying, We're going to file a new death notice, we're going to move ahead with this. She didn't have any guarantee she wouldn't be executed until that plea was entered. That started February 6th.

Then we get down to sometime around May of '07 when she and OB Perez became pretty close, and OB Perez testified she was in jail, heard her sobs, went in and talked to her. And she said Deangelo had this thing going on with TJ. I had this thing with TJ. I told him to handle it. He wasn't supposed to die. Nothing, nothing about Little Lou being involved, nothing.

They cross-examined. You know, they're the State.

They have resources. They have investigators. They've got investigators sitting here the entire trial. Nobody came up with any evidence that OB Perez has been, you know, secretly writing Little Lou Hidalgo. They're in love. I mean, there's

nothing like that. There's nothing to suggest that she is inviting trouble into her life to somehow help Little Lou Hidalgo, but she did. Anabel was involved, according to Anabel, with Deangelo in something and Mr. Hadland was not supposed to end up dead. And Little Lou wasn't involved in it. She pled last year.

I'd like to talk to you for a couple of minutes about the government's opening statement. And I'm saying this not to — because truly, you know, we lawyers argue and fuss and bicker with each other, but at the end of the day we go home. At the end of the day this isn't a game between lawyers. It's not about jousting between lawyers. There's a lot on the line. Mr. Hadland's daughter left but is — her mother, Jennifer's mother, is here, Timothy's ex-girlfriend. It's important to them. It's important to them not to convict anybody. It's important to them for justice to be done and you know how important it is to this side of the room that justice be done.

So my next comments about what they promised in opening statement is not to get into some sort of lawyer jousting thing because obviously we are prone to do that, but this really is about what they promised versus what the proof was. And maybe to get you to think, why didn't the proof come in like they promised? Why? If they feel so good about their case, why'd they oversell it in the opening statement?

1 And I'd like to talk to you first about this --2 Mr. DiGiacomo said, Well, Deangelo Carroll kept looping around 3 the guard shack on the way out to the lake. He passed by it a 4 couple of times. Rontae Zone said there was never a guard 5 shack, doesn't remember a guard shack. He said -- you'll hear 6 testimony from this witness stand that Dr. Stertzer, the 7 original owner who sold the club to Mr. Hidalgo on basically a 8 rent-to-own kind of deal, a personal loan to him, said he gets 9 \$10,000 a month from the Palomino. Anabel Espindola testified 10 it was \$10,000 a week. 11 Now, I started with two very petty minor points and 12 I concede that to you. It's not -- those two points aren't 13 significant in this case, but perhaps they reflect the quality 14 of the evidence, the consistency of the evidence. 15 Mr. DiGiacomo's a smart guy. He's going to say it in a way

MR. DIGIACOMO: Objection, Judge, as to what I know or don't know.

that he knows it to be true and expects it to be true, which

leads me to suspect perhaps the witness changed her story.

THE COURT: Sustained.

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MR. ADAMS: That's an --

MR. DIGIACOMO: That's not a proper one. It's not what I know.

MR. ADAMS: All right. I'll move on.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. ADAMS: Mr. DiGiacomo said -- and I'll move on to a couple of more important things. Mr. DiGiacomo told you -- I have his opening statement here. He told you, You keep following those, meaning the phone records, and you'll see that at 12:24 Mr. H called Anabel and Anabel calls Little Lou. And interestingly, and this is May the 20th, right after the meeting, the payment of money, interestingly, at 1:48 a.m. Mr. H direct connects with Deangelo Carroll. The evidence, the phone records, show that never happened.

Deangelo Carroll used KC -- he told us Deangelo
Carroll used KC's phone to call Anabel Espindola. Not
according to Kenneth Counts, not according to Deangelo
Carroll, not according to Rontae Zone who said no phone was
passed and not according to Anabel. I mean, she tried to call
that number back. She didn't say, Yeah, it was some un -strange number. I didn't know who it was. I called him right
back, tried to talk to him again. We weren't done with our
little plan B conversation. Somewhere on here, there it is,
after an 84-second call, I tried to call right back. They
didn't get that information.

They told you in their opening statement that you'll hear on the tape, and we'll make a big deal out of the fact that Deangelo Carroll said on that body wire Little Lou had nothing to do with this. Mr. DiGiacomo went on to say, You'll learn Deangelo Carroll knows nothing about conspiracy law. I

thought that point good. We get to hear from Deangelo

Carroll, find out how much he knows about conspiracy law and

also how much he can help and tell the truth about Little Lou.

We did not hear that. And now they're asking you to believe

us, believe us. When you the tape the first time, you didn't

have a transcript, and I was watching -- as you guys were

listening very intently, I was watching you very intently.

And I hope that's okay. You can watch Little Lou very

intently all you want and I'm happy for you to.

1.4

I was watching you intently and about halfway through that 34 minute and 56-second tape, I thought every one of you would be snoring because it's hard to listen, it's hard to make sense of it. It's a lot easier when the transcript's up. You know, once you had the transcript, boy, everybody was awake and could follow along with all the language. That's how we all process information. But when we're trying to listen to that the first time, did any of you hear TJ? Any of you?

When you had the State's transcript, I bet none of you heard TJ then either because, as you recall, at 22:15, it was not in the State's transcript. And when you were forced to listen to it a third time with the defense's almost identical transcript, you didn't see it there either. They started off this case, Mr. DiGiacomo's first sentence out of his mouth was, I told you you should have taken care of TJ.

Second sentence, Those are the words of Luis, Little Luis Hidalgo, III, the son, on May 23rd, 2005. He talks about it later. The next time you do something stupid like that, I told you, you should have taken care of TJ. And then Mr.Adams, Objection to that, Your Honor. That was not in the transcript.

The Court, That's sustained. Sustained.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Objection, Judge. He can't read the objections.

THE COURT: Right. Well, if it's objected to and it's sustained, they're not supposed to consider it.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Right.

MR. ADAMS: Well, you heard the CD now multiple times. You heard them play it a few more times. What is not on there, even when they're putting it on the screen, is, I told you to take care of TJ, to go up to the lake, to kill him, to do this or that. That's not on there. Even the inference they're trying to argue is not — is not an inference that points automatically towards guilt. But it's important or else we wouldn't be spending this much time talking about it. But you didn't hear — I'm confident you did not hear it the first time.

And I promise you you did not hear it when you were reviewing their transcript or our transcript. And now their case is such that it depends on you to find TJ's initials

1 mentioned in that tape -- on that tape when their court 2 reporter couldn't find it. That's their case, ladies and 3 gentlemen, a case that was perhaps overpromised in opening 4 statement and didn't come through like they told you it would. 5 I'd like to talk to you now, and I think I have 6 about ten minutes left with you, for those of you who might be 7 thinking of the rest room or other more interesting things in 8 life. In about ten minutes, I'll be done, and I don't know 9 how long you're going to work tonight, but I sure hope you, at 10 least, handle our part of the case as soon as you can. 11 I'd like to talk to you about the conspiracy to 12 murder Mr. Hadland. And somewhere up here I have the 13 actual --14 Andy, I think I forgot you again, didn't I? Could 15 you please play --16 I skipped over this, but it's a part of the tape 17 that we'd like you to focus on that actually was in the 18 transcript. 19 Could you play that part for me, please, Andy. 20 (Playing tape) 21 MR. ADAMS: Well, at least according to the 22 transcript, that wasn't the clearest version, but it's at 23 13:26 to about 13:34 on the CD that -- if it's the full CD of 24 34 minutes and 56 seconds, 13:26. I'd like to talk to you

first about the first charge in the Information.

25

I think that's about as big as I can get that one.

Louie Hidalgo, along with coconspirators Kenneth

Counts, Anabel Espindola, Deangelo Rashaun Carroll and Jayson

Taoipu, on or around May the 19th, on or around, not exactly

sure about when this supposed meeting takes place, but on or

around, in the ballpark, they meet with each other and/or

Louie Hidalgo, Jr. and between themselves — this is a little

confusing, isn't it?

Now, in the opening statement Mr. DiGiacomo told us several times that this is a very complex case. Perhaps it's really a very simple case. It is a very long case. Perhaps it's a long case because of the holes in the evidence. But this says, These people, maybe along with Mr. Hidalgo, between themselves conspire and agree to commit a crime; to wit, the murder of Timothy J. Hadland.

Ladies and gentlemen, where, where in any of the evidence where is an agreement, any agreement, any agreement at all that Little Lou Hidalgo entered into related to Mr. Hadland? Where is that? Somewhere on here — and it gets smaller because I really wanted it on one sheet. We'll go through these later. When was there an agreement? What was the agreement? When did Little Lou talk to Mr. Counts? When did he talk to Anabel Espindola? Anabel Espindola is the only person who talks about any kind of agreement. And I told you this line in opening and I thought for sure it was going to

get a laugh and it got nothing. So I'll try it again.

Hopefully you're a -- maybe we've spent a little more time together.

There's nothing but disagreement, nothing but disagreement, according to Anabel Espindola. She said there was an argument, a fight, not an agreement. I mean, an agreement is, Hey, dad, want to do something about this? Yes, son, what are your ideas? I don't know, let's go through the possibilities. We could do nothing. We could beat him. We could beat him up real bad and try to hospitalize him. We could kill him. What do you think, dad? Oh, son, I think the only way to handle this is to kill him. Good. Let's agree to it.

I mean, that never happened. And I'm being a little -- you know, a little over the top on how I describe what is necessary for an agreement, but the truth of the matter is there's no evidence of any agreement, none. It doesn't exist in this case. I suspect they will argue once I sit down that, boy, use your common sense, this never would have happened, there had to have been an agreement. Almost like the Salem witch trials. You know, boy, they must be witches because they can't prove they're not.

How are we supposed to come into court and prove there was never an agreement? How? I mean, Anabel said there was an argument. She said she was with Mr. Hidalgo the rest

of the day, father and son were never together, and then they see Deangelo after it happened. Where in this time line of their witness is there room, is there space, is there an inch for any agreement? It's not there.

And certainly the bats and bags comments, super questionable. When was this bats and bags thing supposed to have happen? For that to have happened, for that to have made sense, Rontae Zone would have to be lying. I don't think they're going to say Rontae's lying. Rontae would have to be lying. And Mr. H would have had to have a conversation with Little Lou about, Get Deangelo to the club with bats and bags, sometime around 7:00, 8:00 o'clock at night, and Anabel would have to be lying because she said they were together. Their two star witnesses would have to be lying for there to be a conspiracy. Not really the best way to build a conspiracy case, it seems to me.

Actually, before I move on to the next charge, I'd like to talk to you for a second kind of generally about how to view this. We talked earlier about if there's more than one way to view the evidence. I think this is a pretty easy charge, the easiest. They charged it first. I was happy to start with it first in talking to you. Let me tell you this, in all fairness. If you think they've proven Little Lou Hidalgo had an agreement with any or all of those people, you've got a duty, you've taken an oath, you've got to convict

him. You've got to convict his butt of that, no doubt about it. And I say that in full confidence that you're not going to find an agreement.

We believe -- we -- our position is he's been proved innocent of that charge. And like the Judge instructs, if they don't meet their burden of proof, we're entitled to an acquittal on that charge. Some of you may go back and say, yeah, but what if, couldn't he have -- what if he did this, what if his dad texted him or something, and we don't have text records, it's fair game. Turn to your neighbor and say, whoa, remember the government has the burden of proof. If there's a text record, and there's no testimony about nothing to suggest there is, if there is, the government's got to bring that to us. We can use our common sense, but we can't pull up a backhoe and try to fill in these holes in their case. That's not right. We took an oath not to do that.

This is this first part of the murder charge, and I'll deal with the second one first. They have charged Little Lou under 22 theories where they think it makes him guilty of murder. The second one — and I know it's small print, but you'll have this document with you in the back. The second one is guilty by conspiring to commit the crime of battery and/or battery with use of a deadly weapon, and/or battery resulting in substantial bodily injury, and/or murder and/or to kill Mr. Hadland. A complex case or a really simple case.

There's no evidence of any agreement. We just talked about that. I'm not going to run back through that, but there's none.

The first theory that they have really, I think, is what they believe their case is now, aiding and abetting by the commission of the crime directly, indirectly, aiding and abetting — aiding, we know what it means, abetting means assisting. Aiding and assisting and to wit — or otherwise procuring. I should have circled procuring. Procuring's maybe not a word you use every day. Maybe you have friends in the military, some people have been procurement officers in the military or procurement positions in businesses. Those are people that get stuff, you know, like in Mash, Radar O'Riley would have been a procurement person, you know, he gets things. Procure.

So he either aided and abetted by procuring Luis Hidalgo, III and/or Luis Hidalgo, Jr. Well, this is a big deal. And makes Little Lou guilty or makes Little Lou innocent. Right? I mean, he has to be involved in this. Little Lou, III and/or Mr. Hidalgo procured defendant Deangelo Carroll to beat and/or kill Timothy J. Hadland; thereafter, Carroll did all this stuff.

Well, there are two ways that they can try to argue they've proved that to you. One way is the bats and bags call, 7:42, had to be the bats and bags call. Zone must be

wrong. It could've happened at noontime. Zone has to be wrong, smoking pot all day. Their witness. Reasonable doubt right there. Zone said the call's at noontime. The 7:42 call is about coming back to work.

The other way, the other horse they can try to ride to prove this murder case to you is that somehow what Anabel said about arguing with the dad, making the dad so mad that he stewed and he simmered and later he called Deangelo Carroll about doing a hit. That's the other way to do it. How is that aiding? How is that assisting? I mean, even if that's true, even if that, by random flight of fancy, is truthful, how is that aiding or assisting? Is that driving him over to meet with Deangelo? I mean, there's not an a — there's not a meeting of the minds.

And what else does Anabel tell us? Anabel says, her version to get the deal, her version to have a shot at probation, her version is that there was talk about Rizzolo and Gilardi and that one of these two gentlemen had a customer beat up. They know how to handle their business. And because — if that comment were made, does that mean that Little Lou Hidalgo must have, in his heart, wanted Timothy Hadland dead? And that's what they're trying to get. Two plus two doesn't equal 25. I mean, it just doesn't.

The solicitation for murder, we all know about free speech in this country, and usually it's free political

speech. Certainly any of you could go across to the park, say whatever you want about the government, and one of the things — and I think a lot of us, after 9-1-1 and the years after that, have thought a lot about really what it means to be an American. And one of the things that makes us different is we do believe in free speech. And sometimes that speech is abused, sometimes it's offensive, sometimes people don't like it when people are burning flags and that type of stuff. But free speech is protected and it always has been.

John Adams, no relation, when he was president in 1800, he was going up to New Hampshire to dedicate a cannon, a new cannon that was in some courthouse, and somebody yelled out when he was about to dedicate it, I hope it burns your britches off. That guy was prosecuted. The judge who presided over that trial was almost impeached by the U.S. Senate because we protect the right to say disagreeable things. That's in public parks and that's also in private bedrooms.

MR. DIGIACOMO: I apologize, Judge, but at some point that is jury nullification. I object.

MR. ADAMS: There's no jury nullification. I'll --I'm moving on, but ---

THE COURT: All right.

MR. ADAMS: -- that's certainly not jury nullification, Your Honor.

Why is that important? Well, you can have a solicitation to murder without any further act. You can. Your words alone can do it. What do you think of when you hear solicitation of murder? If you watch enough cable TV, you might think of some diner out in the desert somewhere, nobody's there, a couple of people at the bar, and somebody who doesn't smoke cigarettes, chain smoking with nervous hands waiting to meet some guy who shows up in all leather who walks in and they never show the face. He's an undercover police officer and he walks in and they sit down and this guy either has pictures of his spouse or he has pictures of his business partner. And in either one of those situations, those partnerships are ending. And it's about money and here's the schedule, here's the bag of money. I want you to do it Thursday at 2:00 p.m., and then they arrest the guy for solicitation of murder. That's when you have a real good idea of the intent. When it's something like that, you have a real good idea that somebody really wants somebody dead. Unfortunately, they found an undercover officer, not a hit man.

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This is a situation where a guy -- you can hear him hacking on the tape, a guy who's sick, who's in his bedroom, and it's not his bedroom because he's a near do-well. He's got a rental -- he's got a house. He's renting it out. You heard that testimony. He's living at Simone's trying to save

money, trying to get ahead. He's living there and who knocks on his door? Deangelo Carroll. And why is that important?

Because Little Lou didn't get out of his bed to go find

Deangelo Carroll with a bottle of gin to say, Kill these guys.

I found out at the Silverton. I found out that my old man might be in trouble. Anabel might be in trouble. I love these people. We've got to not let anything happen to them.

We can't have the business license in trouble or whatever. He didn't go looking for Deangelo to fix the problem. Deangelo came to him.

If Little Lou wanted those two guys dead, or let's say Little Lou wanted those three guys dead, including Kenneth Counts, don't you think he would have left his bedroom to try to make that happen, try to find Deangelo, say, You've got to take care of this problem?

What happened after he left? Nothing. Nothing.

Nothing at all. Little Lou was arrested the next day 24, 26,

28 hours later the afternoon of the 24th. There was another

conversation with Deangelo that was wired, not another

conversation about harming anybody. Wouldn't you expect that?

This is not the same thing as the guy out in the desert with

the bag of money and all the pictures.

Now, they want to say, Well, on this tape he's talking about \$25,000. Well, you've got in evidence \$10,100 of U.S. Savings Bonds by Little Lou in his room in a booklet

all organized. He didn't hand that to Deangelo and say, Here, man, let me pay you in advance. He didn't do that. He was talking about if you get arrested — or Anabel was actually talking about, You need a lawyer. If you get arrested, stick to your story. And basically he was saying, If that happens, I'll take care of your wife. I mean, what are you talking about, conspiracy, a year? I mean, come on, man, I'll do these savings bonds things for you. I'll say in — do you think if Deangelo would have gone to jail for a year, he'd have gotten out and had \$25,000? Very unlikely.

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right there would have been given to him. They weren't. It was a kid who ran his mouth and didn't think. And how do we know that? Anabel Espindola's known the little guy since he was eight years old. They were there together every day. They were working together. He was living at Simone's. She was running Simone's as part owner. He was an assistant manager. It sounds like the job -- you know, he had -- you know, he's a younger guy whose father owns a club. He was working hard, but he wasn't upper management. He is, I guess, on the letterhead, but he was stocking the bar and that sort of stuff. She was the general manager there. She'd been very involved in this young man's life. They have terms of endearment for each other.

He wrote her. They introduced into evidence a KARReporting & Transcription Services

couple of letters Little Lou wrote to her before Christmas this year asking about her mother. You have that in evidence. Her mother — she said her mother's been sick for a long time. Little Lou wrote — knew she was going to be a witness against the father. Didn't write a threatening letter. He wrote a letter of concern about the mother. I mean, their relationship goes a long way back. Anabel Espindola who — has every reason in the world to make these guys happy.

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I think Mr. Arrascada said, Was she upset or you've known him when he's happy, sad, mad, glad, you know, he started a rhyme and he said, Well, look, let's just cut to it. You know him when he's serious? Yes. You know him when he's just stupid? Yes. Was he just stupid when he said that? Yes. And was he just stupid because you thought you'd handled the problem? Absolutely. I was paying money to Deangelo, problem solved. You know, Lou was yapping. Those guys didn't get hurt, thank God, but when you evaluate all of this, all of you, all of you said in jury selection that you've heard people say these kind of things.

They haven't all been taped and on wires and been presented in court, but you've all heard people say that. And you said, Well, I need to know the person. Well, what if you didn't know the person? Well, I'd either get to know the person or you need to hear from people that knew the person.

Anabel Espindola, State's star witness number one, knows the

person. It was stupid.

I want to talk to you for a second about strip clubs and then I want to just leave you with a couple of thoughts and then I'll be done. I think I've gone a lot longer -- I've gone -- I feel like I've gone a lot shorter than you do. I know that, but I'm about done.

In this country, at least in parts of this country and in my part of the country, the last 40 years or so, we've really believed in equal education. Every kid has a right to quality education. And that's important because I remember in high school we went on a field trip to another school. It was a school in Cave Springs, Georgia. Cave Springs is a little town where Mike Glen of — the Stinger, for any of you who watch basketball, old Hawk player, played at Auburn, greatest Auburn player before Charles Barkley came along. The Stinger was there and there's a Georgia School for the Deaf and we went out there. And it was just amazing to me that these kids were getting a great education.

That was important to me because I left and said, you know, that's fair. It doesn't cost the same, but we're all entitled to an equal chance in this country. And I went off to law school finally later, had no idea I'd end up being a lawyer. I went to law school in Washington, D.C., and it was wonderful living up by Capital Hill. You'd walk by the Supreme Court building. It's right across the street from the

U.S. capital, etched up in the marble on the Supreme Court building is equal justice under law. And that's meant a lot to me. It's a principle worth fighting for, fighting for in the courtroom, fighting for in a career.

And a lot of times that's about fairness between rich and poor. That's not really the case here in this courtroom. In this courtroom, it's about can a kid who's a manager in a strip club get the same shake as a kid who was running a body shop. My dad didn't shove me in the strip club business at 20. I might have been very happy to be there, but he didn't. Little Lou was working there. It was an honest job. It was paying the bills. He was building a life. He was not — on the 19th of May or on the 23rd of May, he wasn't trying to end lives. That's the evidence in this case.

He wasn't present. He didn't pay. He didn't participate. Since May 24th, 2005, three years and almost nine months ago, Little Lou's been waiting for lawyers to quit talking about his situation and have you guys, not people of common sense, but I think the 12 of you, 14 of you together, people with uncommon sense to decide was there an agreement, was he involved? I think the answer's clear and we hope, we pray that at the end of this you give him another shot.

Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Adams. Mr. DiGiacomo.

1 MR. DIGIACOMO: Thank you, Judge. Judge, if we 2 could just take down the pieces. 3 MR. ADAMS: Would you like me to take them all down? 4 MR. DIGIACOMO: Yeah, just take them all down. 5 STATE'S CLOSING ARGUMENTS 6 MR. DIGIACOMO: The one thing I will promise to you 7 is this is going to be significantly shorter because every 8 given trial, every trial that's done in the State of Nevada 9 and the country, civil, criminal, doesn't matter, it's about 10 one thing. It's about the truth. That's it. That's -- at 11 the end of the day when you go back to that room, the only 1.2 thing the State of Nevada cares about is finding the truth. 13 But I'm going to dispute a few things that were said by 14 counsel, and the last one I just can't resist talking about. 15 This case isn't about rich and poor? It is. 16 the poor people did this and the rich people who were the 17 puppet masters are going to walk away from it. No doubt this 18 case is about rich and poor. Let's talk about what was said 19 by Mr. Gentile early on. I'd like to address Little Lou for a 20 little bit too, but one thing he said was, What wasn't enough? And then he said, What do they have now? 21 22

And Mr. Gentile tried to, at the end of his argument, kind of mute this, but Wednesday, this is a corroboration case; Thursday, there isn't a corroboration case because when you read all those instructions, they say one

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fact or act which tends to connect you to a crime. Their own client, Mr. H, says, I paid the money. This isn't a corroboration case the moment those words came out of his mouth. That's it, end of the day. In fact, at the end of this case, I'm going to explain that you can set aside -- you don't even need Anabel Espindola right now to determine that man's guilt, at all, no way, no how.

And the other thing as it relates to Little Lou Hidalgo is the only evidence, exculpatory evidence, that they -- and I've used exculpatory before -- the only evidence that exonerates this individual is a statement by a person that they tell you never to believe. And it's the exact same defense that Mr. H has. Don't ever believe Deangelo Carroll. And, hey, we're prosecuting him. Good. Don't ever believe a word he says.

But if you're going to listen to the wire and you're going to follow the law, you can't listen to what he says because the law tells you that the statements made by someone after he's withdrawn from the conspiracy, ie: Deangelo Carroll wearing a wire, can't be offered against the defendants for the truth of the matter asserted. It's only the statements of Anabel and Little Lou that are relevant.

So let's look at what you hear Little Lou saying before Deangelo made the statement and what you hear him say after the statement. There is zero context to the statement

whatsoever. When you listen, I don't care how close you get your ear to that speaker, I don't care how far you turn it up, ask for headphones, I don't know what you do, you cannot hear what Little Lou says that prompts the response from Deangelo Carroll.

And that statement that Deangelo Carroll, was it --You had nothing to do with this whole situation with TJ, you
have no idea in what reference that is. And when you combine
that with the fact that the moment they walk in the door he's
whispering, which tells you what? That on May 23rd, the
moment that Deangelo Carroll walked through the door, this man
knew about the murder. And they keep calling him kid and the
little guy and all -- he's a 27-year-old man. At what point
do you take some responsibility in your life?

He knew the moment they walked through the door that a crime was committed. And how could be possibly have known? They went over the phone records. I noticed they wanted to skip some really important stuff. They did May 19th up until right around the murder time and then they started up on May 20th and they skipped the part with all the communications between Mr. H and Little Lou and then Little Lou with Deangelo Carroll. Go back and look at those and ask yourself, what?

The only person who has contact with Deangelo

Carroll after he leaves the police department on those cell

phone records is Little Lou. He's the only person. And you

remember what the detective said? The only person we told about flyers being on the ground, and you heard about how dark it was out there. They had no idea they left the Palomino flyers out there. They would have picked them back up. The only person we told was Deangelo Carroll. And it's clear by the time of those recordings that the coconspirators know about the flyers. And the only person who had contact with Deangelo Carroll after that is Little Lou. That's it.

MR. ADAMS: Objection, Your Honor. There are a number of calls from Anabel Espindola.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.\ \operatorname{DIGIACOMO}\colon$$  Not after -- you can go back to those records.

THE COURT: All right. And again, ladies and gentlemen, the records -- it's your interpretation of the records that count.

MR. DIGIACOMO: After Deangelo Carroll leaves that interview room, find yourself the calls between Deangelo Carroll and Anabel Espindola. Those calls that you see are right around the time period on the 20th right around the time period when Mr. H gets the call saying, I want to talk to Deangelo Carroll — or the police want to talk to Deangelo Carroll. Right? We need you to come down to the club and talk to us.

And when we get to Mr. H, I want you to pay close attention to those cell records. We haven't pulled that chart

out, and you can utilize that chart, but you find the time when Mr. H and Anabel aren't at the same place at the same time when anything relevant and important happens in this case. Ask yourself how it's possible that Mr. H and Anabel are in the building together when the phone call comes from Marty Wildemann. They're still in the building together when Anabel's crossing back and forth with Deangelo -- Anabel's phone, because I know we keep talking about Anabel -- Anabel's phone, his mistress of 18 years, crossing back and forth with Deangelo Carroll. And then, and only then, after those phone calls are over, will you see Mr. H drive northbound on I-15 and wind up at the Palomino Club.

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And then the very first thing he does is cover up for Deangelo Carroll. That's it. That's the first thing he does. He won't admit it on the stand. And while we talk about that, I know they put the accomplice instruction up there and, wow, when you read that accomplice instruction, oh, my God, you should never, ever, ever believe an accomplice. They have so much motivation to lie. That was basically the argument.

But look at that instruction and say to yourself, isn't that the same motivation that the defendant has? With the exception of the part where he wants leniency from me, now he wants leniency from you. So when you analyze the defendant's testimony, don't you have to analyze it under the

same analysis you do of Anabel Espindola? Absolutely.

MR. GENTILE: Your Honor, I object to that. That is not the state of the law.

THE COURT: All right. Well, that's sustained as to the state of the law, but he certainly can argue what the motivation would be and et cetera.

So go on, Mr. DiGiacomo.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Thank you.

Mr. Gentile made an argument to you about, They don't have my guy on the tape, but he's the first guy to admit to you that before the tape occurs he told his client not to talk to Deangelo Carroll. He wants you to benefit from the fact that he gave him good legal advice. Anabel Espindola, had she not loved Mr. H, wouldn't be sitting in that chair either. Had anybody -- if Little Lou had listened to his father when he got Don Dibble's card wouldn't be sitting in that chair right now because you wouldn't have those wires.

And the funny thing about it is they want to talk to you about the witnesses in this case. They ignore the wires. And most importantly, they ignore the testimony of Mr. H. Mr. M claims, and this is the instruction -- well, I guess it was Mr. Gentile that said it to you, he's an accessory after the fact. Not if you read how accessory after the fact was defined. He was extorted, according to him, but he didn't do anything to help them conceal the crime, according to his

testimony. He's not an accessory after the fact.

I talked about this already a little. I wrote this down, though. Mr. Gentile said, You can't place Mr. H anywhere in any relevant period of time. Well, we can. We can place him with Anabel Espindola on those phone records at every critical juncture in the case. You won't be able to place him anywhere else than with Anabel Espindola.

There were a number of things they talked about during the course of their argument that said — that I said certain things in opening statement that didn't come true. And I guess, you know, one of things I thought we agreed during trial was there was a mistake on there. Mr. H didn't call. It was Little Lou, not that I necessarily think that that helps them in any manner whatsoever.

But then they said, You're not going to hear any evidence the coconspirators were upset that they used KC. And I want you to think back to that because I want you to listen to the wires. And I know it's brutal listening to those wires, and all of us in this room have listened to those wires hundreds of times, thousands of times probably, and without the transcript, it is a painstaking and brutal experience, and while I understand and I reflect that this is about equal and exact justice and I appreciate the defense counsel telling the family of Mr. Hadland that they feel bad for them, they're entitled to justice too. Mr. Hadland is entitled to justice

too. Go back in that room and listen to the evidence and ask yourself — when you listen to that evidence, the first thing you ask yourself is, Well, was there a conspiracy? And you can't answer that question any differently, right? There has to be a conspiracy.

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Now, they're claiming, I think, although at times I think they're saying there's not a conspiracy as it relates to Anabel Espindola, like she's not innocent, but she's not guilty, she's just innocent and put in a bad situation so she pled guilty anyway. There's times when I kind of hear that argument from the defense, but the fact of the matter is she's guilty. There's a train coming to send her to prison had she gone to trial because when you listen to that evidence -- and there's no question she conspired with somebody, no doubt about it. There is no question that there is a conspiracy.

The question then becomes who is involved in the conspiracy? And what they want you to do, and it's funny because Mr. H -- Mr. H's lawyer wants you to not believe Rontae and I think Mr. Hidalgo -- or Little Lou's lawyer wants you to believe Rontae. One thing that Rontae has been consistent about the entire time and nobody can impeach him with is that the day of the 19th, the very first thing that happens is Little Lou is saying that Mr. H wants somebody dealt with.

MR. GENTILE: Objection. Objection. Deangelo
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Carroll is saying that.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Deangelo Carroll --

THE COURT: All right. That's sustained. Rontae testified that Deangelo Carroll said it.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Correct, right.

So Deangelo Carroll, this guy that you can't ever believe, that is so — thinks himself so far in advance, yeah, okay, I have the ability — or I'm going to right now tell Rontae, if he's telling the truth, and if he's lying, then they made it up later on and the rest of the defendants in here are just so stupid as to get — falling into the middle of this during a wire. He has the forethought ahead of time to not mention Anabel. He says, Look — and when Rontae first comes in and gives his statement to the police, he's got to not mention Anabel.

Anabel's name -- when they said Little Lou wasn't a suspect early on in the case, what are you talking about? Of course Little Lou was a suspect. Is he the top of the food chain? No. And we'll talk just a moment about Mr. H's testimony was brutal for his son. Brutal. If he doesn't talk to his son in that time period, then his son's involved in a conspiracy without him. How does a father do that to a son?

So after you have the testimony of Rontae that says Little Lou wants -- or Little Lou says Mr. H wants a person dealt with, you have the testimony of Anabel Espindola. You

could completely reject the testimony whatsoever. I would submit to you that your duty requires you to look at it. And when you look at it, here's the thing you need to ask yourself: Why? Why is she minimizing? Neither Mr. Pesci or I are going to stand up here and tell you that Anabel Espindola is telling the full truth. It can't be possible. She hears on the phone, because on May 24th you've got to know she hears from Deangelo Carroll. If he's alone, kill him. If he's with somebody else, just beat him. Why won't she admit that?

Because as we're going to get to, she has the perfect, perfect defense to first-degree murder. And the reason she has a perfect defense to first-degree murder is because when you listen to the May 24th, 2005 wire, you will know that beyond any doubt that's the first time she knows about it. What she won't admit is that she heard Deangelo Carroll's statement. She told him to go to plan B anyways and then thereafter she was involved in the coverup. Once she said plan B and the killing occurred, she's on the hook for second-degree murder, no doubt, end of story for her. None of us is standing up here and telling you that.

But then the question becomes, do we just go to trial and convict Anabel Espindola or do you get the guy who's been using her as a puppet, the puppet master? I heard the word puppet being used, the family man who had his -- who has

a strip club and a mistress for 18 years, the family man, that guy. The guy who wants to write her a Christmas card uses a woman to write the Christmas card so it can't be traced back to him. The guy who doesn't do anything for himself. The bump on the log during the interview with Jerome DePalma. The bump on the log who was taking notes that nobody noticed.

Did you hear Mr. Dibble say, No, he wasn't talking, he was sitting there writing things down? Where did that -- when did that happen? I didn't hear Mr. Dibble say that. Did you hear Jerome DePalma say he was doing anything other than sitting there looking down at his feet? Did you hear him say he was taking notes as Anabel was doing the talking? And then you saw the demeanor of the guy on the stand. You think that guys sits in a room and doesn't talk, ever, at any point in time? He's a bump on a log. That's it.

Oh, and, oh, by the way, I am scared to death of Kenneth Counts, but I don't tell my son. You don't tell your son? You don't tell your son you're scared -- that's the reason you're scared? No, I don't. Why won't he admit that? Why won't he admit that? And it comes back to the May 24th wire. And I'm going to get to that at the very end.

So what else do you have after that? Nobody disputes the facts of what when on out there. I don't think anybody says that Kenneth Counts is not the shooter. What else do you know? Well, they said, well -- Anabel's the one

that said TJ was out at the lake. Really? Look at the phone records. When does she have the ability to find out that TJ was out at the lake? Is that anything even remotely reasonable to make a conclusion? Here's what happened. Little Lou and Deangelo are talking about this, they're mad about TJ's behavior. Deangelo calls Anabel and Anabel tells Mr. H in front of Little Lou and Little Lou is the one who's mouthing off to his dad. Obviously he knew about it beforehand because he said to him, You won't do anything about it.

There has clearly been discussions about TJ earlier than that between Little Lou and his father. It's the first time Anabel heard it, but obviously Little Lou's mouthing off, encouraging, as the law requires, Deangelo Carroll, encouraging his father. And ultimately, whether or not he's aware or not --

MR. ARRASCADA: Judge, I have to object to this.

This is not inferences from the evidence, but it's just gross speculation by the prosecutor.

THE COURT: Overruled.

MR. DIGIACOMO: Thank you.

It is patently clear that by that night the order is issued by somebody, and it isn't Anabel Espindola. The question is, can you determine it's Mr. H? And here's what you have to ask yourself: If Mr. H paid the money because he

was scared, you have to believe Deangelo Carroll. I know Mr. Pesci's cross-examination of Mr. H was short, but how do you get around that fact? Here's a man who doesn't believe a word Deangelo Carroll says. He's a complete screwup. He doesn't do anything right. And Deangelo Carroll walks into his office and says, Hi, Mr. Rich Guy, who has \$155,000 in a club that apparently has no security whatsoever, apparently anybody can walk in there and rob them of \$155,000, and I know you have multiple guns up here, you have a CCW, you have a Glock, I just killed the guy for you and there's somebody downstairs and he wants the money and Mr. H, the savvy businessman, owner that runs the club doesn't have the audacity to walk around to at least the cameras to look to see if there's some other guy downstairs? Are you kidding me?

And then the reason that he doesn't tell his son is because — or the reason he testifies that he doesn't tell his son is because it's clear his son doesn't know anything about Kenneth Counts trying to hurt anybody.

So I'm going to close this case and hope that you people go back there and actually look at the evidence. I hope you listen to the wires. I hope you consider the evidence and just do this, take the phone records, place them next to the recordings, and look at what Mr. H says and ask yourself, can this guy be telling the truth, because if he

paid the money because he was scared, that's one thing. If he paid it for any other reason, it's because he's involved in a murder.

Can you stick this on me, Janie?

THE COURT RECORDER: Sure. It's on.

MR. DIGIACOMO: There it is.

(Playing tape)

MR. DIGIACOMO: That's May 24th, Anabel Espindola. What is she saying? What is she saying? I tried to call you. Remember — earlier in the conversation, Deangelo says, Remember, I told you if he's alone, I should kill him. And what was the answer to that? I didn't say yeah. She doesn't say, no, you never told me that. She says, I didn't say yeah. And if he's with somebody else, I should just beat him up? And what was the response to that? I said plan B, Deangelo. I said, Fucking no. And he goes, You didn't say no. And she says, Well, I tried to call you. As soon as I found out where you were, I tried to call you and I couldn't get ahold of you.

That's not accomplice testimony. That is a coconspirator testimony. That's coconspirator statements. How is it that she knew before that moment that I had spoken and I knew where you were? Ask yourself that question. And if you can say to yourself that means something other than, I figured it out when you were talking to me on the phone and I told you to go to plan B, just like Mr. H told me to, if you

could come up with an explanation better than that that involves her being guilty -- or involves her giving the order and nobody else knowing about it, ask yourself how you can come to that conclusion. How is it that on the first wire she tells -- and they say she uses "I" 57 times. Yeah, but it's 20 minutes before she says any "I" that she's worried about for her. It's always Louie and you have to stick together, you and Louie, you and Louie, you and Louie.

Two things: That one section of the wire and the other times that they kind of talked about, you know, KC F'd up, why did KC F up? What went wrong? And if you listen to it all, beginning to end, beginning to end, it's because it should have been plan B. His wife was out there. There's eyes on your ass, as to quote Anabel. They should have gone to plan B. And he says, I know, but KC F'd up and just did plan A. That's it. It's that simple.

And then ask yourself this: The reason Mr. H had to say he didn't tell his son that he loves, that he believed they'd be in danger from Kenneth Counts is this.

## (Playing tape)

MR. DIGIACOMO: That's why Mr. H had to testify the way he did because if he got up there and said, Yeah, I told my son that Kenneth Counts was going to kill us all or Deangelo's homey or whatever it is, then his son would have been caught on the wire on May 24th worried still about

snitching, and that isn't the only example of it. When you listen to that wire, every time that there is a mention about something related to people involved in this case, every time the concern of the coconspirators is to go to the cops. How on earth could the reason for paying the money be anything other than because of the concern about going to the cops? And you're not concerned about going to the cops, you're not worried about surveillance, you're not running to your lawyer if you're not guilty.

Thank you.

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THE COURT: Thank you. The clerk will now swear the officer to take charge of the jury.

(Officer sworn)

THE COURT: All right. Ladies and gentlemen, in a moment, I'm going to have all 14 of you get your personal belonging as well as your notepads and follow Jeff through the rear door.

As you may know, a criminal jury is composed of 12 members. Two of you are the alternates who are seated in predesignated alternate seats. Those are chairs 7 and 15. So our alternates are Mr. Patterson and Ms. Lenahan.

Before you leave, though, to the alternates, before you leave, please give phone numbers where we can reach you tonight as well as tomorrow and so forth because if, God forbid, one of the 12 jurors becomes ill or something happens

before they can fulfill their duty of reaching a verdict, we will call in an alternate.

So the prohibition on speaking about the case still pertains to the alternates until you learn that a verdict has been reached and we'll take your numbers. But again, before you leave tonight, please give phone numbers to Jeff where we can contact you if we need to call one of the alternates in.

Having said that, I'm going to have all 14 of you collect your belongings and your notepads and follow Jeff through the rear of the courtroom.

(Jury recessed for deliberation at 6:11 p.m.)

THE COURT: One of the jurors had an appointment at 6:00, which she probably has now missed, so they were going to leave and come back, but I don't know now if they're going to want to deliberate or what. We're not planning on ordering dinner, so that may have some determinative effect on their — I'm going to let them do what they want, though, because — I hope they come back tomorrow but...

MR. GENTILE: I'm not feeling well. My voice is gone, my -- I've got chills.

THE COURT: Well, leave numbers -- don't -- why don't you do this. Don't leave the courtroom yet because as soon as Jeff gets them in the room, I'm going to find out what they want to do and we can, you know, let you -- so everybody just wait.

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ATTEST: I hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled case to the best of my ability.

KIMPERLY LAWSON