

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

* * * * *

SIAOSI VANISI,

Appellant,

vs.

WILLIAM GITTERE, WARDEN,
and
AARON FORD, ATTORNEY
GENERAL FOR THE
STATE OF NEVADA.

Respondents.

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Volume 30 of 38

APPELLANT'S APPENDIX

Appeal from Order Denying Petition for Writ of
Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction)
Second Judicial District Court, Washoe County
The Honorable Connie J. Steinheimer

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<u>VOLUME</u>	<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
36	Addendum to Motion to Set Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 20, 2018.....	AA07685 – AA07688
EXHIBIT		
36	1. Handwritten note from Siao Si Vanisi to Jennifer Noble or Joe Plater August 13, 2018.....	AA07689 – AA07690
32	Answer to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction), July 15, 2011	AA06756 – AA06758
35	Application for Order to Produce Prisoner, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 20, 2018.....	AA07321 – AA07323
35	Application for Order to Produce Prisoner, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 11, 2018	AA07385 – AA07387
12	Application for Setting, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 11, 2001	AA02529
35	Application for Setting, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 20, 2018.....	AA07324

14	Application for Writ of Mandamus and/or Writ of Prohibition, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No.45061 April 13, 2005.....	AA02818 – AA02832
14-15	Case Appeal Statement, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 28, 2007.....	AA02852 – AA03030
39	Case Appeal Statement, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 25, 2019	AA08295 – AA08301
35	Court Minutes of May 10, 2018 Conference Call Re: Motion for Reconsideration of the Order to Produce, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 17, 2018	AA07390
35	Court Minutes of May 30, 2018 Oral Arguments on Motion for Discovery and Issuance of Subpoenas/Waiver of Petitioner’s Appearance at Evidentiary Hearing and All Other Hearings, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 June 4, 2018	AA07447-AA07749
39	Court Minutes of September 25, 2018 Status Hearing on Petitioner’s Waiver of Evidentiary Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 28, 2018.....	AA08190 – AA08191

37	Court Ordered Evaluation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 (FILED UNDER SEAL) September 19, 2018.....	AA07791 – AA07829
3	Evaluation of Siao Si Vanisi by Frank Everts, Ph.D., June 10, 1999	AA00554 – AA00555
34	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment Dismissing Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 April 10, 2014	AA07103 – AA07108
12	Judgment, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Case No. CR98-0516 November 22, 1999.....	AA02523 – AA02524
12	Motion for Appointment of Post-Conviction Counsel, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 18, 2002.....	AA02530 – AA02540
12	Motion for Extension of Time to File Supplemental Materials (Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Death Penalty Case), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 23, 2002.....	AA02556 – AA02559
38	Motion for Leave to File Supplement to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 28, 2018.....	AA08083 – AA08090

EXHIBIT

- 38 1. Supplement to Petition for Writ of
 Habeas Corpus (Post Conviction)
 September 28, 2018..... AA08091 – AA08114
- 13 Motion for Order Appointing Co-Counsel, State of *Nevada*
 v. Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 October 30, 2003..... AA02588 – AA02590
- 35 Motion for Reconsideration, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 April 2, 2018 AA07327 – AA07330

EXHIBITS

- 35 1. *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Case No.
 CR98-P0516, Petitioner’s Waiver of
 Appearance,
 January 24, 2012..... AA07332 – AA07336
- 35 2. *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Case No.
 CR98-P0516, Waiver of Petitioner’s
 Presence,
 November 15, 2013..... AA07337- AA07340
- 35 3. *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Case No.
 CR98-P0516, Order on Petitioner’s
 Presence,
 February 7, 2012 AA07341 – AA07342
- 35 4. *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Case No.
 CR98-P0516, Order, AA07343 – AA07346
 February 7, 2014

13	Motion for Stay of Post-Conviction Habeas Corpus Proceedings and for Transfer of Petitioner to Lakes Crossing for Psychological Evaluation and Treatment (Hearing Requested), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 9, 2004.....	AA02594 – AA02608
14	Motion to Continue Evidentiary Hearing, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 April 26, 2005.....	AA02835 – AA02847
32	Motion to Dismiss Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 15, 2011	AA06759 – AA06764
35	Motion to Disqualify the Washoe County District Attorney’s Office, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 June 29, 2018	AA07450 – AA07468

EXHIBITS

35	1. State Bar of Nevada, Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Formal Opinion No. 41 June 24, 2009	AA07469 – AA07476
35	2. American Bar Association, Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Formal Opinion 10-456,	

	Disclosure of Information to Prosecutor When Lawyer's Former Client Brings Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claim July 14, 2010	AA07477 – AA07482
35-36	3. Response to Motion to Dismiss, or Alternatively, To Disqualify the Federal Public Defender, <i>Sheppard v. Gentry, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR03-502B December 22, 2016	AA07483 – AA07545
36	4. Transcript of Proceedings – Conference Call Re: Motions, <i>Sheppard v. Gentry, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR03-502B December 29, 2016	AA07546 – AA07568
36	5. Order (denying the State's Motion to Dismiss, or Alternatively, To Disqualify the Federal Public Defender), <i>Sheppard v. Gentry, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR03-502B January 5, 2017.....	AA07569 – AA07586
36	Motion to Set Hearing Regarding Vanisi's Request to Waive Evidentiary Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 25, 2018	AA07607 – AA07610
12	Motion to Withdraw as Counsel of Record, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 18, 2002	AA02564 – AA02567
36	Non-Opposition to Presence of Defendant, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 21, 2018.....	AA07691 – AA07694

12	Notice in Lieu of Remittitur, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 34771 October 6, 1999.....	AA02413
14	Notice in Lieu of Remittitur, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 45061 May 17, 2005	AA02848
12	Notice of Appeal, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, Nevada Supreme Court Case No. (35249) November 30, 1999.....	AA02525 – AA02526
14	Notice of Appeal, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 November 28, 2007.....	AA02849 – AA02851
34	Notice of Appeal, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 65774 May 23, 2014	AA07117 – AA07293
38	Notice of Appeal, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, Nevada, Supreme Court Case No. (78209) February 25, 2019	AA08181 – AA08184
34	Notice of Entry of Order, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 April 25, 2014	AA07109 – AA07116
38	Notice of Entry of Order, (Order Denying Relief), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 6, 2019	AA08167 – AA08173

38	Notice of Entry of Order (Order Denying Motion for Leave to File Supplement), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 22, 2019	AA08174 – AA08180
34	Objections to Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment Dismissing Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 31, 2014.....	AA07097 – AA07102
36	Opinion (on ethical duties of capital post-conviction counsel), David M. Siegel, Professor of Law, August 23, 2018.....	AA07695 – AA07700
12	Opposition to Motion for Extension of Time to File Supplemental Materials (Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus) (Death Penalty Case), State of Nevada v. Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 1, 2002.....	AA02560 – AA02563
32	Opposition to Motion to Dismiss, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 30, 2011.....	AA06765 – AA06840
38	Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Supplement to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 8, 2018.....	AA08115 – AA08122

36	Opposition to Motion to Disqualify the Washoe County District Attorney's Office, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 9, 2018	AA07587 – AA07594
----	--	-------------------

EXHIBITS

36	1. State Bar of Nevada, Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Formal Opinion No. 55	AA07595 – AA07602
36	2. E-mail from Margaret "Margy" Ford to Joanne Diamond, Randolph Fiedler, Scott Wisniewski, re Nevada-Ethics-Opinion-re-ABA-Formal-Opinion-55 July 6, 2018	AA07603 – AA07604
12	Opposition to Motion to Withdraw as Counsel of Record, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 23, 2002	AA02568 – AA02571
3	Order (directing additional examination of Defendant), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 June 3, 1999	AA00551 – AA00553
32	Order (to schedule a hearing on the motion to dismiss), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 21, 2012.....	AA06845 – AA06847
34-35	Order Affirming in Part, Reversing in Part and Remanding, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 65774 September 28, 2017.....	AA07294 – AA07318

38	Order Denying Motion for Leave to File Supplement, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 15, 2019	AA08176 – AA08180
37	Order Denying Motion to Disqualify, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 17, 2018.....	AA07785 – AA07790
14	Order Denying Petition, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 45061 April 19, 2005.....	AA02833 – AA02834
3	Order Denying Petition for Writ of Certiorari or Mandamus, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 34771 September 10, 1999.....	AA00620 – AA00621
38	Order Denying Relief, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 6, 2019	AA08169 – AA08173
37	Order for Expedited Psychiatric Evaluation, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 6, 2018.....	AA07782 – AA07784
13	Order (granting Motion to Appoint Co-Counsel), <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 23, 2003	AA02591 – AA02593
38	Order Granting Waiver of Evidentiary Hearing, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 6, 2019	AA08157– AA08166

35	Order to Produce Prisoner, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 23, 2018.....	AA07325 – AA07326
35	Order to Produce Prisoner, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 14, 2018	AA07388 – AA07389
12	Order (relieving counsel and appointing new counsel), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 11, 2002.....	AA2553 – AA02555
3	Original Petition for Writ of Certiorari or Mandamus And Request for Emergency Stay of Trial Pending Resolution of the Issues Presented Herein, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 34771 September 3, 1999.....	AA00556 – AA00619
15-16	Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 4, 2011	AA03033 – AA03269

EXHIBITS

16	1. Criminal Complaint, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi, et al.</i> , Justice Court of Reno Township No. 89.820, January 14, 1998.....	AA03270 – AA03274
16	2. Amended Complaint, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi, et al.</i> , Justice Court of Reno Township No. 89.820, February 3, 1998	AA03275 – AA3279

16	3.	Information, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial Circuit of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, February 26, 1998.....	AA03280 – AA03288
16	5.	Declaration of Mark J.S. Heath, M.D., (including attached exhibits), May 16, 2006	AA03289 – AA03414
16	6.	Birth Certificate of Siaosi Vanisi, District of Tongatapu, June 26, 1970.....	AA03415 – AA03416
16	7.	Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration of Siaosi Vanisi, May 1976.....	AA03417 – AA03418
16-17	11.	Juror Instructions, Trial Phase, <i>State of Nevada v.</i> <i>Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, September 27, 1999.....	AA03419 – AA03458
17	12.	Juror Instructions, Penalty Phase, <i>State of Nevada v.</i> <i>Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, October 6, 1999.....	AA03459 – AA03478
17	16.	Motion to Dismiss Counsel and Motion to Appoint Counsel. <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, June 16, 1999	AA03479 – AA03489
17	17.	Court Ordered Motion for Self Representation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 5, 1999	AA03490 – AA03493
17	18.	Ex-Parte Order for Medical Treatment, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 12, 1999	AA03494 – AA03496

17	19.	Order, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, August 11, 1999.....	AA03497 – AA03507
17	20.	<i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Washoe County Second Judicial District Court Case No. CR98-0516, Transcript of Proceedings June 23, 1999	AA03508 – AA03551
17	21.	Transcript of Proceedings <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 3, 1999	AA03552 – AA03594
17-18	22.	Reporter’s Transcript of Motion for Self Representation <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 10, 1999.....	AA03595 – AA03681
18	23.	In Camera Hearing on Ex Parte Motion to Withdraw <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court, Case No. CR98-0516 August 26, 1999.....	AA03682 – AA03707
18	24.	Amended Notice of Intent to Seek Death Penalty, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 18, 1999.....	AA03708 – AA03716
18	25.	Mental Health Diagnosis, Phillip A. Rich, M.D., October 27, 1998.....	AA03717 – AA03720
18	26.	Various News Coverage Articles ...	AA03721 – AA03815

18	29.	Verdict, Guilt Phase, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 27, 1999.....	AA03816 – AA03821
18	30.	Verdict, Penalty Phase, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 6, 1999.....	AA03822 – AA03829
18	31.	Photographs of Siaoisi Vanisi from youth	AA3830 – AA03834
18	32.	Ex Parte Motion to Reconsider Self-Representation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Case No. CR98-0516, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, August 12, 1999.....	AA03835 – AA03839
18-19	33.	Defense Counsel Post-Trial Memorandum in Accordance with Supreme Court Rule 250, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 15, 1999.....	AA03840 – AA03931
19	34.	Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 January 18, 2002.....	AA03932 – AA03943
19	35.	Ex Parte Motion to Withdraw, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 August 18, 1999.....	AA03944 – AA03952

19-20	36.	Supplemental Points and Authorities to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction), <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 February 22, 2005 AA03953 – AA04146
20	37.	Reply to State’s Response to Motion for Protective Order, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516, March 16, 2005..... AA04147 – AA04153
20	39.	Transcript of Proceedings - Post-Conviction Hearing <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 May 2, 2005 AA04154 – AA04255
20-21	40.	Transcript of Proceedings - Continued Post-Conviction Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 May 18, 2005 AA04256 – AA04349
21	41.	Transcript of Proceedings, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 April 2, 2007 AA04350 – AA04380
21	42.	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98P0516 November 8, 2007..... AA04381 – AA04396
21	43.	Appellant’s Opening Brief, Appeal from Denial of Post-Conviction Habeas Petition <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607, August 22, 2008..... AA04397 – AA04496

21-22	44.	Reply Brief, Appeal from Denial of Post-Conviction Habeas Petition, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 December 2, 2008.....	AA04497 – AA04554
22	45.	Order of Affirmance, Appeal from Denial of Post-Conviction Petition, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Nevada Supreme Case No. 50607 April 20, 2010.....	AA04555 – AA04566
22	46.	Petition for Rehearing Appeal from Denial of Post-Conviction Petition, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 May 10, 2010	AA04567 – AA04580
22	48.	Order for Competency Evaluation <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 27, 2004	AA04581 – AA04584
22	49.	Forensic Psychiatric Assessment, Thomas E. Bittker, M.D., January 14, 2005.....	AA04585 – AA04593
22	50.	Competency Evaluation, A.M. Amezaga, Jr., Ph.D., February 15, 2005	AA04594 – AA04609
22	56.	Order finding Petitioner Competent to Proceed, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court, Case No. CR98-0516 March 16, 2005.....	AA04610 – AA04614
22	59.	Sanity Evaluation, Thomas E. Bittker, M.D., June 9, 1999	AA04615 – AA4622
22-23	60.	Preliminary Examination, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 20, 1998	AA04623 – AA04856

- 23 61. Arraignment, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No.
 CR98-0516
 March 10, 1998..... AA04857 – AA04867
- 23 62. Status Hearing, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 August 4, 1998 AA04868 – AA04906
- 23 63. Status Hearing *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 Second Judicial District of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 September 4, 1998..... AA04907 – AA04916
- 23 64. Status Hearing, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No.
 CR98-0516
 September 28, 1998..... AA4917 – AA04926
- 23 65. Report on Psychiatric Evaluations, *State of Nevada v.*
 Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 November 6, 1998..... AA04927 – AA04940
- 24 66. Hearing Regarding Counsel, *State of Nevada v.*
 Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 November 10, 1998..... AA04941 – AA04948
- 24 67. Pretrial Hearing, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
 et al., Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
 Case No. CR98-0516
 December 10, 1998 AA04949 – AA04965

24	69.	Hearing to Reset Trial Date, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court, Case No. CR98-0516 January 19, 1999.....	AA04966 – AA04992
24	70.	Transcript of Proceeding – Pretrial Motion Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 June 1, 1999	AA04993 – AA05009
24	71.	Motion Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 11, 1999.....	AA05010 – AA05051
24	72.	Decision to Motion to Relieve Counsel, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 August 30, 1999.....	AA05052 – AA05060
24	73.	In Chambers Review, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 12, 1999	AA05061 – AA05080
24	81.	Transcript of Proceedings - Report on Psych Eval, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 6, 1998.....	AA5081 – AA05094
24	82.	Hearing Regarding Counsel, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 10, 1998.....	AA05095 – AA05102
24-25	89.	Transcript of Proceeding, Trial Volume 4, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516	

	January 14, 1999.....	AA05103 – AA05331
25	90. Order (granting Motion for Mistrial), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 15, 1999.....	AA05332 – AA05335
25	92. Declaration of Paulotu Palu January 24, 2011.....	AA05336 – AA05344
25	93. Declaration of Siaosi Vuki Mafileo February 28, 2011	AA05345 – AA05359
25-26	94. Declaration of Sioeli Tuita Heleta January 20, 2011.....	AA05360 – AA05373
26	95. Declaration of Tufui Tafuna January 22, 2011.....	AA05374 – AA05377
26	96. Declaration of Toeumu Tafuna April 7, 2011	AA05378 – AA05411
26	97. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of Michael Finau April 18, 2011	AA05412 – AA05419
26	98. Declaration of Edgar DeBruce April 7, 2011	AA05420 – AA05422
26	99. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of Bishop Nifai Tonga April 18, 2011	AA05423 – AA05428
26	100. Declaration of Lita Tafuna April 2011.....	AA05429 – AA05431
26	101. Declaration of Sitiveni Tafuna April 7, 2011	AA05432 – AA05541

26	102. Declaration of Interview with Alisi Peaua conducted by Michelle Blackwill April 18, 2011	AA05442 – AA05444
26	103. Declaration of Tevita Vimahi April 6, 2011	AA05445 – AA05469
26	104. Declaration of DeAnn Ogan April 11, 2011	AA05470 – AA05478
26	105. Declaration of Greg Garner April 10, 2011	AA05479 – AA05486
26	106. Declaration of Robert Kirts April 10, 2011	AA05487 – AA05492
26	107. Declaration of Manamoui Peaua April 5, 2011	AA05493 – AA05497
26	108. Declaration of Toa Vimahi April 6, 2011	AA05498 – AA05521
26-27	109. Reports regarding Siaosi Vanisi at Washoe County Jail, Nevada State Prison and Ely State Prison, Various dates	AA05522 – AA05699
27	110. Declaration of Olisi Lui April 7, 2011	AA05700 – AA05704
27	111. Declaration of Peter Finau April 5, 2011	AA05705 – AA05709
27	112. Declaration of David Kinikini April 5, 2011	AA05710 – AA05720
27	113. Declaration of Renee Peaua April 7, 2011	AA05721 – AA05726

27	114. Declaration of Heidi Bailey-Aloi April 7, 2011.....	AA05727 – AA05730
27	115. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of Tony Tafuna April 18, 2011.....	AA05731- AA05735
27	116. Declaration of Terry Williams April 10, 2011.....	AA05736 – AA05741
27	117. Declaration of Tim Williams April 10, 2011.....	AA05742 – AA05745
27	118. Declaration of Mele Maveni Vakapuna April 5, 2011.....	AA05746 – AA05748
27	119. Declaration of Priscilla Endemann April 6, 2011.....	AA05749 – AA05752
27	120. Declaration of Mapa Puloka January 24, 2011.....	AA05753 – AA05757
27	121. Declaration of Limu Havea January 24, 2011.....	AA05758 – AA05767
27	122. Declaration of Sione Pohahau January 22, 2011.....	AA05768 – AA05770
27	123. Declaration of Tavake Peaua January 21, 2011.....	AA05771 – AA05776
27	124. Declaration of Totoa Pohahau January 23, 2011.....	AA05777 – AA05799
27-28	125. Declaration of Vuki Mafileo February 11, 2011	AA05800 – AA05814

28	127. Declaration of Crystal Calderon April 18, 2011.....	AA05815 – AA05820
28	128. Declaration of Laura Lui April 7, 2011.....	AA05821 – AA05824
28	129. Declaration of Le’o Kinkini-Tongi April 5, 2011.....	AA05825 – AA05828
28	130. Declaration of Sela Vanisi-DeBruce April 7, 2011.....	AA05829 – AA05844
28	131. Declaration of Vainga Kinikini April 12, 2011.....	AA05845 – AA05848
28	132. Declaration of David Hales April 10, 2011.....	AA05849 – AA05852
28	136. Correspondence to Stephen Gregory from Edward J. Lynn, M.D. July 8, 1999.....	AA05853 – AA05855
28	137. Memorandum to Vanisi File from MRS April 27, 1998.....	AA05856 – AA05858
28	143. Memorandum to Vanisi File From Mike Specchio July 31, 1998.....	AA05859 – AA05861
28	144. Correspondence to Michael R. Specchio from Michael Pescetta October 9, 1998.....	AA05862 – AA05863
28	145. Correspondence to Michael Pescetta from Michael R. Specchio October 9, 1998.....	AA05864 – AA05866

28	146. 3 DVD's containing video footage of Siaosi Vanisi in custody on various dates (MANUALLY FILED).....	AA05867
28	147. Various Memorandum to and from Michael R. Specchio 1998-1999	AA05868 – AA05937
28	148. Memorandum to Vanisi file Crystal-Laura from MRS April 20, 1998.....	AA05938 – AA05940
28	149. Declaration of Steven Kelly April 6, 2011	AA05941 – AA05943
28	150. Declaration of Scott Thomas April 6, 2011	AA05944 – AA05946
28	151. Declaration of Josh Iveson April 6, 2011	AA05947 – AA05949
28	152. Declaration of Luisa Finau April 7, 2011	AA05950 – AA05955
28	153. Declaration of Leanna Morris April 7, 2011	AA05956 – AA05960
28	155. Declaration of Maile (Miles) Kinikini April 7, 2011	AA05961 – AA05966
28	156. Declaration of Nancy Chiladez April 11, 2011	AA05967 – AA05969
28-29	159. Transcript of Proceedings, Trial Volume 1, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 11, 1999.....	AA05970 – AA06222

29-31	160. Transcript of Proceedings, Trial Volume 2, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 12, 1999.....	AA06223 – AA06498
31	163. Neuropsychological and Psychological Evaluation of Siasosi Vanisi, Dr. Jonathan Mack April 18, 2011.....	AA06499 – AA06569
31-32	164. Independent Medical Examination in the Field of Psychiatry, Dr. Siale ‘Alo Foliaki April 18, 2011.....	AA06570 – AA06694
32	172. Motion for Change of Venue, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 15, 1998	AA06695 – AA06700
32	173. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview with Tongan Solicitor General, ‘Aminiasi Kefu April 17, 2011.....	AA06701 – AA06704
32	175. Order Denying Rehearing, Appeal from Denial of Post-Conviction Petition, <i>Vanisi vs. State of Nevada</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 June 22, 2010	AA06705 – AA06706
32	178. Declaration of Thomas Qualls April 15, 2011.....	AA06707 – AA06708
32	179. Declaration of Walter Fey April 18, 2011.....	AA06709 – AA06711
32	180. Declaration of Stephen Gregory April 17, 2011.....	AA06712 – AA06714
32	181. Declaration of Jeremy Bosler April 17, 2011.....	AA06715 – AA06718

- 32 183. San Bruno Police Department Criminal
Report No. 89-0030
February 7, 1989 AA06719 – AA06722
- 32 184. Manhattan Beach Police Department Police
Report Dr. # 95-6108
November 4, 1995..... AA06723 – AA06727
- 32 185. Manhattan Beach Police Department
Crime Report
August 23, 1997..... AA06728 – AA06730
- 32 186. Notice of Intent to Seek Death Penalty,
State of Nevada v. Vanisi, Second Judicial
District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
February 26, 1998 AA06731 – AA06737
- 32 187. Judgment, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
Case No. CR98-0516
November 22, 1999..... AA06738 – AA06740
- 32 190. Correspondence to The Honorable Connie
Steinheimer from Richard W. Lewis, Ph.D.
October 10, 1998..... AA06741 – AA06743
- 32 195. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of
Juror Richard Tower
April 18, 2011 AA06744 – AA06746
- 32 196. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of
Juror Nettie Horner
April 18, 2011 AA06747 – AA06749
- 32 197. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of
Juror Bonnie James
April 18, 2011 AA06750 – AA06752

32	198. Declaration of Herbert Duzant’s Interview of Juror Robert Buck April 18, 2011.....	AA06753 – AA06755
12	Remittitur, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 35249 November 27, 2001.....	AA02527 – AA02528
15	Remittitur, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 July 19, 2010	AA03031 – AA03032
35	Remittitur, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 65774 January 5, 2018.....	AA07319 – AA07320
12	Reply in Support of Motion to Withdraw as Counsel of Record, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 27, 2002	AA02572 – AA02575
39	Reply to Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Supplement to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 15, 2018.....	AA08232 – AA08244
36	Reply to Opposition to Motion to Disqualify the Washoe County District Attorney’s Office, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 July 27, 2018	AA07615 – AA07639

EXHIBITS

36	1. Response to Motion for a Protective Order, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court
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	of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 9, 2005.....	AA07640 – AA07652
36	2. Letter from Scott W. Edwards to Steve Gregory re Vanisi post-conviction petition. March 19, 2002.....	AA07653 – AA07654
36	3. Supplemental Response to Motion for a Protective Order, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 16, 2005.....	AA07655 – AA07659
36	4. Appellant’s Appendix, Volume 1, Table of Contents, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada</i> , Nevada Supreme Court, Case No. 50607 August 22, 2008.....	AA07660 – AA07664
36	5. Facsimile from Scott W. Edwards to Jeremy Bosler April 5, 2002.....	AA07665 – AA07666
35	Reply to Opposition to Motion for Reconsideration and Objection to Petitioner’s Waiver of Attendance at Evidentiary Hearing, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 April 16, 2018.....	AA07356 – AA07365

EXHIBIT

35	1. Petitioner’s Waiver of Appearance (and attached Declaration of Siaosi Vanisi), April 9, 2018.....	AA07366 – AA07371
13	Reply to Response to Motion for Stay of Post-Conviction Habeas Corpus Proceedings and for Transfer of Petitioner to Lakes Crossing for Psychological Evaluation and treatment (Hearing Requested), <i>State of Nevada v.</i> <i>Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,	

Case No. CR98-0516
November 17, 2004..... AA02609 – AA02613

36 Reply to State’s Response to Petitioner’s Suggestion
of Incompetence and Motion for Evaluation, *Vanisi*
v. State of Nevada, et al., Second Judicial District
Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
August 6, 2018..... AA07671 – AA07681

EXHIBIT

36 1. Declaration of Randolph M. Fiedler
August 6, 2018 AA07682 – AA07684

36 Request from Defendant, *State of Nevada v.*
Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
Case No. CR98-0516
July 24, 2018 AA07605 – AA07606

32 Response to Opposition to Motion to Dismiss
Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus
(Post-Conviction), *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*,
Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
Case No. CR98-0516
October 7, 2011..... AA06841 – AA06844

36 Response to Vanisi’s Suggestion of Incompetency
and Motion for Evaluation, *State of Nevada v.*
Vanisi, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada,
Case No. CR98-0516
July 30, 2018 AA07667 – AA07670

35 State’s Opposition to Motion for Reconsideration
and Objection to Petitioner’s Waiver of Attendance at
Evidentiary Hearing, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Second
Judicial District Court of Nevada,
Case No. CR98-0516
April 11, 2018..... AA07347 – AA07352

EXHIBIT

1. Declaration of Donald Southworth, *Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
April 11, 2018..... AA07353 – AA07355
- 36 State’s Sur-Reply to Vanisi’s Motion to Disqualify the Washoe County District Attorney’s Office, *Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
August 31, 2018..... AA07701 – AA07710

EXHIBIT

- 36 1. Transcript of Proceedings – Status Hearing, *Vanisi v. State of Nevada*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
July 1, 2002 AA07711 – AA07724
- 36 Suggestion of Incompetency and Motion for Evaluation, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
July 25, 2018 AA07611 – AA07614
- 37 Transcript of Proceedings – Competency for Petitioner to Waive Evidentiary Hearing, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
September 24, 2018..... AA07830 – AA07924
- 37-38 Transcript of Proceedings – Report on Psychiatric Evaluation, *State of Nevada v. Vanisi*, Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516
September 24, 2018..... AA07925 – AA08033

13	Transcript of Proceedings – Conference Call – In Chambers, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 5, 2003	AA02583 – AA02587
35	Transcript of Proceedings – Conference Call, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 10, 2018	AA07372 – AA07384
34	Transcript of Proceedings – Decision (Telephonic), <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 March 4, 2014.....	AA07089 – AA07096
12	Transcript of Proceedings – In Chambers Hearing & Hearing Setting Execution Date, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 18, 2002.....	AA02541 – AA02552
13	Transcript of Proceedings – In Chambers Hearing, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 19, 2005.....	AA02645 – AA02654
13	Transcript of Proceedings – In Chambers Hearing, <i>Vanisi v. State of Nevada, et al.</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 24, 2005.....	AA02655 – AA02679
35	Transcript of Proceedings – Oral Arguments, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 May 30, 2018	AA07391 – AA07446

38	Transcript of Proceedings – Oral Arguments, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 25, 2019.....	AA08136 – AA08156
32-33	Transcript of Proceedings - Petition for Post-Conviction (Day One), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 5, 2013	AA06848 – AA06966

EXHIBITS

Admitted December 5, 2013

33	199. Letter from Aminiask Kefu November 15, 2011.....	AA06967 – AA06969
33	201. Billing Records-Thomas Qualls, Esq. Various Dates.....	AA06970 – AA06992
33	214. Memorandum to File from MP March 22, 2002.....	AA06993 – AA07002
33	Transcript of Proceedings - Petition for Post-Conviction (Day Two), <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 December 6, 2013	AA07003 – AA07083

EXHIBITS

Admitted December 6, 2013

33	200. Declaration of Scott Edwards, Esq. November 8, 2013.....	AA07084 – AA07086
33	224. Letter to Scott Edwards, Esq. from Michael Pescetta, Esq. January 30, 2003.....	AA07087 – AA07088

12-13	Transcript of Proceedings – Post-Conviction, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 28, 2003.....	AA02576 – AA02582
13	Transcript of Proceedings – Post-Conviction, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 22, 2004.....	AA02614 – AA02644
1	Transcript of Proceedings – Pre-Trial Motions, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 November 24, 1998.....	AA00001 – AA00127
13	Transcript of Proceedings – Report on Psychiatric Evaluation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 27, 2005.....	AA02680 – AA02716
37-38	Transcript of Proceedings – Report on Psychiatric Evaluation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 24, 2018.....	AA07925 – AA08033
13-14	Transcript of Proceedings – Report on Psychiatric Evaluation <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 February 18, 2005	AA02717 – AA02817
38	Transcript of Proceedings – Report on Psychiatric Evaluation, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 25, 2018.....	AA08034 – AA08080

36-37	Transcript of Proceedings – Status Conference, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 5, 2018.....	AA07725 – AA07781
3-5	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 1, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 20, 1999.....	AA00622 – AA00864
5-6	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 2, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 21, 1999.....	AA00865 – AA01112
1-2	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 3, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 13, 1999.....	AA00128 – AA00295
6-7	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 3, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 22, 1999.....	AA01113 – AA01299
2-3	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 4, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 14, 1999.....	AA00296 – AA00523
7	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 4, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 23, 1999.....	AA01300 – AA01433

3	Transcript of Proceedings, Trial Volume 5, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 January 15, 1999.....	AA00524 – AA0550
7-8	Transcript of Proceedings, Trial Volume 5, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 24, 1999.....	AA01434 – AA01545
8	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 6, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 27, 1999.....	AA01546 – AA01690
8-9	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 7, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 28, 1999.....	AA01691 – AA01706
9	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 8, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 September 30, 1999.....	AA01707 – AA01753
9-10	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 9, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 1, 1999.....	AA01754 – AA01984
10-11	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 10, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 4, 1999.....	AA01985 – AA02267

11-12	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 11, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 5, 1999.....	AA02268 – AA02412
12	Transcript of Proceedings – Trial Volume 12, <i>State of Nevada v. Vanisi</i> , Second Judicial District Court of Nevada, Case No. CR98-0516 October 6, 1999.....	AA2414 – AA02522

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document was filed electronically with the Nevada Supreme Court on the 26th day of September, 2019.

Electronic Service of the foregoing Appellant's Appendix shall be made in accordance with the Master Service List as follows:

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1 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

2 THE COURT: I'd ask that you tell me if any of
3 my questions you are unable to hear, and I'll be glad to
4 repeat them.

5 Is any juror acquainted with or related to the
6 defendant in this case? If it is no, answer out loud.

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

8 THE COURT: Is any juror related to or
9 acquainted with the attorneys who are involved in this case?

10 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Who raised their hand? Mr. Thomas.

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm familiar with
14 Mr. Gammick through his association with the National Guard.

15 THE COURT: And how often do you see him?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, since he became the
17 D.A., I don't see him very often at all.

18 THE COURT: Are you able to set aside your
19 prior working relationship through the Guard with him and
20 decide this case based on the merits?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Do you feel you would be biased for
23 or against his position just because of your knowledge of
24 him?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 THE COURT: Anyone else? Yes, Mr. Decker.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I met Mr. Gammick several
3 years ago. Fairly briefly, though.

4 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
5 earlier meeting that would cause you to be biased for or
6 against either side in this case?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, ma'am.

8 THE COURT: That was all who answered.

9 Is anyone related to or acquainted with any
10 member of the District Attorney's Office staff?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

12 THE COURT: Is anyone acquainted with or
13 related to any member of Mr. Specchio's staff?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

15 THE COURT: Is any juror related to or
16 acquainted with any law enforcement officers?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: We have Mr. Decker.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have several friends
21 that are on the Sparks police force.

22 THE COURT: Can you give us their names?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Morrow is one of them.
24 Harris. Litke, I think he's retired now.

25 Also I'm acquainted with one of the court

1 bailiffs. His last name is Ingerham. I think that's all.

2 THE COURT: Would you feel any pressure to
3 decide this case one way or another because of your
4 relationship with law enforcement?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 THE COURT: Do you feel you would give law
7 enforcement officers any special treatment as witnesses
8 because of your relationship with law enforcement officers?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, ma'am.

10 THE COURT: There was someone else. Was it
11 you, Mr. Thomas?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I'm a member of the
13 Sheriff's Search and Rescue Air Squadron. Through that
14 affiliation I'm familiar with several deputies.

15 THE COURT: Anyone involved in this case?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not that I know of.

17 THE COURT: And would you have any bias or
18 prejudice towards either side because of your association or
19 your membership in the Sheriff's Air Squadron?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

21 THE COURT: Do you feel that you would have to
22 give any special preference to law enforcement witnesses if
23 they testified?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: Miss Roberts.

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was married to an L.A.
2 Police Department officer for 14 years. I was an L.A.
3 County Sheriff for a short period of time. I worked at the
4 South Bay Muni Court and affiliated with many officers on a
5 day-by-day basis.

6 THE COURT: How long ago has that been?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Twenty years.

8 THE COURT: Is there anything about your prior
9 involvement in the court or in law enforcement that would
10 cause you difficulty serving in this case?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Would you feel you had to give any
13 special preference to law enforcement witnesses in this
14 case?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I might take their word
16 over someone else's word.

17 THE COURT: If you had two conflicting stories,
18 is that what you are talking about?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

20 THE COURT: Would you be able to assess their
21 presentation in the courtroom in making that determination?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe I would, yes.

23 THE COURT: Would you always believe a police
24 officer, or you would look at the way they presented
25 themselves and the basis for their opinion?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I'd look at the
2 way they presented themselves, yes.

3 THE COURT: Are you talking about it would be
4 two equal circumstances, you might go with the police
5 officer?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Anybody else raise their hands?
8 Yes, sir.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I forgot to mention
10 yesterday, I forgot all about it, but I was a witness to a
11 guy that beat up somebody in the casino, and he had bit my
12 hand when I took him off, and he went to court. He only got
13 six months, and there was four counts against him, four
14 officers.

15 THE COURT: That was a misdemeanor case?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He got six months. I
17 forget what it was now.

18 THE COURT: In the Justice Court?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, it was Sparks.

20 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lafond. Is there
21 anything about that --

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I missed that question
23 yesterday.

24 THE COURT: Okay. That's good. Is there
25 anything about that that would cause you a problem in this

1 case?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so. Beings
3 the guy only got six months, it kind of bothered me. And I
4 had to sweat through HIV and everything else.

5 THE COURT: Right. The question would be
6 whether or not you would be substituting your experience
7 into this case and deciding the case based on your own
8 experience.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I doubt it.

10 THE COURT: Anyone else?

11 MR. STANTON: Your Honor, before we proceed to
12 the next question, Mr. Thomas indicated he was a member of
13 Search and Rescue. I'd just like to indicate to the Court
14 and counsel that on our witness list there is a gentleman by
15 the name of Fernando Moreira. He is a member of Search and
16 Rescue.

17 THE COURT: Do you have a witness list,
18 Mr. Thomas?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I saw one yesterday, and
20 there was only one name that I recognized, and it wasn't
21 that one.

22 THE COURT: All right. Now that Mr. Stanton
23 has called it to your attention, are you familiar with that
24 person?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 MR. BOSLER: We ask the Court to inquire about
2 the jurors, new jurors were able to see the witness list or
3 whether the old jurors maybe walked out with them?

4 THE COURT: The bailiff has been watching that,
5 and I'll get to that question. Thank you, Mr. Bosler.

6 This question is to all of you even though --
7 all the new jurors, even though you may not have been
8 acquainted with or friends with law enforcement.

9 Do any of you believe that if a law enforcement
10 officer were to testify in this case, that you would tend to
11 give more or less weight to that testimony simply because
12 the person testifying is a law enforcement officer?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would, too.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Rumbaugh.

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Rumbaugh.

17 THE COURT: You would give special
18 consideration to that testimony?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would.

20 THE COURT: And exactly what do you mean?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just favor them, their
22 opinion, what have you. They have got the evidence and
23 everything, and it is just kind of natural.

24 THE COURT: Are you telling me that you would
25 take a police officer's testimony without analyzing what

1 they said or how they got the evidence? Would you just take
2 it at face value and you'd never think about it? Or would
3 you be able to evaluate that testimony like every other
4 witness?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Usually in all the
6 conversations that will work up to it, you just form an
7 opinion, both sides.

8 THE COURT: What your role here will be is to
9 sit and listen to the testimony. So you won't really get a
10 conversation. But you will hear from the witnesses.

11 Now my question is: Would you automatically
12 believe everything a police officer says on the witness
13 stand, no matter how they got that information, no matter
14 how they present themselves, or would you be able to
15 evaluate their testimony like every other witness and say,
16 Oh, I like what he is saying or I don't like what he is
17 saying? Which way is it?

18 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, may we approach?

19 THE COURT: When the witness -- when the juror
20 answers my question.

21 MR. BOSLER: Yes, Your Honor.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, it's kind of hard,
23 you know. I think I'd favor the police.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Now, I'd rather explore this
25 area with Mr. Rumbaugh before I talk to you at side bar,

1 Mr. Bosler. Is that okay?

2 MR. BOSLER: I think it is necessary to have a
3 side bar now.

4 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to let Mr. Stanton
5 ask some questions.

6 Go ahead, Mr. Stanton.

7 MR. STANTON: Mr. Rumbaugh, one of the
8 functions of a juror, as the judge said, is to listen to
9 what a witness says, their demeanor and the content of what
10 they say. If a police officer were to testify in this case
11 about something, are you capable of listening to it and say,
12 Well, I don't think he did his job very good, and therefore,
13 I'm not going to believe his testimony?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's possible. But I
15 can't refer to this case.

16 MR. STANTON: I understand. There is no
17 evidence that's been presented to you yet. I'm just saying
18 that the question here is whether or not just because
19 somebody is a police officer, that you are going to
20 automatically believe what they say. I guess it's, you
21 know, not an unusual opinion, hopefully, that people --

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Aren't all perfect.

23 MR. STANTON: You are able to assess a police
24 officer based upon their demeanor and the content of their
25 job, if they are not accurate, you can evaluate that?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think so.

2 MR. STANTON: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler.

4 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Rumbaugh, I don't want to try
5 to put words in your mouth. It's my understanding that if
6 you had two people come before you, both witnesses to the
7 same thing, and a police officer said one thing and the
8 other person who wasn't a police officer said something
9 different, you would side with the police officer because he
10 was a police officer?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If they were absolute
12 strangers, then you got to make your own judgment then. But
13 like you read in the papers, for months and months, and it's
14 all set in your mind.

15 MR. BOSLER: If one -- going back to my
16 example, if one of those persons was a police officer, would
17 you give that person, his testimony, more weight, tend to
18 believe him more because he's just a police officer and
19 really no other reason?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If I never heard of
21 either one of them and I'm off the street, you make your own
22 decision from that.

23 MR. BOSLER: Go ahead. I'm sorry.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Like it is, I know too
25 much over the years, you know, and the months, in this case

1 it's shot down. You know what I mean?

2 MR. BOSLER: I think I do. I thank you for
3 your honesty.

4 May we approach, Your Honor?

5 THE COURT: Yes. I want to encourage the
6 audience to try to keep your voices down. Remember, this
7 isn't a spectator sport here.

8 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
9 Court and counsel as follows:)

10 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, at this time we're
11 going to make another objection. I think that the nature of
12 your questions, they are leading questions. You are going
13 to give an officer the same treatment as you give another
14 witness. And leading questions --

15 THE COURT: Your objection is denied.

16 MR. BOSLER: I need to make a complete record.

17 THE COURT: It is the same objection you said.

18 MR. BOSLER: Well, I think when you have people
19 who express opinions and you lead them to disabuse those
20 opinions, then you are essentially taking an -- almost a
21 position the same as the State.

22 THE COURT: I'm not hearing anything new,
23 Mr. Bosler. Do you have something new?

24 MR. BOSLER: That is the same objection, Your
25 Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to make the same

1 ruling. I'm not doing that. There is nothing different in
2 this case. In fact, in spite of the fact on this witness
3 that you are claiming that I tried to rehabilitate him, he
4 didn't rehabilitate with me at all. But with your questions
5 he did.

6 We just happened -- yesterday on numerous
7 occasions, you kept on asking questions until the witness,
8 the juror finally was rehabilitated, when I was going to
9 excuse them.

10 So, Mr. Bosler, your motion is without merit.
11 All you have to do is say you have a continuing objection,
12 and unless you have something new to add, I'll continue to
13 rule on it.

14 If you have something new to add, approach and
15 we will put the new evidence on.

16 MR. BOSLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
18 in open court.)

19 THE COURT: Counsel, anything further?

20 MR. BOSLER: No, Your Honor. Based upon the
21 witness's -- the juror's earlier statements, we make a
22 motion to have him excused for cause.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton.

24 MR. STANTON: I don't believe defense has met
25 the burden necessary for a motion for cause in this witness.
I think ultimately this witness has been able to say that he

1 can evaluate the witness to include a police officer like
2 any other witness. The fact that he may have initial
3 impression believing a police officer if there is testimony
4 that's in conflict with another person is not a basis for
5 cause, nor is it improper instruction of law.

6 THE COURT: The motion is denied at this time.
7 I think some of Mr. Rumbaugh's answers may require further
8 inquiry and may be a basis for dismissal later on, and I'd
9 ask you to keep a close eye on it, Mr. Bosler. I think
10 there may be another basis for making a motion.

11 We will move on with the questions from the
12 Court at this time.

13 Does anyone know anything of their own personal
14 knowledge regarding the facts of this case?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Say that again.

16 THE COURT: Do you know anything of your own
17 personal knowledge regarding the facts of the case? Did you
18 have any contact with direct people who know about this
19 case?

20 I'm not talking about media reports. I'm
21 talking about something you know of your own personal
22 knowledge.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just some friends of mine
24 that had been on the campus just about after it happened.

25 THE COURT: So you did get some information

1 from people who were on the University of Nevada campus?
2 Were they employees of the campus or were they just there to
3 visit the campus?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They were just there
5 seeing some friends.

6 THE COURT: And they told you something about
7 the events after?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: What was going on.

9 THE COURT: About after the alleged --

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The investigation going
11 on, so forth, like that.

12 THE COURT: Who were these people?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One of them was a son of
14 a friend of mine and who had a friend on the campus. His
15 name was Ron.

16 Other than that, I don't know any of the
17 people. But we were over to the house there one evening,
18 and his boy came in and was talking, and other than that --
19 then the account started coming over the media.

20 THE COURT: Now, did you tell us about
21 everything you knew in your questionnaire when you filled it
22 out before?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't think so. I
24 didn't realize there was a question in it.

25 THE COURT: About the news media accounts?

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1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

2 THE COURT: Is there anything that you learned
3 from this son who learned it from Ron that was different
4 than what you may have seen or heard in the news media
5 accounts?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: Have any of you read any news media
8 accounts regarding this, or television?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: From the beginning to the
10 end?

11 THE COURT: Yes.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have read.

13 THE COURT: I have to keep track of who is
14 talking for the court reporter. So Mr. Rumbaugh has,
15 Mr. Giordano has. Miss Decker.

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Buckley.

17 THE COURT: You have. Who else was going to
18 raise their hand in answer to this question? Yes,
19 Miss Roberts, Mr. Moss and Mr. Thomas. And --

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: McCargar.

21 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. McCargar. Now, I
22 asked that question a little bit yesterday, too. Has anyone
23 seen or heard anything other than what you told us about on
24 your questionnaire?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

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1 THE COURT: Answer out loud, please.

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Yes, Miss Buckley.

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Related to it. My best
6 friend was very supportive of the family, and of course, I
7 got information back from that. Plus the news and the
8 television.

9 THE COURT: So your best friend is --

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Maddie Stevens. She is
11 the wife of the transportation director.

12 THE COURT: For University of Nevada, Reno?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right. No, the State.
14 The State. Transportation of the State.

15 THE COURT: That is what your friend does?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's what her husband
17 does. But the friend that supported the family was Maddie
18 Stevens. She works on campus. I also work on campus.

19 THE COURT: Anyone else? Yes.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife told me when I
21 got home last night about what she heard on the news. I
22 didn't watch it but she told me. She knew she wasn't
23 supposed to. But she likes to talk.

24 THE COURT: Well, thank you for sharing that.

25 MR. BOSLER: Could we have the juror

1 identified?

2 THE COURT: It is Mr. McCargar. We are all
3 adults in this room, and everyone knows that you can control
4 your environment. I expect everyone to do that.

5 And I understand you had a problem, I
6 appreciate you sharing that with us.

7 But is there anyone sitting on the jury box now
8 that believes they will not be able to control their
9 environment at least in terms of this requirement that you
10 decide the case based on the evidence and not the news media
11 accounts?

12 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

13 THE COURT: Out loud, please.

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

15 THE COURT: That will be a requirement if you
16 sit on the jury.

17 Have any of you newly added to our panel formed
18 or expressed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the
19 defendant in this matter?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

21 THE COURT: We have Miss Buckley. You have
22 formed or expressed an opinion?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Both?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I haven't discussed

1 it, but in my own mind, I have formed an opinion. I have
2 worked on campus, and I did not know the victim personally,
3 but just to see him. I have been there 17 years.

4 THE COURT: Thank you. Miss Hilliary, you
5 raised your hand?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Rumbaugh.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I formed my opinion
9 months ago.

10 THE COURT: Have you expressed that opinion to
11 others?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not recently.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Giordano, did you raise your
14 hand?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 THE COURT: You have formed an opinion?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have.

18 THE COURT: Have you given that opinion to
19 anyone else?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. Through
21 conversations, yes.

22 THE COURT: Anyone else raised their hand to
23 that question?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: (No response.)

25 THE COURT: Do any of you have anything other

1 than a passing interest in the outcome of this case?

2 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

3 THE COURT: Do any of you entertain any bias or
4 prejudice for or against the State of Nevada?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

6 THE COURT: Any of you harbor any bias or
7 prejudice for or against the defendant?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

9 THE COURT: You all have been given a witness
10 list of the new jurors. Has anyone not seen that witness
11 list?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Can I give mine to him?

13 THE COURT: Mr. Thomas, you saw it yesterday?
14 He has it.

15 Thank you, Mr. Moss.

16 Have all the rest of you seen it?

17 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Is there anyone on that list that
19 you are related to or acquainted with?

20 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Thomas, other than who you told
23 us, one person?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: David Jenkins, who I have
25 as a student. I don't know if it's the same one. He works

1 at the Clarion Casino.

2 MR. STANTON: David Jenkins is a homicide
3 detective with the Reno Police Department.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not this one.

5 THE COURT: Any others?

6 At the conclusion of the evidence I will state
7 to you the law that applies to this case. I will instruct
8 you that it is your duty to apply that law to the facts as
9 found by you. Would any juror be reluctant to apply the
10 general principles of law as stated by the Court?

11 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Giordano.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would. I have gone
15 through life using common sense, and intuition, and it's
16 held me in pretty good stead. So if anybody tries to get me
17 to go against what I believe, I could have a problem with
18 that.

19 THE COURT: Do you have a strongly held opinion
20 as to what the law is?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 THE COURT: So you think -- you think common
23 sense should override the legislation?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: From what I have seen in
25 the last 30 years or so, I'd say yes.

1 THE COURT: Do you understand that you would
2 take an oath to follow the law as I instruct you it is?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Would you be able to follow that
5 oath?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: To the best of my
7 ability.

8 THE COURT: But if there came to be a conflict,
9 you would not follow the law and you'd make up your own
10 version?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can't say that. It
12 would have to be whatever the circumstances were.

13 THE COURT: Did someone else say yes? Is that
14 all?

15 Do any of you believe --

16 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I believe
17 Mr. Rumbaugh.

18 THE COURT: Did you raise your hand, too,
19 Mr. Rumbaugh?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I wanted to but I didn't.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler must be able to read
22 your mind.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's hard to blank
24 everything out of your mind and start off fresh. You know,
25 it's just hard to do.

1 THE COURT: I want to make sure that you don't
2 misunderstand the question. The role of the jury is to
3 determine the facts in a case. No judge will instruct you
4 as to what the facts are. You make that determination, the
5 jury does.

6 The law is the general principles of law that
7 apply to a case. There's many of them. The Court gives you
8 those instructions instructing you on what the elements of
9 offenses are, what evidence you can and cannot consider,
10 what certain requirements are. That is the general
11 principles of law that the Court will be instructing you on.

12 Now, the question is: Would you not follow
13 those general principles of law? You'd make up your own
14 version of the law?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I could follow them.

16 THE COURT: Would you -- do you understand, all
17 of you, that the role that the jury has is to take the facts
18 as they find them to be, apply the general principles of law
19 as I instruct you it is and reach a verdict consistent with
20 the facts and the law? Do you all understand that?

21 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

22 THE COURT: Now is there anybody who cannot do
23 that?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: What if you have already
25 formed an opinion?

1 THE COURT: I'm going to let the attorneys
2 inquire a little further with regard to your forming of an
3 opinion as to what the facts are. We'll talk about that in
4 a few minutes, but the Court is not going to be instructing
5 you as to the facts. The instruction goes to the law. Does
6 everyone understand that?

7 If the Court were to instruct you that at the
8 conclusion of this case a defendant in a criminal action is
9 presumed to be innocent until the contrary is proven beyond
10 a reasonable doubt, and in case of a reasonable doubt as to
11 whether the defendant's guilt is satisfactorily shown, they
12 are entitled to be acquitted, would each of you accept and
13 follow that instruction?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

15 THE COURT: If you were to be instructed that a
16 reasonable doubt is one based on reason, it is not mere
17 possible doubt but is such a doubt as would govern or
18 control a person in the more weighty affairs of life; if the
19 minds of the jurors after the entire comparison and
20 consideration of all the evidence are in such condition they
21 can say they feel an bidding conviction of the truth of the
22 charge, there is not a reasonable doubt; doubt to be
23 reasonable must be actual, not mere possibility or
24 speculation, would each of you accept and follow that
25 instruction?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Have any of you ever served on a
3 jury before, criminal or civil?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: We have Mr. Rumbaugh. When did you
6 serve previously?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably 30 years ago,
8 twice.

9 THE COURT: Was there anything about your prior
10 service that would cause you difficulty serving again?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

12 THE COURT: Would you be able to set aside
13 anything you were told about the law in that prior case and
14 decide the case on the law as I instruct you?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 THE COURT: What kind of a case was it?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Civil.

18 THE COURT: Were you able to reach a verdict?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Oh, yes.

20 THE COURT: Miss Buckley.

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Criminal and a civil.

22 THE COURT: How long ago?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The criminal trial was
24 about 12 years ago. It was a two-week trial. The civil one
25 was about five years ago, and it was settled the next day

1 out of court.

2 THE COURT: Now, with regard to the case you
3 actually went to the verdict, were you able to reach a
4 verdict?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, they reached a
6 verdict.

7 THE COURT: Is there anything about that prior
8 service that would cause you difficulty serving again?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 THE COURT: I think Mr. Thomas.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, '76 or '77, it was a
12 civil case here in Reno.

13 THE COURT: Anything about that prior service
14 that would cause you a problem?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: Would you be able to set aside
17 anything you might have learned about the law in that other
18 case and decide the law as it is today in this case?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: And would you be able to do the
21 same thing, Miss Buckley?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Pardon?

23 THE COURT: Would you be able to set aside
24 anything you might have heard in the prior case with regard
25 to the law and decide this case based solely on the law as

1 it is today?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: As I instructed you?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Anyone else?

6 Is there anyone sitting, any of the new people
7 who know anybody else in the jury box?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

9 THE COURT: Yes, Miss Hilliary.

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm associated with Janet
11 Frandsen through the Reno-Sparks Association of Realtors.

12 THE COURT: Miss Frandsen, then you know Miss
13 Hilliary?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I apologize.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's okay.

16 THE COURT: She's a realtor. So you guys
17 probably have met somewhere.

18 Is there anything about being a realtor and
19 kind of running into her in the past that would cause you a
20 problem if you sat on the same case?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Now, Miss Frandsen, you may later
23 find out which realty company she works for, and it may jog
24 your memory. But do you see any reason why at this time you
25 could not serve on the same case?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: None.

2 THE COURT: Are any of you involved currently
3 or have you previously been involved in litigation, actual
4 cases that went to trial? Yes, Mr. Decker.

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a character witness
6 for a friend in a civil matter that was kind of in the
7 mid '80s, early '80s.

8 THE COURT: Anything about that experience that
9 would cause you a problem in this case?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, ma'am.

11 THE COURT: Was there something else you wanted
12 to tell me?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, this friend is
14 deceased now.

15 THE COURT: But you didn't have any
16 uncomfortable -- were you uncomfortable at all as a witness,
17 or is there anything like that that would cause you a
18 problem in this case?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't believe so.

20 THE COURT: Miss Hilliary?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a witness in a
22 criminal embezzlement case about five years ago.

23 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
24 experience being a witness in the courtroom that would cause
25 you a problem?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Gerbatz, did you raise your
3 hand?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I did.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Giordano.

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, about two years ago
7 a fellow let his dog out, and it killed two of my goats, pet
8 goats. And I turned in a complaint, and the State went
9 after him under Animal Killing Livestock Act or something.
10 So I was a witness for the State.

11 THE COURT: Anything about being a witness
12 previously for the State that would cause you difficulty in
13 this case?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

15 THE COURT: Was the District Attorney's Office
16 the prosecuting office?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 THE COURT: And is there anything about that
19 experience that would cause you to be biased one way or
20 another with regard to the District Attorney's Office?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Thomas.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was, five or eight
24 years ago, a defense witness in a criminal sexual harassment
25 case, I guess you'd call it.

1 THE COURT: Anything about being a witness in
2 that case would cause you difficulty serving in this trial?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: Is there anyone I have missed? Do
5 any of you have any health reasons why you should not or
6 could not serve as a juror in this case?

7 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

8 THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Giordano.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know if it's
10 serious enough to be excused, but I have Type 2 diabetes,
11 and I have to eat every couple, three hours. Otherwise I
12 start getting a headache and so forth. Like yesterday
13 afternoon, by the time I got home, my head was splitting.

14 THE COURT: Did you bring something to eat
15 today?

16 THE DEFENDANT: No, I did not.

17 THE COURT: A snack or something?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I wasn't sure
19 whether I could sit here and eat a little donut.

20 THE COURT: Well, no.

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Piece of bread or
22 something.

23 THE COURT: No.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's what I thought.
25 That is why I brought it up.

1 THE COURT: But we do take breaks every two
2 hours or so. The court reporter can't go steady much more
3 than two hours. So you will get a break. So you could have
4 snacks, you would get that opportunity. Would that solve
5 your medical problem?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I think so.

7 THE COURT: Anyone else? How are you and
8 Mr. Rumbaugh doing with regard to the hearing issue that you
9 had yesterday?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm missing some words,
11 but I'm able to fill them in.

12 THE COURT: You still are with me?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, every now and then.
14 There is a certain pitch or tone that I have a problem
15 hearing.

16 THE COURT: The higher ones?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, it's usually the low
18 ones.

19 THE COURT: How are you doing, Mr. Rumbaugh?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm getting most of it.

21 THE COURT: Are you feeling like you are
22 missing some things?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: No?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not from you.

1 THE COURT: Have any of you ever been a victim
2 of a crime?

3 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

4 THE COURT: Do any of you have any business or
5 professional reason or personal reason why you feel you
6 cannot serve in this case because it will interfere with
7 your impartiality?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

9 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Miss Roberts.

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it will,
11 impartiality would come up, but I do have an airline ticket
12 to go to Hawaii on the 18th of January. I don't know
13 whether you give a --

14 THE COURT: I do care.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just as long as you give
16 me something so I don't lose my money.

17 THE COURT: But we can -- it's a situation
18 where we could give a letter saying that you were compelled
19 to do service?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is a personal. My son
21 lives there, and he gave me a ticket, yes.

22 THE COURT: So you could kind of reschedule
23 your time?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't call them to ask
25 them what I could do with the ticket, but I guess with a

1 letter from the Court, they'd have to do something for me.

2 THE COURT: Yes. Which airline?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: United.

4 THE COURT: I think we can help you there if
5 you are on the jury.

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Yes, Mr. Giordano.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm in the same boat.

9 The first time I was called for jury duty, my wife and I
10 just made plans to leave town. I called up and they
11 graciously excused me and said they'd reschedule me. And I
12 waited two and a half months, made arrangements to fly down
13 to meet some buddies in Saint George, Utah.

14 About three days after I waited two and a half
15 months to be recalled, I made airline reservations for
16 tomorrow at 9:30 to leave, and I got picked for this jury
17 duty again. I didn't bring it up before because I had
18 already been excused once. But I'd sure like to go down to
19 Utah.

20 MR. SPECCHIO: Judge, if I may approach.

21 THE COURT: Sure.

22 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
23 Court and counsel as follows:)

24 MR. BOSLER: Based upon really what is on his
25 questionnaire, I don't think he is going to be here to stay.

1 THE COURT: I know that. And that's why I said
2 that there is something he is going to tell us to be a
3 reason to get rid of him.

4 MR. STANTON: We'll stip.

5 THE COURT: The only problem I have with doing
6 it right now, I don't know if you read the newspaper this
7 morning, but Mike Henderson said in the newspaper that the
8 reason we were excusing people is because they had already
9 formed an opinion, ergo our two gentlemen who want off
10 anyway, and I don't want them to think because you have an
11 airline ticket, how can I excuse him and not Mrs. Roberts
12 who is going -- can't go fly to Hawaii to see her family.

13 MR. SPECCHIO: I think we should do both,
14 Judge.

15 THE COURT: See, my problem is I'm not going to
16 just excuse everybody who could come up with any idea.

17 MR. STANTON: The State's perspective would be
18 Mr. Giordano, I think, his hearing.

19 THE COURT: That is my problem.

20 MR. STANTON: And the fact that he can't hear
21 everything here. Now, there is a way to ask the question if
22 he can raise his hand to fill in the blanks. It's not an
23 automatic excusal. But that in conjunction with everything
24 else, the State is prepared to stipulate for his release.

25 MR. BOSLER: Stipulated, Your Honor, based upon

1 his questionnaire.

2 THE COURT: I'm going to excuse him because of
3 his hearing so that the jury panel doesn't believe it is for
4 the other things. But we do have a little education going
5 on here, and we want to get a jury.

6 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
7 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)

8 THE COURT: Did I hear from everybody with
9 regard to that question?

10 Do any of you know of any reason why you cannot
11 be a fair and impartial juror in this case? Mr. -- I'm
12 sorry, did you raise your hand?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just that I formed my
14 opinion.

15 MR. BOSLER: I believe three hands went up.

16 THE COURT: Did three hands go up? Okay, thank
17 you, Mr. Bosler.

18 Mr. Barger.

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I don't know
20 whether this is the place to ask it and that, but I have
21 been waiting to see where it would fit in. At one point you
22 asked the panel if there is anybody that knew the defendant.
23 But I don't believe there was any place where it fit in that
24 any of us knew the deceased.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Which I do. I did.

2 Excuse me.

3 THE COURT: You did. You were a personal
4 friend?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work for the school
6 district. I drive a school bus, and I have taken the school
7 Whitehead on field trips where he has been, had been --
8 excuse me -- a chaperone on the bus at two different times.
9 We worked on a picnic and we were there.

10 THE COURT: Thank you. Now also, yes, Miss
11 Buckley.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Working on campus during
13 that period of time, a lot of us were very relieved when
14 this man was arrested, and I just don't think I can just
15 erase the feelings I have towards him.

16 THE COURT: Anyone else? Now, Mr. Rumbaugh,
17 you also raised your hand?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, it's the same
19 thing. My mind is made up.

20 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I don't want to put
21 anybody on the spot, but I thought I saw Miss Cadena's hand
22 go up.

23 THE COURT: That's it.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can't hear.

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't hear you.

1 MR. BOSLER: I thought I saw a juror raise a
2 hand.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Giordano, I know you are having
4 trouble because I can see it on your face, and I noticed
5 that you couldn't hear Mr. Bosler. So I am going to excuse
6 you for your hearing problem. I don't want you missing
7 anything on the case. I don't want you to fill in the
8 blanks. You have to hear what the people say.

9 So I really appreciate your service and you
10 sitting through all this, but with your hearing situation,
11 the way it is, I'm going to excuse you. Thank you.

12 (Juror Giordano excused from the courtroom.)

13 THE COURT: We'll call another name to replace
14 Mr. Giordano.

15 THE CLERK: William B. King.

16 THE COURT: Mr. King, go ahead and review that
17 witness list. I'm going to ask you if you know anyone.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I see no names that I
19 recall.

20 THE COURT: Also have you been able to hear my
21 questions both this morning and yesterday?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Did you keep a mental or written
24 note of what you would respond to?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have. There are a

1 few items I would like to address.

2 THE COURT: Thank you.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a brother-in-law
4 that's a Reno policeman, Raymond Barrett. I live probably
5 within a mile of the crime scene. I work on UNR campus.

6 And let's see. I think I recognize the
7 defendant as a member of a crew that poured my concrete at
8 my house when I was building my home. I'm not positive of
9 that, but I think he was there.

10 And I have been a victim of a crime. Mostly
11 thefts. I have had some tools stolen and bikes and license
12 plates off my cars. But other than that, that's it.

13 THE COURT: With regard to your prior
14 association with the defendant through the concrete being
15 poured, if in fact that were the case, is there anything
16 about that job or the circumstances that would cause you
17 difficulty serving in this case?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, ma'am.

19 THE COURT: Do you feel biased or prejudiced
20 one way or another with regard to the defendant?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I do not.

22 THE COURT: And with regard to your being a
23 victim of a crime previously, are you able to disassociate
24 your prior personal experiences from this case?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, ma'am.

1 THE COURT: Can you decide this case based
2 solely on the evidence as it's presented here in the
3 courtroom?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think so, yes, ma'am.

5 THE COURT: The question that I guess I didn't
6 ask clearly -- specifically enough previously to be honest
7 are you acquainted with the deceased in this case?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I am not. I have had
9 opportunity to speak with some of the officers on campus,
10 but I don't know any of them personally.

11 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
12 connection with university campus that would cause you
13 difficulty serving in this case?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, ma'am.

15 THE COURT: Now, that question with regard to
16 being acquainted with or related to the deceased should be
17 applied to everyone. So would anyone sitting in our jury
18 box wish to respond to that question? Is that a no?

19 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

20 THE COURT: Just want to make sure I understand
21 you clearly.

22 Now, I have one other question I'd like to ask
23 of the jury panel, and I'm going to allow the attorneys to
24 do some questioning. They may well want to explore some of
25 your answers to me a little bit further, especially Miss

1 Buckley and Mr. Rumbaugh and perhaps Mr. Barger.

2 The question I have for the entire panel is
3 that the Legislature has said in certain kinds of cases,
4 certain results must be -- the penalty must be determined by
5 the jury.

6 The charge that the defendant is facing in this
7 case is that of murder. If the jury were to return a
8 verdict of first-degree murder - and I'm not in any way
9 implying that that is the right verdict in this case - but
10 if that were the result, then the members of the jury would
11 be called upon to determine penalty.

12 They would receive separate instructions from
13 me with regard to the law, the penalties available, what
14 evidence and circumstances must be considered by the jury
15 before reaching a verdict with regard to penalty. I do not
16 want to go into all the specifics of what might happen
17 somewhere down the road. I don't want any -- I don't want
18 to worry you about all the eventualities which might happen,
19 and there is no guarantee any of them will happen.

20 But I do want to inquire of the jurors, if they
21 were compelled to serve on a jury that ultimately had to
22 decide penalty, would any of you automatically vote for the
23 death penalty no matter what my instructions were or the
24 evidence?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

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1 THE COURT: Did anyone say yes?

2 Would any of you, the same information
3 available to you, would any of you automatically feel
4 compelled to vote against the death penalty no matter what
5 my instructions or the evidence?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

8 THE COURT: Miss Hilliary.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I had a yes. I
10 don't think that I would be a good candidate to determine
11 someone to die. I would not. I couldn't live with myself
12 for that. I really couldn't.

13 THE COURT: So you wouldn't be able to follow
14 the Court's instructions?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I wouldn't be able to
16 vote personally to that.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton, you may inquire.

18 MR. STANTON: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 Miss Hilliary, the judge would instruct you and
20 there would be a separate penalty phase where evidence is
21 adduced about what the law is in the State of Nevada
22 regarding the death penalty. There are certain requirements
23 that need be met, proved beyond a reasonable doubt, called
24 aggravating factors. Mitigating factors are also presented.

25 After that is presented, the jury determines

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1 whether the aggravation outweighs the mitigation and then
2 makes a separate decision as to whether or not they think
3 the death penalty is appropriate or what punishment is
4 appropriate.

5 Is there any circumstance that you could impose
6 the death penalty?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so.

8 MR. STANTON: You don't believe so?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it's
10 something that I could live with. A trial that has that
11 kind of penalty would not be something I would be very
12 effective.

13 MR. STANTON: Have you thought of a case, maybe
14 hypothetical or something that has occurred in the news
15 prior to this case, of a case where you thought the death
16 penalty was appropriate?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MR. STANTON: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler, do you wish to inquire?

20 MR. BOSLER: Just briefly. Miss Hilliary, as
21 you have heard the prosecutor say, the law may present
22 certain aggravating factors to you, there may be things you
23 consider as aggravators, things that you can consider as
24 mitigators. The law never says you have to impose the death
25 penalty. That is what the law says.

1 Are you willing to consider those aggravators
2 and mitigators and decide what weight you want to give them
3 and if you have to eventually come to a decision about a
4 penalty, make that decision, knowing that all you have to do
5 is make the weighing process?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I could weigh the
7 evidence. I just -- I know I could do that. I just know
8 that I could never -- I wouldn't -- it would be very
9 difficult for me to live with myself if I imposed a death
10 penalty, if I was involved with voting someone to die. That
11 would be very difficult to me.

12 MR. BOSLER: But you are at least willing to
13 weigh the aggravating factors?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, definitely.

15 THE COURT: The occurrence may occur, Miss
16 Hilliary, where you weighed it and the decision was against
17 what you have told me you would want to do. Could you vote
18 to impose the death penalty?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I feel I would have to
20 abstain from voting.

21 THE COURT: Any further inquiry?

22 MR. STANTON: No further questions of Miss
23 Hilliary, Your Honor. At this time I would make a motion
24 for cause. United States Supreme Court mandates under
25 Weatherspoon would make her a proper juror to be excused for

1 cause.

2 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, just because she has
3 reluctance in imposing the death penalty, the law does not
4 require that, and she's admitted she will weigh the
5 aggravators against the mitigators. That is all the law
6 requires.

7 THE COURT: The law actually requires that you
8 be able to impose the death penalty in certain circumstance.
9 She cannot. She would abstain. We would have an automatic
10 hung jury. Therefore, she must be excused.

11 You are excused.

12 (Prospective Juror Hilliary excused from the
13 courtroom.)

14 THE COURT: For the benefit of the jury panel,
15 I want to make sure you understand that we have all read
16 your jury questionnaires. Many of my rulings are not based
17 solely on what you're telling us verbally in front of
18 everyone. So individuals who are being excused may have
19 clearly delineated issues and concerns to me prior. So it
20 is not based solely on what we're hearing here in the
21 courtroom.

22 Call the name of someone to replace Miss
23 Hilliary, please.

24 THE CLERK: Anita J. Cason.

25 THE COURT: Go ahead and look at the witness

1 list, Miss Cason. Thank you.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I recognize a couple of
3 the names, I believe, but I don't know any of the people
4 personally.

5 THE COURT: Okay. If it turned out that
6 somebody you think you might know testified, are any of
7 those -- who are those people you think you might know?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think the name Craig
9 Meyer. I don't know if he is a police officer. Somebody my
10 ex-husband may have known. I was married to a police
11 officer.

12 The other one was Jim Duncan. I just don't
13 know.

14 THE COURT: Are those law enforcement officers?

15 LEFT1: Jim Duncan is a detective, homicide
16 detective with Reno. Craig Meyer is a deputy sheriff with
17 the Salt Lake County, Utah, Sheriff's Department.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was a different Meyer
19 then. I thought he was a Washoe County officer.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Now, if it turns out that
21 the other officer, that you recognize him and you remember
22 him from when your ex-husband might have been friends with
23 him, would it cause you any difficulty serving on this case
24 if that person were to take the stand?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so.

1 THE COURT: Would you feel compelled to decide
2 the case in any particular manner based upon your
3 relationship with that potential witness?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't think I
5 would.

6 THE COURT: Were you able to hear all my
7 questions?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I was. I have a
9 list.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was married to Sean
12 Cason. He was a deputy when the jail first opened. He went
13 through the academy, so I got to meet a lot of the people
14 that he was going through the academy with.

15 My cousin, Dan Parker, is a Reno police
16 officer. He is on the SWAT team. He is a first cousin.
17 We're close with his family.

18 I have a very good friend, Stacy Hill, who
19 works for Washoe County. I have been friends with he and
20 his wife for quite some time.

21 Eric Soderblom who is with the Reno PD. I work
22 with his wife very closely. She did give me some
23 information after the death that I think may cause me to --
24 one of the comments she made, I don't know if I can erase
25 that.

1 THE COURT: Okay. So is that the extent --
2 let's start with the extent of your law enforcement
3 connections. Is that it?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think so. There is
5 John Bohach who we were friends with when I was married to
6 my ex-husband. He'd come to the house frequently, and they
7 were good friends. Just associations like that that he
8 developed.

9 I have been divorced or separated from him for
10 seven years. So I haven't seen these people in quite some
11 time other than the ones I just named off.

12 THE COURT: Now, is there anything about the
13 connection that you previously had with law enforcement that
14 would cause you difficulty serving in this case?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't think so. I
16 may weigh their testimony more heavily. My father, too -- I
17 forgot to say -- my father was a Lyon County search and
18 rescue. He always taught us to have a lot of respect for
19 the law. So just in growing up in having that type of --
20 having to have that respect for people, I may weigh their
21 testimony more credibly or not. I can't say what I would
22 do, though, until I'm put in that position.

23 THE COURT: You will receive an instruction
24 from the Court that tells you that you must weigh all
25 witnesses' testimony based upon their manner on the stand,

1 their biases or lack thereof, et cetera. It goes into great
2 deal of detail about the kinds of things that jurors should
3 look at at witnesses.

4 Are you willing to follow that instruction?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I'm willing to
6 follow it, but I think I may weigh a police officer's
7 testimony more heavily.

8 THE COURT: As you're weighing the different
9 things that the law allows you to weigh?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 THE COURT: I understand that answer. Go on
12 with your list.

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Okay. The other morning
14 on KBUL I heard a slight -- I couldn't get to the radio fast
15 enough -- I heard a little bit about the trial was starting.
16 It was just a really quick thing.

17 And I do have pending child custody. It's been
18 a two-year process that I have ongoing child custody
19 litigation. It's not been finalized. It's been going on
20 for two years. We have been to court twice to trial, but
21 there has been no final decision.

22 THE COURT: Is there anything about your
23 experiences in the courtroom that would cause you difficulty
24 serving as a juror?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I'm just upset that

1 it's taken so long to make a decision. But other than that,
2 no, I don't think so.

3 THE COURT: Would you substitute your personal
4 experiences in your case for the facts and circumstances of
5 this case?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'd try not to.

7 THE COURT: Anything else?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: And like I said, a
9 friend, the lady I work with did give me personal knowledge
10 of the crime.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Soderblom's wife?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 THE COURT: And that was everything on your
14 list?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe so.

16 THE COURT: Were you able to hear all of my
17 questions, including my last question with regard to the
18 potential for determining penalty?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 THE COURT: Would you have the -- would you
21 have the position that you would always have to vote for the
22 death penalty no matter what the instruction or the
23 evidence?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: Would you feel that you would

1 always have to vote against the death penalty no matter what
2 the instruction or evidence?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

4 THE COURT: You will be able to consider the
5 law as I instruct you it is?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe so.

7 THE COURT: Any of the other questions that you
8 would want to respond to?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. If I have to
10 respond, as you're asking more of them, I'll raise my hand.

11 THE COURT: Okay. That's fine.

12 Counsel, I'd ask you to approach.

13 Miss Cason, I'm going to ask you to come down
14 here. I wanted to talk for just a minute.

15 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
16 Court and counsel and Prospective Juror Cason
17 as follows:)

18 THE COURT: Could you tell me and the attorneys
19 what you heard?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The comment was made that
21 it was a trophy kill, and I don't know if I could set that
22 aside. I heard that he was killed because he was a police
23 officer. I don't know if I can put that away.

24 MR. BOSLER: The record should reflect that she
25 is on the verge of tears at this point.

1 THE COURT: She is not on the verge; she is
2 crying.

3 Go ahead and inquire.

4 MR. STANTON: Miss Cason, I know that you had
5 heard something that most people will consider graphic, but
6 that's not evidence yet presented to you.

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I understand that.

8 MR. STANTON: That is kind of the question that
9 I would ask you is can you put that aside knowing that it's
10 not evidence yet, and wait till you hear the evidence in
11 this case?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I had set it aside for a
13 year, and then when I got called for jury, it came back to
14 me. Some of the other comments that I haven't been able to
15 recall, but I think that as I go through this case, I may be
16 able to recall other comments that she had made. I don't
17 know. I'd like to say yes, I could put them aside, but I
18 don't know that I could.

19 MR. STANTON: Well, there's no one that would
20 know better than you whether you can or not. We need an
21 assurance that you can put it aside and listen only to the
22 facts in this case.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can't assure that, no.

24 MR. STANTON: I have no further questions.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler?

1 MR. BOSLER: No questions, Your Honor.
2 THE COURT: Do you have a motion?
3 MR. BOSLER: Yes. Move to challenge her for
4 cause, Your Honor.
5 THE COURT: Okay.
6 MR. STANTON: I would not traverse the motion.
7 THE COURT: You do want to traverse?
8 MR. STANTON: I do not.
9 THE COURT: Miss Cason, I'm sorry that we have
10 to upset you.
11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm sorry.
12 THE COURT: Though we appreciate your candor,
13 and I understand your concerns. I'm going to go ahead and
14 grant the motion. You can go ahead and go on down and
15 report to the Jury Commissioner.
16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you very much.
17 (Whereupon Prospective Juror Cason was excused
18 from the courtroom.)
19 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
20 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)
21 THE COURT: The clerk will call the name of
22 another potential juror.
23 THE CLERK: Paul E. Damoth.
24 MR. GAMMICK: I didn't catch the last name.
25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is Damoth, for your
correction.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead and read the
2 witness list, Mr. Damoth.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I do not recognize any of
4 the names.

5 THE COURT: Have you been able to hear my
6 questions thus far this morning?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

8 THE COURT: Would you respond to any of my
9 questions affirmatively?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have a list.

11 THE COURT: Thank you.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: In relation to
13 Mr. Gammick, his son has worked for me in the past at UPS.

14 In relating to officers and filling out my
15 questionnaire, I have been arrested twice. One I did not
16 put on the questionnaire. I kind of forgot about it. It
17 was in 1984.

18 I was a student at UNR, and I don't recall if
19 it was RPD or UNPD, but I was arrested at that time. And my
20 arrest, I did put on the questionnaire, was by a university
21 police officer. I do not remember the name.

22 THE COURT: Is there anything about that prior,
23 those two prior circumstances that would cause you
24 difficulty being fair and impartial in this case?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, not at all. In '82,

1 I was burglarized, and I was involved as a witness in that
2 trial.

3 THE COURT: Anything about your experiences as
4 the recipient of a burglary and testifying that would cause
5 you difficulty being a fair and impartial juror in this
6 case?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not at all.

8 THE COURT: Do you hold any bias for or against
9 the State of Nevada based upon your experiences?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: None at all. I would
11 like to state to all the questions I feel very impartial,
12 and I think I could be a good juror.

13 THE COURT: Anything else you would want to
14 respond to?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 THE COURT: You heard my last question with
17 regard to your ability to determine penalty in a case if it
18 were required. Would you automatically vote for the death
19 penalty no matter what the instructions?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

21 THE COURT: Would you automatically feel
22 compelled to vote against the death penalty no matter what
23 the instructions or circumstances?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 THE COURT: Does anyone have anything else you

1 wanted to tell me about before I allow the attorneys to
2 question you?

3 Okay, Mr. Stanton, you may inquire.

4 MR. STANTON: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 Ladies and gentlemen, first series of questions
6 that I'm going to ask are going to be general questions to
7 the entire panel, and as you have done with Judge
8 Steinheimer, if you could all answer affirmatively and out
9 loud what your response are to those questions.

10 First question I'd like to ask you is that we
11 have talked about certain fundamental rights that exist in a
12 criminal case. One of them is the presumption of innocence
13 that that man sits before you today, Mr. Vanisi, he's
14 presumed innocent. Very important, very critical aspect of
15 a criminal case.

16 There are also some other rights that we
17 haven't discussed this morning, and my first question to you
18 is whether or not you all agree that the right of the State
19 in a criminal case is that if it meets its burden, that it
20 proves a case beyond a reasonable doubt, the State has a
21 right that the verdict be guilty. Would you all agree with
22 that?

23 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

24 MR. STANTON: Anybody say no?

25 There are some people who have expressed, not

1 necessarily on this panel, concerns either with a religious,
2 moral or some other belief system that makes it very
3 difficult to sit as a juror. Does anybody feel that that is
4 a problem based on any of those grounds I have just
5 mentioned?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

7 MR. STANTON: In a criminal case, the judge has
8 told you that the burden of the State, Mr. Gammick and
9 myself, is proof beyond a reasonable doubt. That is the
10 standard in all criminal cases. There is not an increasing
11 standard the more serious a crime gets.

12 And in this case, there is no more serious
13 crime than murder in the first degree. But the burden of
14 proof is the same standard as it would be in any other
15 criminal case. Do you all understand that?

16 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

17 MR. STANTON: The proof, the standard of proof
18 in a criminal case in charging -- involving the charge of
19 first degree murder is not proof beyond any doubt.

20 Is there anybody here that would require, based
21 upon the nature and seriousness of the charges, the State --
22 holding the State to a higher burden than the proof beyond a
23 reasonable doubt?

24 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

25 MR. STANTON: Mr. Barger had indicated, and I'd

1 ask of the entire panel now a series of questions about
2 knowledge of some other people that are involved in this
3 case. The victim in this case is Sergeant George Sullivan.
4 Does anybody on the panel, besides Mr. Barger, know Sergeant
5 George Sullivan?

6 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

7 MR. STANTON: In addition, George Sullivan was
8 married and had children. His wife's name was Carolyn
9 Sullivan. She is a nurse at the Northern Nevada Medical
10 Center.

11 Does anybody, based upon that information, feel
12 that they have any knowledge of Carolyn Sullivan?

13 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

14 MR. STANTON: Mr. Barger.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My wife formerly ran the
16 lab at the hospital, and that's back quite a few years.

17 MR. STANTON: Do you have any specific
18 knowledge as to whether or not she would have known Carolyn
19 Sullivan or knows Carolyn Sullivan?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She knows who she was.
21 It has not been social.

22 MR. STANTON: So you and your wife or your wife
23 alone has not socialized or otherwise been involved beyond
24 what you mentioned?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

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1 MR. STANTON: Anything about that relationship
2 that would cause you to be anything but a fair and impartial
3 juror in this case?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 MR. STANTON: Anybody else?

6 In addition, there are four children of the
7 Sullivans: Meghan, Kyle, Scott and Brian. Meghan, Scott
8 and Brian all would attend junior high or elementary school
9 in the Sparks area. And all of those children's last name
10 would be Sullivan.

11 Based upon that information, is there anybody
12 in the prospective panel that would have any knowledge of
13 those individuals?

14 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

15 MR. STANTON: Mr. Barger again.

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My grand -- my
17 grandchildren go to Whitehead. My grandson has played at
18 the Sullivan home when they lived in the same area.

19 MR. STANTON: And anything about that
20 relationship that would cause you not to be fair and
21 impartial?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 MR. STANTON: You can put that aside and listen
24 to the facts of this case?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

1 MR. STANTON: Has any member of the prospective
2 panel had any negative interactions with law enforcement,
3 police, either yourself, close friend or acquaintance or
4 family member?

5 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 MR. STANTON: Okay. Mr. Thomas.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a daughter who has
9 gotten -- recently gotten into trouble, and that is still
10 pending.

11 MR. STANTON: Is there anything that the State
12 has to worry about if you were on this jury about holding us
13 to a different standard or reviewing evidence in this case
14 or the fact that the victim in this case was a police
15 officer, based upon that interaction?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

17 MR. STANTON: Is there anybody else?

18 Yes, Mr. Dunn.

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a stepson that has
20 a little problem down in California right now. It has no
21 bearing on anything.

22 MR. STANTON: You heard my questions of
23 Mr. Thomas, and you wouldn't -- there wouldn't be any
24 problem, there is nothing me and Mr. Gammick have to worry
25 about in that case?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 MR. STANTON: Miss Booth.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I put on my questionnaire
4 also, but I have an ex-boyfriend who had been arrested a
5 couple of times when we were together.

6 MR. STANTON: Also a relative you put on your
7 questionnaire, a cousin.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Cousin that lives out of
9 state who had a DUI.

10 MR. STANTON: Is there anything about those
11 interactions with law enforcement that causes you a problem
12 in this case now that you know some facts about this case?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't believe so, no.

14 MR. STANTON: Are you certain?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. No, I can separate.
16 Different incidents.

17 MR. STANTON: Yes, Miss Imasaki.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have been stopped a
19 couple of times by Sheriff's officers for DUI, and one of
20 them was a jerk.

21 MR. STANTON: One of the police officers was a
22 jerk. That happens. That happens, and that is exactly the
23 type of instances that I'm talking about.

24 Miss Imasaki, there are going to be some
25 witnesses in this case that are police officers, as well as

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1 the fact that the victim in this case was a police officer
2 on duty at the time he was murdered. Does that cause you
3 any problem in this case?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

5 MR. STANTON: Do you think the State has
6 anything to worry about if you were a juror on this case in
7 that regard?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 MR. STANTON: Thank you very much. Let me just
10 stay with this row and I'll get you. Miss Kizis.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Nephew and cousin that
12 were involved in drugs and arrested for that.

13 MR. STANTON: Is there anything about -- you
14 have heard my questions to the other jurors. Is there
15 anything about that experience that would cause you a
16 problem in this case?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MR. STANTON: Thank you, ma'am.

19 And Miss Frandsen.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My son in the '70s was
21 picked up for drugs.

22 MR. STANTON: You put that on your
23 questionnaire. Is there anything about that interaction
24 with the police and your knowledge of it that would cause
25 you a problem in the case based upon what you have heard so

1 far?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: None at all.

3 MR. STANTON: Anybody else? Let me go to
4 Miss Frankel.

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I actually forgot to put
6 this on my questionnaire. Like maybe one years old when
7 this happened, but my uncle was arrested for drugs. But I
8 have no knowledge of it, has nothing to do with this case.

9 MR. STANTON: Can't even believe that you
10 remember that, but thank you very much.

11 It would be Miss Roberts?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Roberts. My son was
13 arrested for drugs.

14 MR. STANTON: Once again in the '70s?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

16 MR. STANTON: That is what you put down in your
17 questionnaire.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Is that what I said? It
19 must be around the day.

20 MR. STANTON: Is there anything about that
21 experience, Miss Roberts, that would cause you a problem in
22 this case?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 MR. STANTON: Anybody else? Let me go row by
25 row here.

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1 Mr. Gerbatz.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Some friends that were
3 arrested.

4 MR. STANTON: And anything about your knowledge
5 of the experiences your friends encountered with the police
6 that would cause you to be anything but fair and impartial
7 in this case?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 MR. STANTON: Anybody else in that second row?
10 Yes, sir, Mr. Decker.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. As I told the judge
12 earlier, I was a character witness for a very good friend in
13 the early, mid '80s, that was arrested for firing a weapon
14 inside the city limits. I think he was -- I'm not sure of
15 the charge that he was charged with. There was a couple
16 people injured. Not too seriously, as I understand. But I
17 think he was acquitted of that charge, but he received
18 probation for the firearms.

19 MR. STANTON: Is there anything about your
20 knowledge of that case, whether as a witness or subsequent
21 to the event, about how the police conducted themselves
22 either in the incident or during the investigation that
23 would cause you a problem in this case based upon what you
24 know of the facts of this case?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir.

1 MR. STANTON: Anybody else in the second row?
2 In the third row starting from my left. Anybody?

3 Mr. Sotero.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I have had several
5 run-ins with the law.

6 MR. STANTON: Were those run-ins with the law
7 here locally in Washoe County?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

9 MR. STANTON: Anything about those interactions
10 with law enforcement officers cause you a problem as far as
11 today?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Like somebody said, some
13 cops are jerks.

14 MR. STANTON: I think probably everybody in
15 this room could agree with that to some extent. Is there
16 anything about that interaction or those interactions that
17 would cause you a problem to be a juror in this case?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably not.

19 MR. STANTON: Okay. Your term "probably," can
20 you give me some explanation why it's probably as opposed to
21 some other term?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, whether a person is
23 an officer or not, we're all human, we all make mistakes.
24 And sometimes, in my past experience, I felt an officer made
25 a mistake, but he was the officer, he had the gun and the

1 badge, and I'm Joe Citizen, and I obviously lost.

2 MR. STANTON: In this case, do you feel that
3 you would carry any of those feelings into your deliberation
4 of the evidence as a juror?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I will try not to.

6 MR. STANTON: Can you do that?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think so.

8 MR. STANTON: Anybody else in the back row?
9 Miss Kominek.

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Do you want us to respond
11 other than what was on the questionnaire?

12 THE COURT: If you have something additional to
13 add, please do that.

14 MR. STANTON: And I'll be coming back to your
15 questionnaire when I get to individual. I'll ask it to you
16 now. You indicated there was a problem in the past with law
17 enforcement with a relative?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, two actually.

19 MR. STANTON: And was that locally?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, one.

21 MR. STANTON: Was there anything about those
22 interactions that would cause you a problem in this case?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 MR. STANTON: And Mr. Lafond.

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. My son, was about

1 how he did some shoplifting after he went back to the
2 Philippines, and the police come knocking on my door. It
3 has nothing to do with this case. He have made his mistake.
4 That is his problem.

5 MR. STANTON: Mr. O'Daye?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I'm on house
7 arrest right now.

8 MR. STANTON: Can you tell me what agency that
9 was that arrested you that led to your house arrest?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just Sparks.

11 MR. STANTON: Somewhere in Sparks? Was it
12 Sparks Police Department?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, police.

14 MR. STANTON: I'm assuming that the fact that
15 you are here and someone hasn't come tracking you down, that
16 you have worked it out with your house arrest folks that
17 that doesn't set off the alarm.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, it's all right.

19 MR. STANTON: Is there anything, Mr. O'Daye,
20 about that experience that would cause you a problem in this
21 case?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 MR. STANTON: From behalf of the State?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's all right.

25 MR. STANTON: Can you give us a fair shake in

1 this case as a juror?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 MR. STANTON: Anybody else?

4 Occasionally in the two predominant newspapers
5 that service the Washoe County area, the Reno
6 Gazette-Journal and the Sparks Tribune, there is an
7 advertisement relative to concept of jurors' rights. Has
8 anybody on this panel ever seen that advertisement?

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

10 MR. STANTON: Anybody say yes?

11 There have been several questions so far about
12 whether or not any of you, based upon your life experiences
13 that you bring to court today, have any bias or prejudice in
14 this case. And you all to this point have indicated that
15 you do not.

16 Is there any of you -- along with those two
17 concepts, there is another one called sympathy as a juror.
18 In this case, both as your function in the guilt phase and
19 in the penalty phase, you cannot interject in your
20 decision-making --

21 MR. BOSLER: I object to that statement, Your
22 Honor. I don't believe that's a correct statement of the
23 law with regard to penalty.

24 THE COURT: Counsel approach.
25

1 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
2 Court and counsel as follows:)

3 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Bosler.

4 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, there is case law that
5 says mercy is a valid concept to be imposed, considered by
6 judges and jurors when they decide penalties. And to say
7 they can't exercise sympathy, I know that is a general
8 instruction with regard to the guilt phase, but it is not
9 true in the penalty phase.

10 MR. STANTON: I couldn't disagree more. The
11 anti-sympathy instruction has been upheld by the State of
12 Nevada Supreme Court on no less than three occasions.

13 THE COURT: His objection is that you can allow
14 sympathy to influence you with regard to mitigation in the
15 penalty phase, not in guilt phase. That is his argument.

16 MR. STANTON: And that's what I'm saying is
17 that there is an anti-sympathy instruction at both the guilt
18 phase and the penalty phase, and that is upheld numerous
19 times by the Nevada Supreme Court.

20 THE COURT: I'm very concerned about implying
21 that the jury must contain their ideas of mitigation to one
22 particular area or certain particular areas. I think the
23 case law is very clear that the juror may consider anything
24 they want by way of mitigation.

25 MR. STANTON: Yes, and in fact --

1 THE COURT: What my concern is, that unless we
2 are very careful on how we ask the question, there could be
3 implication the limiting can be mitigation. I think you
4 would be fine if you ask the question with regard to guilt
5 phase and we stay away from it for penalty.

6 MR. STANTON: The decisions say that if the
7 instruction says that you may consider any evidence in
8 mitigation. If that instruction is given along with the
9 anti-sympathy instruction, that's a correct statement of the
10 law.

11 THE COURT: But what are you calling sympathy?
12 If they believe that his receiving the death penalty would
13 deprive his mother of her son, I call that sympathy, but
14 that's a mitigator they can consider, and I will allow the
15 defense to argue that.

16 MR. STANTON: But I'm not sure that is
17 distinctive from what I'm saying.

18 THE COURT: I'm not either. That is my
19 problem. Just calling it sympathy generally. I think it's
20 a semantic term, and I want to be sure with the objection on
21 the record that we're careful that the jury doesn't get the
22 wrong impression.

23 I think the way we can do it, you can just talk
24 about it in terms of penalty, in terms of guilt phase, and
25 then just say it is going to be reinstructed as to what they

1 can and must consider in penalty phase.

2 MR. STANTON: Okay.

3 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, we would ask the Court
4 to instruct the jury at this point they are not allowed --
5 they are allowed to consider anything they think is
6 appropriate in the penalty phase, to cure the implication
7 they can't be sympathetic.

8 THE COURT: I think I will listen to how
9 Mr. Stanton modifies his question, and I feel at that time
10 it hasn't been corrected, I will make a corrected
11 instruction to the jury. But at this time I think
12 interrupting his question, he'll be able to fix it in his
13 answer and not have to cause special attention to this whole
14 issue.

15 MR. GREGORY: Judge, how long are we going
16 before we take a break, because we have been here since 9:00
17 or something, something like that? So a lot of these jurors
18 have also.

19 THE COURT: I'm not worried about the jurors.
20 They look perfectly okay to me. If he can go until quarter
21 to 12:00, that's how long we will go.

22 We'll go til quarter to 12:00.

23 MR. BOSLER: Judge, while we're here, I'd ask
24 the Court's guidance because there are people who say that
25 they formed an opinion based upon media. They are still in

1 this pool. We have handled them individually before. I
2 want to get the Court's feeling on that.

3 THE COURT: I think we won't handle them
4 individually because the reason we ended up doing the other
5 individuals was because it was lunchtime and I thought we
6 were going to work straight through lunch, handle those
7 jurors while the main body got lunch, but you all needed a
8 break. We couldn't do it. So it just sort of happened that
9 we got bogged down like that. It wasn't an intentional
10 thing. I'm especially concerned about some of their
11 responses, but in this group I don't think we have to do it
12 individually.

13 MR. BOSLER: A lot of people say they have been
14 influenced by media, people they have talked to, and I think
15 you run the risk they are going to blurt out something that
16 is going to contaminate the juror pool. That is our
17 concern.

18 THE COURT: Thank you for that concern. I
19 appreciate your calling it to my attention.

20 So far I haven't heard anything different.
21 They all seemed to have heard the exact same thing. I
22 just -- I'll play it by ear. I may interrupt them if I feel
23 they are going off and telling us everything they know about
24 the case.

25 They have also told us that they didn't -- all

1 these people said they haven't learned anything new since
2 they filled out the questionnaire.

3 You have the questionnaire. So I don't think
4 you have to go into what they already knew. I think the
5 question goes to whether or not they can put that aside and
6 decide the case. I'm going to allow you to inquire in that
7 regard, but I don't think you have to go into what else they
8 know.

9 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, if I don't know what
10 they have heard or read about the case, I'm not sure exactly
11 if they have heard every detail about the case and they are
12 going to say, I'm not biased.

13 THE COURT: You have got the questionnaire.
14 You have got the response to the questionnaire where they
15 filled out what they had heard. I have asked the question:
16 Is there anything new that you have heard or read about this
17 case in addition to the questionnaire? All of them said no.

18 There's no need for you to go beyond the
19 questionnaire. You have got it. You can ask them again if
20 there is something more, but they have all told me there
21 isn't anything more.

22 Just pull the questionnaire out. That is why
23 we have a questionnaire, so we don't ask everybody.

24 I also want to encourage counsel, I will shut
25 you down if you ask the same question twice. And both of

1 you. We're going to move through this selection. You can
2 not repeat your questions three and four times, the same
3 question.

4 Ask your question once. If you have follow-up
5 questions based on the answer, follow up. But don't repeat
6 the question. And you don't have to repeat the same
7 question more than once to the same jury panel. Okay?

8 MR. STANTON: Do you want all the generals and
9 specifics at the same time?

10 THE COURT: Yes.

11 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I gave you a list of
12 my questions, and you didn't disapprove of a lot of them. A
13 lot of them require the questions as to each specific juror,
14 occupation, things like that. There is no way I can ask it
15 once just one juror and move on.

16 THE COURT: Well, you requested permission to
17 ask -- and we didn't even go into this. We'll talk about
18 it. You are not going to get -- we will have another break
19 before you get to ask your questions.

20 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
21 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)

22 MR. STANTON: Since it's a while since I asked
23 my last question, I'll once again go over it.

24 We have talked before about bias, prejudice in
25 this case. I would ask you relative to the issue of the

1 guilt phase of this trial, once again, there being two
2 phases, the guilt phase and the penalty phase.

3 Could you, knowing and looking at yourself
4 honestly, the character and the type of person you are, put
5 aside your bias, your sympathy and your prejudice when
6 determining the issues of the guilt or innocence of
7 Mr. Vanisi?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: Yes.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I couldn't.

10 MR. STANTON: Okay. That's Miss Buckley?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 MR. STANTON: Is that based upon the opinion
13 that you have previously indicated that you have in this
14 case?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. It's just the way I
16 feel.

17 MR. STANTON: I understand that. And you feel
18 that way because of what you know about the case to date?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh. And what I read
20 back during that period of time. And the fright that we
21 felt when we had to keep going to work that someone was out
22 there.

23 MR. STANTON: Miss Buckley, you have heard
24 about the presumption of innocence that we have talked about
25 yesterday and today?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 MR. STANTON: Do you believe in that?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe in that, and I
4 feel that he should have a fair trial, and I don't feel that
5 I could give him that.

6 MR. STANTON: What is it about it, about your
7 opinion - I don't want necessarily the details of it - but
8 what makes you think that you can't afford that to
9 Mr. Vanisi? Because you can't put what you know aside?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

11 MR. STANTON: If the judge were to instruct you
12 that as a juror in this case, you decide what the facts are,
13 no one else does, no one tells you what to decide or what
14 weight to give to the facts, you and you alone do that, do
15 you think you could do that?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I really don't. I'm
17 afraid I can't. That's not fair. It's just the way I feel.
18 I walked til 2:00 o'clock this morning. I can't erase that.
19 It is the way I feel.

20 MR. STANTON: Anybody else have an answer to
21 that question that we need to speak about?

22 In this case --

23 MR. BOSLER: Counsel, I believe Miss Cadena, if
24 I'm not mistaken.

25 Did your hand go up?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It did and it went down
2 again. It's really the same territory we covered yesterday.
3 I still don't feel sure that I could be fair about it.

4 MR. STANTON: But the same issues and the same
5 reasons we discussed yesterday?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Exactly.

7 MR. STANTON: Anybody else?

8 Mr. Gerbatz, same thing as to yesterday?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I need to let you know
10 that I again have a very strong opinion, but I don't
11 think -- I think I could look at this, the evidence and
12 determine a verdict with the evidence, the instructions of
13 the Court, but at this point I am burdened with a heavy
14 thing.

15 MR. STANTON: The questions to all of you
16 relative to having opinions, having opinions are fine. Some
17 people have very strong opinions about a trial that may be
18 starting this week in Washington, D.C.

19 The question is: Can you put aside whatever
20 your opinions are and say, I have a special role as a juror,
21 and that is you sit in those chairs, you listen to witnesses
22 take the witness stand, there will be evidence presented in
23 the form of documentation, photos, exhibits, and then make
24 your decision solely on that, not what you hear, say, for
25 example, in the newspaper?

1 In other words, this case isn't tried by what
2 Mike Henderson says in the Gazette Journal or what Tad
3 Dunbar says on the evening news. It is tried in this
4 courtroom through that chair and through presentation of
5 evidence by both sides here. That's the question about the
6 people that have any preexisting opinion one way or another.

7 Can you put that aside and listen to what
8 happens in this room? Is there anybody that cannot do that?

9 And that's Mr. Gerbatz and Miss Buckley. Is
10 that correct?

11 In this case there will be what I think I can
12 fairly state is powerful testimony and gruesome testimony
13 and photographs. My question to you is how you know
14 yourself, your personality, your character, is can you look
15 and listen to that testimony? Are you the type of person
16 that can listen to it?

17 It's not going to be pleasant. But it's
18 necessary as a juror because there is specific forensic
19 evidence that is addressed in not only the testimony but in
20 the photographs.

21 Is there anybody in this panel that feels that
22 they would have difficulty doing that?

23 Okay. Let me start with Miss Mueller.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I can't stand the site of
25 any kind of blood or any gruesome pictures. It just gets to

1 me.

2 MR. STANTON: Okay. And when you say it gets
3 to you, to the point where you couldn't look at them at all?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I couldn't.

5 MR. STANTON: Okay. Anybody else in the back
6 row?

7 MR. BOSLER: Let the record reflect, Your
8 Honor, that Miss Mueller is tearful at this point.

9 THE COURT: The record will so reflect.

10 MR. STANTON: Miss Guiler, what concerns do you
11 have regarding this?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I have never been
13 one to watch horror movies or like "The Titanic," I could
14 never go to that movie and watch that movie. Even though,
15 say, it's a love story, I could never go and watch it
16 because of the fact that people were losing their lives. I
17 have never been a fan of any kind of like "Star Trek" or
18 anything that was like out of the ordinary as far as
19 gruesome goes.

20 And I don't really know how it would affect me
21 to have to -- because I have kind of sheltered myself over
22 the years from things like that, like from violence.

23 MR. STANTON: Okay. Well, in this case, as I
24 indicated, there will be photographs and testimony in
25 conjunction with those photographs that speak to the

1 evidence in this case. It's not designed to shock you or
2 like maybe some of the movies are, but because it tells you
3 evidence in this case. That's the role of the jurors is to
4 determine the evidence in this case.

5 So knowing that, I know you said you shielded
6 yourself purposely from that, what do you think about your
7 ability as your personality goes, as a role of a juror when
8 it comes to that evidence? Do you think you can, even
9 though it may be distasteful to observe and to listen to,
10 could you continue to perform your function as a juror?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir, I could.

12 MR. STANTON: Thank you. Anybody else in the
13 back row? In the second row. Okay.

14 Miss Mills. Can you tell me about your
15 concerns?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I have seen a lot
17 of operations on TV in the medical channels and things like
18 that, heart operations, and that didn't bother me. But to
19 see photographs on a death, I think it would.

20 MR. STANTON: I'm hopeful that most
21 compassionate people, photographs of this nature would
22 bother them or they are not something that they would enjoy
23 looking at. My question as it was to Miss Guiler and I'd
24 ask you directly, can you put your feelings aside and
25 perform your role as a juror to evaluate as evidence?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's a hard one to
2 answer. I don't know.

3 MR. STANTON: The concern I'd be looking at is
4 a potential juror who says, I can't look at them. Kind of
5 shuts it off, both when they observe the photographs as well
6 as hear the testimony. Someone that just simply cannot
7 absorb and listen to it. It will not be pleasant for
8 anybody. But can they do that.

9 Is there anybody that, other than the witnesses
10 or the potential jurors that have already answered that
11 question, is there anybody else that thinks that they will
12 have trouble doing that?

13 Okay. That would be Miss Arlitz?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

15 MR. STANTON: Could you tell me a little bit
16 more about your concerns regarding this?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I never watch movies or
18 anything like that that has to do with blood. I have passed
19 out.

20 THE COURT: I'm going to stop you right there.
21 Mr. Lafond told me about -- do you need to leave right now?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Go ahead and go with the Jury
24 Commissioner into the jury room, please.
25

1 (Prospective Juror LaFond excused from the
2 courtroom.)

3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR IN THE AUDIENCE: Excuse me,
4 Your Honor. There is some of us that have to go, too.

5 THE COURT: Go ahead and have a seat, please.

6 MR. STANTON: Do you want me to continue
7 questioning while he is gone?

8 THE COURT: Do you stipulate to the questioning
9 of these people who indicated specific issues? Mr. Bosler?

10 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I would ask that we
11 wait for the juror to come back because one of these
12 questions may raise a concern that they want to express.

13 THE COURT: He is just inquiring as to the
14 question that he gave that they raised their hand about
15 concerns with the photographs.?

16 MR. BOSLER: My concern is the responses that
17 are elicited may cause the person missing to raise his hand.
18 So I ask that we wait.

19 THE COURT: Bailiff, approach, please.

20 (Prospective Juror LaFond returned to the
21 courtroom.)

22 MR. STANTON: Miss Arlitz, my question
23 ultimately is this: Can you knowing -- because you know
24 yourself better than anybody in this courtroom, can you put
25 your feelings about that subject matter aside and perform

1 your function as a juror to review it as evidence?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm not sure.

3 MR. STANTON: Would you do your best?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll try.

5 MR. STANTON: Ma'am, Miss --

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have butterflies in my
7 stomach, you just talking that way. I am very sensitive. I
8 had trouble going to sleep last night just thinking about
9 it. But I could try to put my thoughts aside to that.

10 MR. STANTON: Okay. Thank you very much. That
11 is Miss Kizis; right?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

13 MR. STANTON: Anybody else?

14 THE COURT: Before you inquire, we have lost
15 one of our gallery. So we'll wait for just a moment before
16 you move on to a new question.

17 Ladies and gentlemen, yesterday I noticed how
18 long it takes a hundred of you to move in and out of a
19 courtroom. If I take a recess now, we won't get back in
20 before noon. I want to keep moving so that your time is
21 well spent. So that's why we're taking this extraordinary
22 measure just taking those people who have to.

23 I plan on recessing at a quarter to 12:00. So
24 that's about 20 more minutes. I cannot proceed, there is no
25 stipulation to proceed without you present for any of the

1 questions. So we must wait.

2 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, may we approach?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
5 Court and counsel as follows:)

6 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I was going to suggest
7 an efficient use of time, may we have side-bar with Miss
8 Mueller at this time?

9 THE COURT: We have the lady back in the
10 courtroom. What do you want to do about Miss Mueller?

11 MR. STANTON: I know she is upset.

12 THE COURT: We'll just keep going.

13 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
14 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)

15 MR. STANTON: Is there any other juror that
16 would have any problem along the lines of testimony or
17 photographs in this case?

18 Miss Mills?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would like to elaborate
20 on my statement where you generally hear -- this is your
21 job, this is your life, you see this every day. I don't. I
22 don't see photographs every day the way you do. But what
23 I'm saying is what I see in a photograph, I don't want it to
24 affect the rest of my life with that picture. I want to --
25 I don't want to see it.

1 MR. STANTON: Okay. And do you think based
2 upon what I have described to you today that it might do
3 that?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I do.

5 MR. STANTON: Based upon that, do you think it
6 would affect your ability to continue or to perform your
7 function as a juror? In other words, where you won't pay
8 attention to the facts and evidence or where you couldn't be
9 fair and impartial?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think where I couldn't
11 pay attention to facts and evidence, I would just have this
12 photograph in my mind, and that would be -- I have no idea
13 when I'm going to look at that, and I think, yes, I don't
14 want that image in my mind for the rest of my life.

15 MR. STANTON: Okay.

16 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, at this time we make a
17 motion to challenge her for cause. If she can't sit fairly
18 and look at photographs.

19 THE COURT: Do you want to traverse?

20 MR. STANTON: I would not traverse, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Miss Mills, you are excused.

22 (Prospective Juror Mills excused from the
23 courtroom.)

24 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I don't know if this
25 is an opportune time, but based upon the responses from Miss

1 Buckley and Mr. Damoth -- Miss Buckley and Mr. Gerbatz, we
2 make the same motion. I think they both expressed to the
3 Court they can't be fair based upon their answers in this
4 case.

5 MR. STANTON: Relative to the motion with
6 Miss Buckley, Your Honor, the State would not traverse. We
7 would traverse the motion for cause as to Mr. Gerbatz.

8 THE COURT: Miss Buckley, you are excused.

9 (Prospective Juror Buckley excused from the
10 courtroom.)

11 THE COURT: Based upon Mr. Gerbatz's responses,
12 the Court denies the motion with regard to Mr. Gerbatz.

13 The clerk will call the names of two more
14 people to replace them. We will first replace Miss Mills
15 and then Miss Buckley.

16 THE CLERK: Menandro H. Domingo.

17 Robin W. Sheets.

18 MR. GREGORY: Are they not sitting in sequence?

19 THE COURT: We excused Miss Mills first,
20 therefore, the first person called replaces Miss Mills. The
21 second motion that was made was with regard to Miss Buckley.
22 That motion was granted. Therefore, the second name called
23 replaced Miss Buckley.

24 MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 MR. STANTON: Your Honor, do you want me to go

1 into the generals?

2 THE COURT: Yes. I'm giving them an
3 opportunity to review the witness list.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know anyone on
5 the list, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Sheets?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, Your Honor, I don't
8 know anyone.

9 THE COURT: My questions are for you,
10 Mr. Domingo, and you, Mr. Sheets. Were you able to hear all
11 my questions this morning?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 THE COURT: Would you have responded to any of
15 my questions affirmatively? Would you have raised your hand
16 and said, Yes, judge, I have that issue?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just one.

18 THE COURT: Which one, Mr. Sheets?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Working with officers.
20 The Reno PD does weaponless defense at the armory, and I
21 have several officers that are in the National Guard as
22 well.

23 THE COURT: Anything about that relationship
24 with Reno police or the officers that are in the Guard that
25 would cause you difficulty serving in this case?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Now, was that the same Guard that
3 Mr. Gammick used to be a member of or is a member of?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have no idea.

5 THE COURT: You are not familiar with him?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: And is there anything about your
8 relationship with police officers that would cause you to
9 favor someone's testimony over another person's testimony?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Domingo, what would you have
12 responded to?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would like to respond
14 that I know and am acquainted with one of the Sheriff's
15 deputies, and his name is Jim Barros. He is a friend of
16 mine, and he used to be my supervisor, too.

17 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
18 relationship that would cause you difficulty serving as a
19 juror in this case?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think so.

21 THE COURT: Anything else that you would want
22 to respond to?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor. I have
24 two daughters that I have to drop to school in the morning,
25 and both of them are in variance because we moved from

1 Lemmon Valley closer to town, and they still go to the same
2 school. One is in Stead Middle School, and one is in Lemmon
3 Valley school.

4 And I have a hard time dropping them off.
5 Picking them up is no problem because my wife works during
6 the day. And to drop them off is really a hardship to me
7 because I don't know how to drop them so they won't get late
8 in school.

9 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Because you have to
10 come to court?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 THE COURT: What time are they due at school?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The middle schooler is
14 starting at 8:00 and the other starts at 9:00.

15 THE COURT: If you have to be here before 9:00
16 you would have a problem?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's right, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Okay. You won't have to be.

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Good.

20 THE COURT: Anything else?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I also served as a juror
22 about eight, nine, ten years ago. It was a DUI case, and if
23 I remember it correctly, Attorney Stanton was the prosecutor
24 at that time.

25 THE COURT: And now without telling me the

1 result of the case, were you able to reach a verdict?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. The best of my
3 knowledge.

4 THE COURT: Now, is there anything about the
5 fact that you saw Mr. Stanton as an attorney in a case
6 previously that would cause you to be biased for or against
7 the State in this case?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 THE COURT: Or would you be biased for or
10 against the defense in this case?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's -- I have a mixed
12 reaction on that question, Your Honor. Because we -- we
13 also are victim of a crime, and if you let me continue my
14 story, I'll tell you why.

15 THE COURT: Go ahead.

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Because I have a relative
17 who was murdered in the Philippines, and it's really left a
18 big scar on our family. And out of that scar developed a
19 rage, a rage that we want to see every -- whoever, whatever
20 race that is, to be convicted, to be convicted and get the
21 maximum penalty allowed by the law.

22 THE COURT: So you think you would be biased
23 against the defendant because of that circumstance?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor. Because
25 of the scar that is left in our family.

1 THE COURT: Anything else on your list that you
2 wanted to tell me about?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That's all, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Were you able to hear my question,
5 especially my last question that I asked today of the whole
6 panel with regard to the potential for the jury to determine
7 the penalty in a case? Did you hear me talk about that?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Would you feel compelled to enter
10 any particular -- a particular verdict in all cases of first
11 degree murder?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Your Honor, because of
13 the thing that happened to my family, I'm going to have a
14 hard time figuring out the verdict, meaning to say that I
15 would have a hard time to reach the decision because to me,
16 I mentioned the word rage, to me, I would see the person,
17 regardless of who he is, what he is, to be convicted.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I believe we have a
20 stipulated cause challenge.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Make your motion.

22 MR. BOSLER: We would ask that he be excused
23 for cause.

24 MR. STANTON: State would not traverse that.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Domingo, based on your answers

1 and their stipulation, I'll go ahead and excuse you. Thank
2 you.

3 Call another name.

4 (Prospective Juror Domingo excused from the
5 courtroom.)

6 THE CLERK: Sandra J. Ellin.

7 THE COURT: Go ahead and review the witness
8 list, Miss Ellin.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know any of them,
10 Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Sheets, would you be compelled
12 to return any particular verdict with regard to penalty if
13 you were called upon to sit on a jury that was required to
14 determine penalty?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: (Shakes head negatively.)

16 THE COURT: Would you feel you always had to
17 vote for the death penalty no matter what the Court's
18 instructions or the law?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

20 THE COURT: Would you feel you always had to
21 vote against the death penalty no matter what the Court's
22 instructions or law?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

24 THE COURT: Miss Ellin, have you had an
25 opportunity to hear all my questions this morning?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Would you have wanted to respond to
3 any of my questions if you had been sitting here?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have an uncle that was
5 a sheriff in Riverside, California, and he was there for
6 many years.

7 I don't think I'd be a good juror. I don't
8 think I could listen to those pictures. I believe in the
9 death penalty, strongly. I have a sister that's in Norgo,
10 prison for women, that the police officers in California
11 just harassed. I just don't think I'm a good juror.

12 Also, I'm sorry I'm kind of emotional. I work
13 as a waitress, I work four hours a day. I get 5:15 an hour.
14 I have been stressed over this for the whole week.

15 My income is tips. I'm the only person that
16 pays my bills. And I have been worried about how I'm going
17 to pay my bills. I don't think I would be very good at
18 this.

19 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, not to state the
20 obvious, but the record should reflect she is tearful at
21 this point.

22 THE COURT: The record will so reflect.
23 Counsel wish to inquire?

24 MR. STANTON: I have no questions of this
25 witness, Your Honor.

1 MR. BOSLER: I don't mean to put you on the
2 spot.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Fine.

4 MR. BOSLER: I heard you say that based upon
5 your life experiences, you think that if this case came down
6 to a murder conviction, you'd vote for the death penalty?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I strongly believe in
8 that. When a person does a crime, they should pay for what
9 they have done.

10 MR. BOSLER: Is there anything that you would
11 consider that would change your mind if you found a
12 first-degree murder conviction you would -- you wouldn't
13 vote for it?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I would vote for it.

15 MR. BOSLER: We would make a motion to excuse
16 for cause.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton.

18 MR. STANTON: Miss Ellin, are you saying that
19 if under every circumstance you sat as a juror and someone
20 was convicted of first-degree murder, you think the
21 appropriate punishment would be the death penalty?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I do.

23 MR. STANTON: There is no cases where you would
24 think that something less than the death penalty would be
25 appropriate?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir, I don't.

2 MR. STANTON: And you are absolute in your
3 convictions about that?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I am.

5 MR. STANTON: And it's just the fact that it is
6 a crime of first degree murder that the punishment would
7 be -- automatically should be the death penalty?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That, yes, I do.

9 MR. STANTON: Do you think that there's some
10 other things you should consider before you decide the death
11 penalty, such as mitigating evidence about who the defendant
12 is, whether or not they have any other prior contact with
13 the law, that would help you make that decision?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir, I don't. I
15 strongly believe in it.

16 MR. STANTON: Thank you. No further questions.

17 THE COURT: Motion has been made. Mr. Stanton.

18 MR. STANTON: We would not traverse it, Your
19 Honor.

20 THE COURT: Miss Ellin, based upon your
21 responses to the death penalty, I'm going to excuse you.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Thank you, ma'am.

23 (Prospective Juror Ellin excused from the
24 courtroom.)

25 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, the record should

1 reflect that Mr. Rumbaugh was also nodding his head on that
2 question.

3 THE COURT: The problem I have is I want to
4 make it really clear, in spite of what Mr. Bosler asked in
5 terms of the way the question was asked, the law does not
6 exclude people who have strongly held convictions one way or
7 another. You must, as I told you earlier, be willing to
8 follow the instructions that I give you with regard to the
9 law and follow the specific instructions that I give you
10 with regard to what you must consider before determining
11 penalty. And that is of significance here.

12 So although I know many of you are hearing
13 things and think there are some differences between you or
14 that there are no differences between you and people who are
15 excused, there are differences in responses and the reasons,
16 and I will inquire of Mr. Rumbaugh in just a minute.

17 Call another name.

18 THE CLERK: Gordon D. Berg.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Berg, go ahead and look at
20 those, that witness list, please. Do you know anyone?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I didn't recognize
22 anyone, no.

23 THE COURT: Not related to anybody on that
24 list; right?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

1 THE COURT: Have you been able to hear my
2 questions this morning?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Would you want to respond to any of
5 those questions had you been sitting in the jury box all
6 day?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Only that my ex-wife is
8 married to a Washoe County detective; and I do strongly
9 believe in the death penalty, but I do try to keep an open
10 mind.

11 THE COURT: With regard to your -- the issue on
12 the penalties provided, as I indicated this morning, it's
13 only on certain kinds of cases that juries decide penalty,
14 and it would only be after a determination of guilt were
15 found as to first degree murder that that consideration
16 could even come into play.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

18 THE COURT: If that were the determination by
19 the jury at some point, you would be called upon to
20 determine the penalty. I will instruct you as to which
21 penalties are available and what the law is with regard to
22 things that you must consider before determining the
23 penalty.

24 Would you be able to follow that instruction?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sure.

1 THE COURT: In spite of a strong belief in the
2 death penalty, would you give -- would you be compelled to
3 give the death penalty in all cases? Or would you
4 consider --

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'd consider the
6 circumstances always.

7 THE COURT: And would you be compelled -- I
8 think based on your questions, the answer is going to be no,
9 but I do want to make a record. Would you feel compelled to
10 always vote against the death penalty if you sat on a jury
11 that was -- had to determine penalty?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You lost me there.

13 THE COURT: If you happen to be on a jury that
14 was required to determine the penalty, would you vote
15 against the death penalty no matter what the evidence or the
16 instructions?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, no, I'd follow the
18 instructions.

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 Mr. Rumbaugh, Mr. Bosler told me that you were
21 nodding your head when Miss Ellin was talking. Do you have
22 something to add?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You know, I just kind of
24 agree with her.

25 THE COURT: About not wanting to be here?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, not wanting to be
2 here, no. The penalty. An eye for an eye and all that
3 stuff.

4 THE COURT: Now, I had asked you before but I
5 want to be sure you understood my question. Do you
6 understand that I will give you instructions as to what you
7 must consider before you determine the proper penalty, if
8 you even get there?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's awfully hard to
10 blank a person's mind out and start two separate sides.

11 THE COURT: Nobody is asking you to blank out
12 your mind. The question is, will you be able to follow the
13 law which requires you to weigh certain considerations.

14 The question is, no matter who the person is
15 who was convicted of first degree murder, always, no matter
16 what the evidence, no matter who the person was, vote to
17 impose the death penalty? Or would you consider the person?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'd do the death
19 penalty.

20 THE COURT: No matter if it was your daughter
21 who committed the offense, you would say, Yeah, death
22 penalty?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Like I say, you commit
24 the crime, you do the punishment.

25 THE COURT: Counsel, you may inquire.

1 MR. STANTON: Mr. Rumbaugh, the adage that you
2 just mentioned about doing the crime and doing time, there
3 is a distinction between doing obviously prison time and the
4 death penalty. So I'm not sure if I misunderstand your
5 citation to that quote.

6 If you believe that someone committed a murder
7 and you believe the only punishment that you would recognize
8 and consider would be the death penalty, is that what you
9 are saying?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sometimes murder might be
11 justified.

12 MR. STANTON: Okay. There are some cases where
13 someone would be convicted of murder in the first degree
14 where the punishment based upon any number of factors that
15 the jury considers in mitigation that would justify the
16 person not getting the death penalty. Would you agree with
17 that principle?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just say go with the
19 death penalty.

20 MR. STANTON: There is a lot of murders that
21 aren't, in the eyes of the law at least, not death penalty
22 cases, because in order for a case to be death penalty,
23 there has to be specific facts that the Legislature has
24 agreed to be aggravating circumstances that have stated in
25 the law this aggravates first degree murder before the death

1 penalty is a viable form of punishment.

2 Do you agree with that concept? In other
3 words, that you can't have the death penalty unless certain
4 aggravating circumstances have been proven?

5 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, we're going to object
6 at this time. I think that is a misstatement of the law.
7 In the eyes of the Legislature, even if you find
8 aggravators, death is never an absolute. They can always
9 choose life.

10 THE COURT: That's clear. But I don't think
11 that's what his question implied. No, I don't think he was
12 implying that. That's just the first part of it, was the
13 aggravating. I'm sure he is getting to the mitigating.
14 Motion is denied.

15 MR. STANTON: I certainly wasn't trying to
16 imply that. Sir --

17 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury,
18 there always -- we got to be careful, and that's why I
19 started at the beginning. I didn't really want to go
20 through all the instructions.

21 Mr. Bosler is asking questions about what kind
22 of a case -- do you understand that a certain kind of case
23 only can even be considered for the penalty, you can even
24 think about it?

25 Now, what Mr. Bosler is saying is that there is

1 a whole bunch of things that must be considered by the jury
2 before they ever impose that kind of penalty, and that's
3 what we're calling these mitigating circumstances. So be
4 sure that you don't get bogged down on the instructions.

5 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, that is not the
6 correct statement of the law. Because even if the jury were
7 to consider the aggravators and mitigators, they never have
8 an obligation to impose death under Nevada law. Even if
9 they found nine aggravators or however many.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler, thank you.

11 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I'm going to
12 give you a special instruction at this time.

13 "The jury must consider whether
14 aggravating circumstances exist if they
15 reach a penalty for first degree murder.
16 This determination must be unanimous and it
17 must be beyond a reasonable doubt.

18 The jurors need not find mitigating
19 circumstances unanimously in determining the
20 appropriate sentence. Each juror must
21 consider and weigh any mitigating
22 circumstances or circumstances which the
23 juror independently finds.

24 The jury may impose a sentence of
25 death only if: One, the jurors find

1 unanimously and beyond a reasonable doubt
2 that at least one aggravating circumstance
3 exists; two, each and every juror determines
4 that the mitigating circumstance or
5 circumstances if any which he or she has
6 found do not outweigh the aggravating
7 circumstance or circumstances; and three,
8 the jurors unanimously determine that in
9 their discretion a sentence of death is
10 appropriate."

11 This is a cite to Sonner versus State, 114
12 Nevada 321, 1998 case. It is a quote, and I don't think we
13 need to discuss further the circumstances. It is
14 complicated. That is the instruction.

15 MR. BOSLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: You may inquire.

17 MR. STANTON: Mr. Rumbaugh, having heard that
18 instruction of law, is there anything about that instruction
19 of law that would prohibit you from doing your sworn duty as
20 a juror in this case?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. No, there isn't.

22 MR. STANTON: Do you want me to continue with
23 my generals?

24 THE COURT: We're ready to quit for the lunch
25 break, as long as you have reached a determination of

1 whether or not you want to traverse Mr. Bosler's motion.

2 MR. STANTON: I would traverse the motion by
3 Mr. Bosler.

4 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, we'll make a
5 Weatherspoon challenge.

6 THE COURT: We'll -- fine. That is fine.
7 We'll talk about it in a moment.

8 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury panel, we're
9 going to recess for lunch now, and I'm going to ask that you
10 return at 1:00 o'clock. We'll start with the roll call at
11 1:00 o'clock.

12 Ladies and gentlemen in the audience, I have
13 much more business to do with these attorneys while you
14 leave the courtroom. I ask that you leave quietly and that
15 you return at 1:00 o'clock. Remember the admonition that
16 you have all received. I ask that you follow that
17 admonition. Do not get up and leave until I give it to you,
18 please. Be sure to remember to remain -- to come back to
19 the courthouse at 1:00 o'clock.

20 The admonition is as follows: You may not
21 view, listen to or read any news media accounts regarding
22 this case should there be any. You may not discuss the case
23 among yourselves or with anyone else. Do not form any
24 further opinions with regard to the outcome of this case and
25 do not allow anyone to attempt to influence you with regard

1 to it.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, we are going to take a
3 very brief recess while you exit the courtroom. I ask that
4 counsel remain in the courtroom so we can make a record as
5 soon as the courtroom is clear. We have several things to
6 puts on the record. Thank you. Court is in recess.

7 (Recess taken at 11:47 a.m.)

8 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
9 in open court, outside the presence of the jury
panel.)

10 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler, go ahead and make your
11 record.

12 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I'm not quite sure
13 which record you wanted me to make. There are many, several
14 jurors that expressed they formed opinions based upon the
15 media. I asked the Court to consider allowing them to
16 discuss what they have heard and how that affected their
17 opinions outside the presence of the rest of the jury pool
18 because of the risk of contamination. I think the judge,
19 you said that you would consider that but you are reluctant
20 to do that. That's one of the motions.

21 The other one is I think we have a --

22 THE COURT: Let's just do them one at a time.
23 I'm going to deny that motion at this time. Depending on
24 what the jurors say, if I feel it's necessary based on what
25 they say to have either a side-bar like we have been doing

1 or to do it individually, I will do it at that time.

2 MR. STANTON: In addition, Your Honor, I think
3 the Court had made in a side-bar ruling that the question
4 would have to be proffered whether there was anything in
5 addition to what they had put on their questionnaire that
6 would be a basis of additional information. Counsel would
7 have to ask that and inquire of that as a predicate.

8 THE COURT: Right. That's correct.

9 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, in addition, I think
10 we have a stipulated challenge to Juror Mueller. She is in
11 the first position.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton.

13 MR. STANTON: Yes, I would stipulate to
14 Miss Mueller's dismissal. I would indicate to the Court or
15 for the record that Miss Mueller was the juror who was quite
16 emotional relative to the subject matter of photographs.

17 Subsequent to the side-bar comment about Miss
18 Mueller, I have watched her reaction. Her physical reaction
19 is obviously one of grave discomfort as well as emotion, and
20 I believe that based upon the facts of this case, that it
21 would be ultimately presented that Miss Mueller may not be
22 able to perform her function as a juror in this case.

23 THE COURT: Based upon the stipulation and
24 motion of the defense, I will excuse Miss Mueller.

25 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, at this time we renew

1 our motion to have Mr. Rumbaugh excused for cause. He
2 indicated before anybody started questioning him he formed
3 his opinion about this case months ago, has expressed the
4 opinion. He's said eye for an eye, is what I heard, you do
5 the crime, do the time.

6 He agreed with the one juror that said in every
7 murder case, death penalty is appropriate. That is his
8 opinion. He made that unequivocal expression. I think it
9 is a Weatherspoon challenge.

10 MR. STANTON: Your Honor, I don't believe
11 Mr. Rumbaugh's answers to the questions or his comments at
12 any point during the voir dire have indicated that he is a
13 person that, as a matter of law sitting as a juror when
14 properly instructed, he is going to automatically impose the
15 death penalty in all first degree murder cases. It is quite
16 evident from the questioning so far that Mr. Rumbaugh has
17 strong feelings relative to the death penalty, but that is
18 not the precise issue of life or death qualifying this jury.

19 Especially I think that the critical colloquy
20 that occurred between Mr. Rumbaugh was after the Court had
21 instructed relative to the deliberative process of the death
22 penalty, and Mr. Rumbaugh answered that question with
23 precision. And I think it's been the most precise question
24 posed to him about the ultimate Weatherspoon criterion and
25 that is he would follow the law by the Court. Based on his

1 response to that, I don't think that satisfies the cause
2 motion by defense counsel.

3 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, just for the record,
4 Mr. Rumbaugh has said that he would favor police officer's
5 testimony over civilian witnesses, he could not be fair to
6 the defendant, and I think he was unequivocal when he said
7 that if he is convicted, death is the appropriate remedy.

8 If it is not a Weatherspoon challenge,
9 certainly it is a for-cause challenge. I'm not backing off
10 the Weatherspoon argument, but I think it is a challenge for
11 both reasons.

12 MR. STANTON: Well, Your Honor, if I may
13 briefly respond. Mr. Rumbaugh indicated, and I think there
14 is a misperception, at least it is the State's perspective,
15 the defense is misconceiving the responses how jurors would
16 treat police officers' testimony. There is no legal
17 impediment that I'm aware of if a juror responds that if
18 there is two conflicting witnesses in a case, that they
19 would side on a police officer, that that is not violative
20 of law or decision that I'm aware of.

21 In fact, I think it's a pretty commonplace
22 perception of a juror. The question is, is can they or
23 would they disregard any other person's testimony that would
24 conflict with the police officer or that they would
25 automatically believe a police officer's testimony. I think

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1 from Mr. Rumbaugh's responses, they don't fall within either
2 of those two examples.

3 As far as counsel's comment that he couldn't be
4 fair to the defendant, I don't recall that in the context
5 that he couldn't do his job as a juror in this case. He is
6 one of the jurors that has an opinion, but he has also
7 indicated that he could put that opinion aside and listen to
8 the facts here.

9 And that phenomenon has occurred in many
10 high-profile cases, both in federal and state court and that
11 is a person coming in as a prospective juror that has a
12 preexisting opinion. That is not a basis for
13 disqualification. Absent something else, I don't think the
14 defense has made a case for it.

15 THE COURT: I was concerned about his
16 responses, and that's why I read the specific instruction of
17 Sonner to determine whether or not he understood, and we
18 were getting bogged down in the issue how to -- how do you
19 explain to a jury without giving them specific instruction
20 how they must deliberate in the penalty phase if they reach
21 that phase and the requirement that they must determine
22 mitigating circumstances, they have to look at anything that
23 could possibly be mitigating. I read the instruction, and
24 his -- any confusion or ambiguity was cleared up. His
25 answer was unequivocal that he would follow the instruction

1 and he accepted it.

2 Based on that, the motion for Weatherspoon is
3 denied.

4 We have a request with regard to your voir
5 dire, Mr. Bosler. You asked me -- you had showed it to me
6 before we started court yesterday, and you asked me about
7 did I have any objections to your proposed voir dire. We
8 did that at the side-bar, too, but we didn't get into the
9 specifics.

10 MR. BOSLER: That is correct, Your Honor. And
11 I think the Court should rule on the for-cause challenge
12 issue, too.

13 THE COURT: I understand why the defense
14 doesn't want him, but I don't see a legal reason for
15 excluding him for cause. Therefore, the motion is denied.

16 MR. BOSLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Now, let's get into the question of
18 your questions, voir dire. Although you haven't had an
19 opportunity to inquire of the whole jury in blanket form,
20 although you have inquired independently of them, what you
21 said at side-bar was you were going to want to ask every
22 prospective juror each of those questions, and I didn't
23 understand that was going to be your request. So that's why
24 we have just got to go through it. Because I don't really
25 see the need for all 36 people to be asked what all their

1 prior professional careers were.

2 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I'm going to ask them
3 what their last occupation was, not what they have ever done
4 in their life. Of course, that is a question you can't ask
5 to a group.

6 And as the Court is aware, the regular
7 questionnaire we give out to all jurors indicates or gives
8 them a blank to fill out their present employment. That is
9 because your employment --

10 THE COURT: Let's go through your questions,
11 and then you can tell me why you think this bears on
12 their -- the jurors' ability to be a fair and impartial
13 jurors or their impartiality.

14 What was your last job or occupation? How does
15 that bear?

16 MR. BOSLER: The same as what their present
17 occupation is, Your Honor. If someone is now a truck driver
18 and their last occupation was they worked in a lab that
19 supplied police officers with guns, although that does not
20 technically say that they have relatives or related to law
21 enforcement, that would be something that would impact upon
22 their ability to be impartial.

23 I don't know what these other occupations are
24 going to be until I ask that question. And the other
25 questions that are in the questionnaire, even on special,

1 haven't covered that area.

2 THE COURT: Your question with regard to
3 background, what was your last job or occupation? how long
4 did you work there: what other cities have you lived in: is
5 there any reason you left? I'm not going to allow you to ask
6 every juror that question.

7 I will allow to you ask the jurors if they
8 changed their occupation in the last five years, not job but
9 occupation. And if they have, I will allow you to inquire
10 further of those individual jurors who raise their hand.

11 MR. BOSLER: Will the Court make a record why
12 five years is an important date?

13 THE COURT: I don't think it's important. I
14 don't think this question is really a very good question
15 anyway. I'm just trying to give you something to stretch it
16 to what your hypothetical is that maybe somebody somewhere
17 had a job working in a lab. If they didn't do it within the
18 last five years, I can't see any relevance to it. Unless it
19 was something specific that they have brought up.

20 But people do change occupations. But they
21 haven't changed it within the last five years, then they are
22 pretty entrenched in their current occupation.

23 So I'm giving you something to go on. If they
24 change occupations in five years, then you can inquire
25 further, see if maybe in recent times they have had some

1 special experiences that you think might bear on their
2 service.

3 I'm not going to allow you to ask what cities
4 they have lived in. You can look at the questionnaire. If
5 they have lived in Washoe County less than six months, go
6 ahead and inquire. Less than a year, inquire.

7 You have only lived here six months or a year,
8 where did you live before?

9 But I still don't particularly see the
10 relationship to living in another city before coming here.
11 But if they are newly here, if that somehow impacts your
12 defense, I'll go ahead and allow you to ask that.

13 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, for the record, I
14 think that if I ask a juror who has come from another state
15 and they say, I left Los Angeles in order to get away from
16 the crime because I was fearful, I left five years ago and I
17 have lived in Washoe County ever since, I'm not going to be
18 able to get that information based upon the Court's
19 restriction of my voir dire. I think that greatly impacts
20 upon Mr. Vanisi's chance, his opportunity to intelligently
21 exercise not only for-cause challenges, but his right to
22 exercise his peremptories.

23 THE COURT: Why?

24 MR. BOSLER: If someone came from California to
25 escape crime, obviously they are going to have some -- the

1 fact this is a criminal case as opposed to a civil case.
2 The fact this involves murder as opposed to some other
3 crime, the fact this involves the alleged killing of a
4 police officer, those are things that are going to impact
5 upon their ability to deliberate. Simply asking them if
6 they are biased may not get to that core issue.

7 THE COURT: Motion is denied. I disagree that
8 that would lead to reasons to -- just about half of our
9 population left California to get away from the crime or the
10 taxes. And I just don't -- it's not -- it is not realistic
11 about where our population came from or how many people in
12 Washoe County reside here from California. I just don't
13 think that is going to help you.

14 Activities, what civic, social, religious or
15 professional or trade organizations do you belong to? You
16 are going to ask every juror this?

17 MR. BOSLER: I'll ask them if they belong to
18 those organizations. Hopefully I'll get some hands and
19 won't need to ask it individually.

20 THE COURT: You mean if they belong to any
21 social, civic, religious or professional trade
22 organizations?

23 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Then you are going to inquire as to
25 what they are?

1 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

2 THE COURT: How does that assist you?

3 MR. BOSLER: Of course, social organizations,
4 professional organizations, things like the NRA, MADD.

5 THE COURT: You can ask about the NRA. You can
6 ask if anybody is a member of the NRA. I'm not going to go
7 into every religious organization that these jurors belong
8 to. I don't think that is necessary. I'm going to deny
9 that request.

10 MR. BOSLER: Why does the Court think the NRA
11 is important?

12 THE COURT: If you think the NRA is important,
13 you mentioned that, I said okay, I'll let you ask that
14 question.

15 MR. BOSLER: I'd ask the Court to make the
16 record why the Court agrees the NRA is important.

17 THE COURT: I don't agree. You asked, you said
18 the basis for this question is that it's important to you to
19 know if somebody belongs to the NRA. That's a specific you
20 gave me. I said okay, fine. You can ask that question.
21 You got another specific you want to offer?

22 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, there is just too many
23 organizations out there that we don't even know about until
24 a juror says, I belong to the Retired Organization for the
25 Fraternal Brotherhood of Police Officers. I just thought

1 I'd let you know it is not in existence anymore, but I
2 belonged to it for ten years.

3 I'm not going to be able to go through every
4 specific organization that may either impact upon again
5 Mr. Vanisi's right to --

6 THE COURT: Why don't you come up with a
7 general category for organizations that you are concerned
8 about? You don't have to ask people everything about their
9 lives. If you have a general category of organizations, you
10 have something specific you are looking for, go ahead and
11 tell me. I'll certainly consider it.

12 But just saying, I'm going to ask what every
13 organization anybody ever belonged to, I'm not going to let
14 you do that. So come up with a specific and/or a general
15 that encompasses certain kinds of organizations. You wanted
16 to ask that kind of a question, I sometimes allow that
17 question, but it has to have some correlation to making an
18 intelligent decision.

19 MR. BOSLER: That is the next question on the
20 list, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: The question 2, under activities?

22 MR. BOSLER: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Stanton, did you want to
24 say something?

25 MR. STANTON: No, I think the Court just

1 answered the question that maybe he could ask it in a
2 fashion generally. That is my only comment.

3 THE COURT: If you come up with something
4 during the lunch hour, Mr. Bosler, feel free to tell me with
5 everyone else present, and I'll certainly consider your
6 request. Your question as to 2 you are requesting to ask is
7 fine.

8 2 under activities. You can ask a question on
9 the news media. Any questions that come out, any specific
10 questions that come out of what people have said or what
11 they said on either of their questionnaires, you certainly
12 may ask direct specific questions based on their answers.

13 However, the blanket question about what
14 stations are watched, et cetera, I'm not going to allow. I
15 will allow you to inquire as to general questions regarding
16 whether or not they are regular viewers of police drama,
17 whatever that question is, police and crime shows, the
18 realistic things. You certainly can inquire and ask them
19 about that. And if they answer affirmatively, you can
20 inquire further as necessary.

21 I have asked all the questions I think about
22 jury experience that are important. Does anyone have any
23 objection to asking if they served as foreperson previously?

24 MR. STANTON: No, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: You may ask that question. The

1 rest I have covered.

2 MR. BOSLER: Question 4?

3 THE COURT: 3, have you ever served as a juror
4 or foreperson.

5 MR. BOSLER: You will allow that question?

6 THE COURT: Yes.

7 MR. BOSLER: The fourth question is what
8 qualities should qualify or disqualify a person from serving
9 as a juror? The Court objects to that?

10 THE COURT: Just asking every potential juror
11 that question, yes, I think that's overly burdensome and
12 could lead to confusion as well as colloquies that have
13 nothing to do with this particular case or the selection of
14 the jury.

15 I don't want to get into philosophical debates
16 with the jury. If there is some particular person who
17 responded in a manner that you think that question would be
18 appropriate to ask that particular person, I'll certainly
19 allow you to do that. But not just ask everyone because
20 they are sitting herein the box that question.

21 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, will the Court
22 consider a question: Does anybody think there are qualities
23 that should qualify or disqualify a person, and then I can
24 follow up with those people who raised their hands as
25 opposed to asking individually?

1 THE COURT: You know, there are certain people
2 are going to say, those people who want off the jury, they
3 are going to say their qualities disqualify them.

4 MR. BOSLER: That is information we need to
5 know, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: I mean, you haven't figured out
7 which of these people want off?

8 MR. BOSLER: Those people haven't figured out
9 how to get off the jury.

10 THE COURT: They may not have figured out
11 exactly the magic answers, but they certainly have
12 exhibited -- anyone sitting here has observed that there are
13 certain people on this panel that do not want to be here.
14 So I don't think you have to ask that question to figure out
15 who those people are.

16 MR. BOSLER: I think human nature, people still
17 may be reluctant to be forthcoming. Unless I have a
18 chance --

19 THE COURT: I don't want to get into a debate
20 about human nature. I said you can ask jury question number
21 3.

22 MR. BOSLER: You won't accept the modification
23 of number 4?

24 THE COURT: Well, I don't know where we're
25 going to go. You want to ask the question if anybody thinks

1 there is any qualities. As soon as they raised their hand,
2 you are going to go into colloquy with that person what
3 qualities may or may not exist.

4 I think it's much more instructive to you in
5 making your determination if you ask them if there is
6 something that would disqualify them. That's a direct
7 question to ask the jury panel. And then if they say there
8 is, let them tell you what it is.

9 But just going into the broad discussions about
10 philosophy with every member of this panel or even a goodly
11 number of them is not appropriate. So you can ask the
12 question if there is anything that would disqualify someone.
13 I have asked that question. But I will let you ask that
14 again.

15 MR. BOSLER: The jurors can know whether it is
16 a legal disqualification.

17 THE COURT: Do you have any qualities that you
18 think should disqualify you from service, and then see if
19 somebody gives you a response.

20 MR. BOSLER: My question is, what qualities
21 should qualify or disqualify a person to be a juror? Will
22 the Court maybe give me a suggestion how you want that
23 modified?

24 THE COURT: Does anybody currently sitting in
25 the jury box believe they possess any qualities which

1 should -- that a juror should not possess?

2 MR. BOSLER: Just the disqualify?

3 THE COURT: Correct. We had a discussion about
4 alcohol previously. You wanted to disqualify one of the
5 potential jurors because she had an issue with alcohol.
6 Mr. Stanton told me that alcohol is not involved in this
7 case. We didn't have a chance to inquire further on the
8 record.

9 MR. SPECCHIO: I think she's gone, and alcohol
10 isn't involved.

11 THE COURT: Is not? Do we really need to
12 inquire? She's still here.

13 MR. SPECCHIO: Wasn't it Mills?

14 THE COURT: Kizis. But my question is, there
15 are four questions here about alcohol, and if it is not
16 involved in this case, I don't know why we have to ask all
17 36 people about alcohol four times.

18 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, may I have a moment?

19 THE COURT: Yes.

20 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, in order to properly
21 respond to the Court's concern, I think we're going to have
22 to ask the Court for an ex parte confidence where we can
23 discuss what we think we can present. I don't think
24 Mr. Vanisi should be handicapped by our putting things in
25 evidence before the State had served them or things that may

1 handicap his ability to present a defense.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton.

3 MR. STANTON: I have no objection to that
4 procedure if it would include that that be recorded by the
5 court reporter and under seal.

6 MR. BOSLER: Absolutely.

7 THE COURT: Okay. I'll wait deciding about the
8 alcohol questions. The second, the third and fourth pages
9 that you have provided to me are excerpts from the
10 questionnaire that I did not accept previously. Is it your
11 request to ask each juror these questions?

12 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I wanted to try to
13 pose it to the panel and go from there, and hopefully I
14 won't need to ask all the jurors questions. But obviously,
15 a lot of people have formed opinions. I don't think they
16 are strictly confined to the issues of race, issues of drug
17 use again.

18 I mean, if those are issues in the case, they
19 are things that need to be broached. I don't think the
20 Court has included in its canvass or the State in its
21 canvass issues as to race.

22 THE COURT: I agree with you with regard to the
23 issues of race. If you want to go into that issue, you
24 certainly are entitled to do that.

25 MR. BOSLER: It is just a difficult issue.

1 People don't want to stand up. I have had people stand up
2 in this courtroom, say they are racist. That is the one in
3 10,000.

4 THE COURT: We have had that. I don't know if
5 it's one in 10,000.

6 MR. BOSLER: I don't think that was the only
7 racist in town, Your Honor. I think it is a delicate
8 subject. People are afraid to express it, especially in the
9 context of being in front of their peers and say, My
10 daughter dated this guy, and I didn't like it because he was
11 black. Those are issues that are difficult to broach. I'm
12 trying to find a delicate way to try to get them talking.

13 THE COURT: Are we talking about the same piece
14 of paper? My third page that you gave me was: What
15 altitudes do you feel are most important in serving as a
16 juror in a criminal case? That's what I had from you. And
17 were you going back to drugs and raise those questions?

18 MR. BOSLER: That is the second page, Your
19 Honor.

20 THE COURT: So you are going to make an in
21 camera offer of proof why the drugs questions are
22 appropriate?

23 MR. BOSLER: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: With regard to the race questions,
25 I will allow you to ask 1 through 5. 6, I think we're

1 speculating and getting into areas that aren't necessary to
2 inquire. That's the one that says: What effect do you
3 think racial or other forms of discrimination have on the
4 people who are the targets of the discrimination?

5 That blanket question to each juror I don't
6 think is necessary. Certainly if someone says, I have
7 discriminated, you can follow up: What do you think that --
8 would you think about that, if you are looking for some
9 issue about whether they think about other people. But only
10 if you have a legitimate reason to follow up on that
11 question.

12 Then I just see blanks. Constitutional rights,
13 penalty, exit questions.

14 MR. BOSLER: I guess these are akin to what the
15 District Attorney has done, Your Honor. I would inquire of
16 the Court whether the Court has had the opportunity to
17 preview the District Attorney's proposed voir dire.

18 THE COURT: No. I will do that so that we --
19 so far I was ready to sustain any objections that you might
20 make. I don't know how much more Mr. Stanton has to go.

21 MR. STANTON: I don't have much further to go,
22 Your Honor.

23 MR. BOSLER: I guess it is a moot point then
24 now, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: So far he hasn't asked each juror

1 any particular -- I mean, we haven't asked them those kind
2 of questions where they have to respond, every juror has to
3 respond. Do you have any questions like that, Mr. Stanton?

4 MR. STANTON: Yes, Your Honor. I'm going to
5 ask the -- individually to each juror, explain to them the
6 process, that there will be a foreperson in this case and
7 ask that if they were elected the foreperson, whether or not
8 with the appropriate facts and circumstances, whether or not
9 they could sign the verdict form and impose death against
10 Mr. Vanisi.

11 THE COURT: Anything else?

12 MR. STANTON: That is the only individual
13 question I have of each member of this panel.

14 THE COURT: And how many more areas of inquiry
15 do you have?

16 MR. STANTON: The only areas that I have at
17 this juncture are the death penalty, specifically the four
18 aggravators filed in this case, whether or not anybody has
19 any problems with those aggravators. And whether anybody, a
20 spouse, friend, co-worker or supervisor, would criticize
21 them if they returned a verdict of death. Whether they have
22 any religious, moral or conscientious objection to the death
23 penalty. And then my individual question, and that's it.

24 THE COURT: Okay. Now, with regard to the
25 question that you are going to ask on whether they would be

1 subject to any ridicule, I'd ask that you ask that in the
2 neutral form, if they returned a verdict of the death
3 penalty, or the alternative, that they did not return a
4 verdict. Ask that these questions -- jurors can kind of
5 figure out where each of you are going, but I would rather
6 we tried to ask them as neutral as possible. Any objection
7 to that general inquiry?

8 MR. SPECCHIO: I don't understand the question
9 about whether they have any trouble with the aggravators.
10 What does that mean?

11 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton, what are you going to
12 ask there?

13 MR. STANTON: Well, the aggravators filed in
14 this case are four in number. And I'm going to ask that if
15 any of the members of this panel believe that any of those
16 aggravators should not be or could not -- or disagree with
17 the fact that there are aggravators in this case.

18 THE COURT: Are you objecting to that question?

19 MR. SPECCHIO: They have no idea what any of
20 that is all about, do they? I mean, that's a blind-sided
21 question.

22 THE COURT: Tell me if you object.

23 MR. SPECCHIO: I object.

24 THE COURT: Sustain that objection.

25 MR. SPECCHIO: If you were going to talk about

1 mitigators and aggravators.

2 THE COURT: The weighing process.

3 MR. SPECCHIO: Right.

4 THE COURT: Which he already has.

5 MR. SPECCHIO: I have no problem.

6 THE COURT: I do. I want to be real careful.

7 I want to use this instruction we have given the jury. I
8 really don't want to get into Mr. Stanton and Mr. Bosler
9 instructing the jury and then me having to interrupt, and
10 we're going to get really confused.

11 I think we have given the instruction. We'll
12 stick with that, and I'd like us to move on. With regard to
13 asking them, determine whether those should be aggravators,
14 I'm going to deny that request. Now, we have this page that
15 has the excerpts from the jury questionnaire, Mr. Bosler.
16 What did you want to do with these?

17 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I believe some of them
18 are repetitive, but general thoughts on criminal justice
19 process. Those aren't things that have been asked by either
20 the Court or by the State. Their opinions as to death
21 versus life without something that bears upon their ability
22 to impose a sentence in this case. I'm going to have to --
23 I just threw this in so I could glance at it for ideas, but
24 this is the section where I talk about penalty on page 2 of
25 my typewritten form. I think they are all relevant

1 questions. I don't want to ask them individually. I want
2 to try to ask it as a group and get some people talking
3 about it in that regard.

4 But each of those questions that you see on
5 those pages is something that bears upon the jurors's
6 ability to not only decide this case in the trial but to
7 impose a penalty, and ultimately the answer to those
8 questions are going to bear upon Mr. Vanisi's ability to
9 intelligently exercise his peremptory challenges.

10 THE COURT: I have numbered your pages 1, 2, 3
11 and 4. The clerk will call them as an exhibit. They will
12 be placed in the file just for purposes of the record.

13 MR. BOSLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: And with regard to page 3, it
15 begins with: What attitudes do you feel are most important
16 in serving as a juror in a criminal case? I don't see any
17 of those questions on that page that need to be asked again.
18 They have either been covered in the specific questionnaire
19 that we gave the jurors or in the general questions of the
20 Court.

21 With regard to the page 4, which begins with,
22 Because one of the possible sentences, that information,
23 that whole paragraph I don't think we need to go into. Plus
24 we have, What purposes do you think the death penalty
25 serves? I'm not going to allow that question of every

1 juror.

2 In what types of cases, offenses do you think
3 the death penalty should be imposed? I'm not going to let
4 you do that. Because then I'm going to have to get into the
5 whole issue of the legislation and aggravating.

6 I think what's important here -- I'm making my
7 ruling. You made your offer, Mr. Bosler.

8 MR. BOSLER: I need to still add something to
9 the record, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Well, why don't you then make it in
11 writing and we'll get it at 1:00, and then I'll just rule on
12 whatever you give me in writing. I'm not going to keep the
13 court reporter here while we debate it. Go ahead and tell
14 me why you need any specific question as to page 4, just a
15 one-line sentence or whatever you think is important as to
16 those questions, give it to me before the 1:00 o'clock
17 hearing, I'll make my ruling, and then we'll move on. So
18 you can have an opportunity to complete your record.

19 MR. BOSLER: Is the Court going to give me the
20 opportunity to eat, breaks between lunch then if I have to
21 be back at 1:00? I don't have an opportunity to eat before
22 I present my voir dire. I think I should get a break so I
23 can be fresh.

24 THE COURT: I don't know what you want me to
25 do, Mr. Bosler. Do you want me to get you a sandwich, or

1 what do you need?

2 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I can make a short
3 record as to why I think these questions are important.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Nelson will be back here at
5 1:00 o'clock, and he's going to have to be working on this
6 case all afternoon. His fingers have worn out. So I'm
7 telling you, you can make it in writing.

8 If you need food or whatever you need, we're
9 going to take a very short recess, because the court clerk
10 and myself will be in court all during the lunch hour on
11 another case. We'll be glad to get you whatever you need.

12 It doesn't have to be long. Just tell me
13 just -- Mr. Gregory is here. I'm sure he will be glad to
14 type it out for you while you eat your sandwich. But this
15 has to be a priority, this case. If you need a break --

16 MR. GREGORY: Your Honor --

17 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory, sit down, please. Sit
18 down, Mr. Gregory. It is Mr. Bosler's motion. He argues
19 it.

20 Mr. Bosler, if you want to take a break before
21 you begin your voir dire, when Mr. Stanton is through, I'll
22 be glad to take that break for you so you can collect your
23 thoughts. Ask me any more questions you have this afternoon
24 before you begin your voir dire. So I won't make you go
25 straight in cold. If that helps you. Or if you want to

1 make a record later this afternoon, you can certainly do
2 that verbally. But you really need to get your thoughts
3 together and decide what you want to do; okay?

4 MR. BOSLER: I prefer to make a verbal record,
5 Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: I think the State is entitled and
7 I'm entitled to see what you want. It is kind of hard to
8 make these decisions if all you do is verbally request
9 stuff.

10 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I wasn't given a copy
11 of their questions, nor do I suppose they were given a copy
12 of mine. I'm the only person who has had to discuss in
13 front of the Court.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton did, and I denied one
15 of his basic questions. I'm sure he's not happy about it.

16 MR. STANTON: There is no other objection that
17 he's made other than the one form of the question that we
18 had a side-bar, and he just stated, I don't have his
19 questions, never seen them before. So you are reading off
20 documents that the State knows nothing about. So I don't
21 want the record to reflect that it is some sort of an unfair
22 playing field.

23 THE COURT: We're in recess. See you back at
24 1:00 o'clock.

25 (Recess taken at 12:25 p.m.)

1 RENO, NEVADA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1999, 1:12 P.M.

2 -o0o-

3
4 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
5 in open court, in the presence of the jury
6 panel.)

7 THE COURT: Clerk will call the roll.

8 (Roll call of jury panel conducted, and all
9 were present.)

10 THE CLERK: Rebeka A. Hilliary?

11 THE COURT: She was excused. Rhonda D.
12 Pembroke.

13 THE COURT: She's been released.

14 At this time based upon the hearings that we
15 heard when you all weren't here, I'm going to excuse Miss
16 Mueller, and I'm also going to excuse Mr. Rumbaugh.

17 (Jurors Mueller and Rumbaugh were excused from
18 the courtroom.)

19 THE COURT: The clerk will call two more names.

20 THE CLERK: Shelby A. Denton.

21 THE COURT: Yes, Miss Denton will take the
22 place of Miss Mueller.

23 THE CLERK: Julie C. Springer.

24 THE COURT: Go ahead and review those witness
25 lists, please. Miss Denton, Miss Springer, have you had an
opportunity to review that list of potential witnesses?

SIERRA NEVADA REPORTERS (702) 329-6560

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Do you know anyone or are you
4 related to anyone on that list?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Steve Sauter, I know his
6 wife, Debbie, just by acquaintances. And that's it.

7 THE COURT: Anything about that association
8 with his wife that would cause you difficulty serving as a
9 fair and impartial juror in this case?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Miss Springer.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know anyone.

13 THE COURT: You didn't know anybody?

14 The following questions are addressed to both
15 of you. Were you able to hear all of my questions thus far?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Would you have responded to any of
19 my questions had you been sitting here in the jury box the
20 entire time?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Yes, Miss Springer.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Tell me what you would have
25 responded to.

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just nothing, three
2 police officers.

3 THE COURT: Who were they?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Through our school. Jim
5 Overton, Bob Callry and Bob Stone.

6 THE COURT: You went to school with them?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My kids go to school with
8 their kids.

9 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
10 relationship between your children and their children that
11 would cause you difficulty serving as a juror in this case?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

13 THE COURT: Is there anything about the
14 relationship between your children and just going to school?
15 Are they really good friends?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, they were just
17 friends in the same classes.

18 THE COURT: Is there anything about that
19 acquaintance with those police officers that would cause you
20 difficulty determining credibility of witnesses?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

22 THE COURT: Is there any other -- are there any
23 other questions that I asked this morning that you would
24 have wanted to respond to if you were here in the jury box
25 the whole time?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just that I did form an
2 opinion from last year when it all happened.

3 THE COURT: You formed an opinion based on the
4 media accounts?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

6 THE COURT: As you know, I asked last -- a
7 couple of days ago I guess at this point, yesterday, about
8 setting aside those preconceived ideas. Are you able to do
9 that?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I am.

11 THE COURT: Do you understand my question with
12 regard to the potential consideration for penalty in this
13 case?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

15 THE COURT: Do you understand that there is
16 that possibility that that could come about depending on the
17 circumstances?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I did.

19 THE COURT: Do you believe that you would
20 always vote for the death penalty no matter what the Court's
21 instructions or the law is?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

23 THE COURT: Would you feel compelled to always
24 vote against the death penalty no matter what the Court's
25 instructions or the law was?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

2 THE COURT: Do either of you, were either --
3 were you both able to hear Mr. Stanton's questions up to
4 this point?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Would you have responded to any of
8 his questions affirmatively?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton, you may continue with
12 your inquiry.

13 MR. STANTON: Thank you.

14 Mr. Hinxman, I know you are the acting
15 director. Based upon the time commitments that you heard,
16 is there any problem with your operation slowing down or
17 shutting down during your service as a juror in this case?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it will
19 shut down. But it will -- I'm sure it will affect our
20 operation.

21 MR. STANTON: Something that your office can't
22 adjust to accommodate?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, they can accommodate.

24 MR. STANTON: Miss Imasaki, are you now in the
25 licensing care division?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I am.

2 MR. STANTON: The next series of questions I
3 would like to address to the entire panel are questions
4 specifically about the death penalty. First question I'd
5 like to ask about that is if there is any member of the
6 prospective panel that would have any religious, moral or
7 conscientious objection to imposing the death penalty in
8 this case.

9 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

10 THE COURT: Anybody answer yes to that
11 question?

12 Is there anybody here who would have a problem
13 based upon the dynamics that occurs at work with either a
14 friend, a co-worker or supervisor, about the verdict that
15 they would render in this case, something that would affect
16 their ability to freely and impartially and fairly
17 deliberate in this case?

18 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

19 MR. STANTON: Anybody say yes to that question?

20 My final question and the question I will ask
21 each of you individually deals with the specific aspect of
22 the death penalty. One of the things that occurs with a
23 jury when they retire to deliberate is to pick someone who
24 is a foreperson. How that is done, who that is, is entirely
25 up to the jury, and there is no instructions or otherwise

1 directive to you. So at this juncture, neither you nor any
2 of us know who is going to be the foreperson.

3 My question that I want to pose to each of you
4 is as follows: If you were elected as the foreperson of
5 this jury, and under the facts that are presented to you in
6 this courtroom under oath, based upon the law that Judge
7 Steinheimer instructs you, if you find that the facts and
8 the law support it, could you -- and I'll start with you,
9 Miss Denton -- affix your name to the verdict form putting
10 that man to death?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I believe so.

12 MR. STANTON: Miss Guiler?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 MR. STANTON: Mr. Sotero?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 MR. STANTON: Mr. Adamson?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

18 MR. STANTON: Miss Springer?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 MR. STANTON: Mr. Hinxman?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 MR. STANTON: Miss Kominek?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

24 MR. STANTON: Mr. Lafond?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

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1 MR. STANTON: Mr. O'Daye?
2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
3 MR. STANTON: Mr. Barger?
4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
5 MR. STANTON: Mr. Stephenson?
6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
7 MR. STANTON: Mr. Berg?
8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
9 MR. STANTON: Mr. King?
10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
11 MR. STANTON: Mr. Gerbatz?
12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
13 MR. STANTON: Mr. Damoth?
14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
15 MR. STANTON: Mr. Sheets?
16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
17 MR. STANTON: Mr. Decker?
18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
19 MR. STANTON: Miss Arlitz?
20 MR. STANTON: Yes.
21 MR. STANTON: Miss Lyman?
22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
23 MR. STANTON: Miss Viernes?
24 MR. STANTON: Yes.
25 MR. STANTON: Mr. McCargar?

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1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
2 MR. STANTON: Miss Cadena?
3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
4 MR. STANTON: Miss Frandsen?
5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
6 MR. STANTON: Mr. Jones?
7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
8 MR. STANTON: Mr. Battaglia?
9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
10 MR. STANTON: Mr. Moss?
11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
12 MR. STANTON: Mr. Golbov?
13 MR. STANTON: Yes.
14 MR. STANTON: Miss Imasaki?
15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
16 MR. STANTON: Miss Kizis?
17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
18 MR. STANTON: Mr. Estey?
19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
20 MR. STANTON: Miss Roberts?
21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
22 MR. STANTON: Mr. Furrie?
23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.
24 MR. STANTON: Miss Frankel?
25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

SIERRA NEVADA REPORTERS (702) 329-6560

1 MR. STANTON: Miss Booth?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 MR. STANTON: Mr. Thomas?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 MR. STANTON: Mr. Dunn?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 MR. STANTON: Thank you very much.

8 Pass the jury for cause save and except for any
9 additional issues that arise.

10 THE COURT: Counsel, approach, please.

11 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
12 Court and counsel as follows:)

13 THE COURT: It's on you. Do you have any
14 additional things you want to raise with regard to your voir
15 dire? Do you want to take a break? Do you want -- we have
16 only been going about 10 minutes.

17 MR. BOSLER: I think the Court needs to rule on
18 our portion of the voir dire.

19 THE COURT: With regard to page 4?

20 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

21 THE COURT: Do you have anything more to offer
22 as to why I should let you ask all those questions?

23 MR. BOSLER: Do you want me to do it right now
24 at the side-bar?

25 THE COURT: It takes us approximately 17
minutes to move the jury panel in and out of the courtroom.

1 So if we don't do it right now at side-bar, we're going to
2 take 35 minutes or so, in just getting them in and out.

3 So I have read -- it is marked as an exhibit.
4 It's part of the record. I certainly heard everything you
5 said before. I haven't received anything further from you.

6 But if you want to tell me some reason why
7 those questions on page 4 are appropriate or a specific
8 question is appropriate, or a specific area of inquiry is
9 something you want to go into, now is the time for you to do
10 that.

11 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, what I would like to
12 do, because I don't want the jury to appear there is any
13 delay, allow my offer of proof at a later date. Maybe you
14 will let me get through my questions, and then I will
15 reserve if I'm going to pass them for cause and we can have
16 a hearing.

17 May be time for a break, if the State will
18 consider that contemporaneously. Because I don't want to
19 waive the contemporaneousness.

20 THE COURT: I'm ruling now. I'm going to
21 exclude those questions on page 4. If you don't give me a
22 reason to allow you to ask those questions, you can't
23 preserve that, because I can only rule on what I have before
24 me. I have no problem with you going forward and asking
25 your questions, and then if you want to wait to pass for

1 cause and you want to think -- talk amongst yourselves and
2 decide, if you want to make -- ask a couple of more
3 questions and ask me to do that, that's fine.

4 MR. BOSLER: I will get a break at that point?

5 THE COURT: It depends on what time it is. We
6 think we're going to go -- we will try to go at least an
7 hour more before we take a break. I don't -- I don't know
8 how long you are going to take. We can certainly do a
9 side-bar, and you can tell me what your thoughts are at that
10 point.

11 MR. BOSLER: I'd prefer to make an offer of
12 proof at a later time and ask my questions that you have
13 approved at this point and then consult with counsel and
14 make a proffer.

15 THE COURT: Decide if you want to renew your
16 request to ask more questions?

17 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

18 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
19 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)

20 THE COURT: I know it is warm in here. If you
21 all think you are warm, think about me up about five feet
22 higher, heat rises. So if you need water, we have the Jury
23 Commissioner and my law clerk standing by. They are glad to
24 help, and they will give you a glass of water if you need
25 it. So just be sure to kind of get their eye, and they will

1 get it for you.

2 And we don't have any air conditioning in the
3 building at this time of the year. So there is nothing I
4 can do to cool it down. It will be cooler when we have less
5 people on a regular basis in the courtroom.

6 Mr. Bosler, you may continue -- you may begin
7 your inquiry.

8 MR. BOSLER: And I thank you, ladies and
9 gentlemen. I know it's been not only a long day today, long
10 day yesterday. You had a short lunch break, and I know that
11 you people out there who are in the gallery, it's very
12 difficult to sit in these circumstances. And I'm not here
13 to prolong that.

14 Essentially I want to just ask you some
15 questions about your background, your certain views on
16 particular subjects. There is no right, there is no wrong
17 answer. The only right answer is your true feelings, your
18 true beliefs.

19 In that sense, if you feel uncomfortable
20 sharing those, you could raise your hand. You have seen we
21 have had little side bars over here where we talk to the
22 judge separately. If there is something that you want to
23 say in response to one of my questions, I encourage you to
24 say that because this is your time to talk, where lawyers
25 are supposed to be quiet. Take advantage of that because it

1 doesn't happen very often.

2 Just as a general background question, has
3 anybody changed -- I know that on your questionnaires it
4 lists your present occupation. Has anybody changed their
5 occupation in the last five years from what's reflected on
6 that questionnaire? We have a few people in back.

7 Mr. Hinxman.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just recently was
9 appointed to the director of Court Services. Before for the
10 past four years, I have been just as employee, employed by
11 the County as a probation officer.

12 MR. BOSLER: For the last five years you have
13 been some part of Court Services?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Four years, yeah. Prior
15 to that I worked for juvenile probation.

16 MR. BOSLER: How long did you work for juvenile
17 probation?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About four years.

19 MR. BOSLER: Is that the job you did out of
20 high school or out of college?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: After college, yeah.
22 During and after.

23 MR. BOSLER: You worked here locally or another
24 juvenile Probation Department?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Here in Washoe County.

1 MR. BOSLER: Miss Kominek, you changed
2 occupations?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I did. I was a
4 floral designer before.

5 MR. BOSLER: How long did you do that for?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About three years.

7 MR. BOSLER: Then you changed to your present
8 occupation? You are actually --

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That is what I did before
10 I had this job then.

11 MR. BOSLER: You are now involved in Reno
12 Diagnostic?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Correct.

14 MR. BOSLER: Anybody else? Mr. Decker.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a field ironworker
16 for 31 years, and I changed my occupation to estimator in
17 the same field because of a severe injury to my back.

18 MR. BOSLER: Back injuries?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

20 MR. BOSLER: Is it difficult sitting? I know
21 some of these chairs aren't very comfortable.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm doing good as long as
23 I can stretch my legs out.

24 MR. BOSLER: Would you have any trouble if you
25 had to sit for two or three hours at a time?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. These chairs are a
2 lot more comfortable than the ones I sit in at the office.

3 MR. BOSLER: Sorry to hear that. Any
4 medications or anything you have to take to take care of
5 your back?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I generally take all
7 those in the morning.

8 MR. BOSLER: Does that affect anything, affect
9 your ability to perceive things?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. It's a mild -- well,
11 it is Aleve.

12 MR. BOSLER: Like a muscle relaxer?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Anti-inflammatory.

14 MR. BOSLER: Next down the line. Miss Guiler.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I have done several
16 different things over the years after my children were gone
17 and married. But right now -- the last job that I had was
18 working for West Telecommunications as an AT&T operator, and
19 before that we had a business, a pizza parlor, and we sold
20 it and started another business that we're now involved in.

21 MR. BOSLER: For the sake of efficiency, does
22 that kind of account for the last five years as far as
23 occupation?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 MR. BOSLER: If you could share with me, how

1 long have you been in Washoe County? How long have you
2 lived in this area?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Since 1984.

4 MR. BOSLER: And let's continue down the line.
5 The second row? Towards me, anybody else change
6 occupations? Third row?

7 Miss Lyman.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a sales clerk for
9 13 and a half years, and I changed to being a secretary and
10 in a medical office.

11 MR. BOSLER: Was this in Reno?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, Reno.

13 MR. BOSLER: And you have been in Washoe County
14 for about --

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: About 10 months.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Lafond has his hand up.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That within the last five
18 years have you changed jobs?

19 MR. BOSLER: Changed occupations, jobs, yes.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I worked for
21 Motorola as a loss prevention officer for three years, and I
22 came here five years ago, and I have been a security officer
23 at the Nugget. Before that I had 28 years in service, three
24 tours of Nam.

25 MR. BOSLER: That's quite a long time in

1 Vietnam. Were you there as a police officer or as a foot
2 soldier?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: FBI captain, and I was
4 there on the first landing.

5 MR. BOSLER: Before your job as a security
6 guard and this loss prevention officer, did you have other
7 jobs that required you to enforce laws?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Loss prevention. That is
9 basically a security officer in Motorola, but they call it
10 loss prevention officer; and I'm a security officer at the
11 Nugget.

12 MR. BOSLER: If you could, could you share why
13 you decided to take that as a profession or change an
14 occupation?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Retired for five years.
16 I came back to the States. I lived over in the Philippines
17 for five years. And when I was in the service, it was a
18 pretty easy job to get ahold of. Because I came to the
19 States, I was 52 years old looking, being so old, they don't
20 want to hire you.

21 MR. BOSLER: Do you go back to the Philippines
22 frequently or have family back there? I guess your son has
23 returned there.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My son, daughter-in-law
25 and my wife goes back once in a while. We still have a

1 house over there. I'm just working for Social Security
2 right now.

3 MR. BOSLER: Your daughter-in-law native
4 Filipino?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.

6 MR. BOSLER: Next. I think we got down to the
7 fourth row. Yes, Miss Imasaki.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Prior to my current
9 occupation I worked for the school district as a school
10 social worker.

11 MR. BOSLER: Before that you were a school
12 social worker?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm sorry. Prior to my
14 current position I was with the school district as a school
15 social worker, and then prior to that I was with Child
16 Protective Services.

17 MR. BOSLER: How long were you a school social
18 worker?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was on a 10-month
20 contract.

21 MR. BOSLER: And before that, Child Protective
22 Services, how long did you stay with them?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A little over two years.

24 MR. BOSLER: Child Protective Services, I
25 imagine you probably come in contact with law enforcement

1 authorities on occasion?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 MR. BOSLER: Would that be correct? Anything
4 about that that makes you think differently or have some
5 reservations about sitting on this particular case?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

7 THE COURT: I think there is someone in the
8 front also. Did you get somebody else, Mr. Bosler?

9 MR. BOSLER: One here.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Moss.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Does my application thing
12 show that I'm retired?

13 MR. BOSLER: Says just unemployed.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Before that was -- I had
15 31 years in food service.

16 MR. BOSLER: Was that locally?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. In California.

18 MR. BOSLER: I notice you have 25 years in
19 Washoe. So you got a job transfer and came up here?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. My last employment
21 was 14 years at Harrah's as a cook.

22 MR. BOSLER: Any particular restaurant?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Before that, to answer
24 Mr. Stanton, it was my privilege to be hotel butcher at the
25 Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite. So I have seen more blood than

1 you can tell.

2 MR. BOSLER: How long were you in Yosemite?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Eight years, sir.

4 MR. BOSLER: Front row? Sorry, I missed one.

5 THE COURT: It is Miss Booth.

6 MR. BOSLER: Miss Roberts?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I retired four years ago.
8 I'm not sure what I put down.

9 MR. BOSLER: You list worked for the U.S.
10 Department of Health and Human Resources. It doesn't
11 really -- the application doesn't give you a chance to put
12 down what you did before. That is why I'm kind of
13 interested.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was in the Air Force
15 Reserve. I retired from that and retired from government
16 service.

17 MR. BOSLER: What was the government service,
18 if you could?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was an administrative
20 officer. I worked in personnel. I worked in supply. So I
21 have had varied jobs within the government.

22 MR. BOSLER: Administrative officer, is that
23 something that requires you to --

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Hire and fire.

25 MR. BOSLER: Kind of like a boss type person

1 over others?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I had three people under
3 me.

4 MR. BOSLER: After you quit the administrative
5 officer, you say you went to work where?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Health and Human
7 Services. That was as a retirement clerk.

8 MR. BOSLER: Having had a government job, does
9 that affect your ability? Do you feel any differently about
10 that knowing there is going to be other government agents
11 here testifying?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. Probably not.
13 Probably anything that would go back to being married to a
14 police officer and having a circle of friends that were
15 officers and an officer for a short time myself.

16 MR. BOSLER: And I don't mean to put you on the
17 spot because again, there is no right or wrong answers. You
18 indicated earlier that you kind of had a bias in that
19 regard. Having had a relationship and been around those
20 people, you kind of had a bias?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably, yes.

22 MR. BOSLER: Thinking of that bias, do you
23 think, taking that bias into consideration, do you think you
24 are the type of person who is going to be a good juror in
25 this type of a case?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I would probably
2 lean probably toward a police officer's testimony more than
3 I would a civilian.

4 MR. BOSLER: Ultimately there is more than
5 police officers testifying. This is a case about who caused
6 the death of a police officer.

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

8 MR. BOSLER: Thinking about that and the bias,
9 how does that affect your ability, thinking about, Am I
10 going to be a fair juror to sit in this jury or should they
11 put me on a different jury, I can't be fair, which camp do
12 you put yourself in?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I could be fair.

14 MR. BOSLER: I appreciate your honesty. And
15 that gets us to the front row.

16 Miss Booth.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Prior to working for
18 Community Services Agency, I worked at the Silver Legacy in
19 their human resources office.

20 MR. BOSLER: How long did you work at the
21 Silver Legacy?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was there when they
23 opened. But I was working there three years.

24 MR. BOSLER: Before that?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Waitressing.

1 MR. BOSLER: Has that always been locally?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I moved here from
3 school. So I have been here since around '90.

4 MR. BOSLER: In your capacity in human
5 resources, did you have occasion to hire, fire people?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I didn't personally hire
7 and fire, no. I dealt with people when they were coming in
8 and going out.

9 MR. BOSLER: Review applications, things like
10 that?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

12 MR. BOSLER: You have responsibility to say
13 whether this person is qualified for certain types of
14 positions?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 MR. BOSLER: Anybody I have missed?

17 Is there anybody -- I guess this is kind of an
18 obvious question. Anybody belong to an organization, a
19 group, even a loose association, that is related to law
20 enforcement or has law enforcement ties, executive ties or
21 advocates of victims' rights, crime prevention, things like
22 that? Neighborhood Watch.

23 There are a lot of organizations that probably
24 fit in that organization. Anybody belong to any of those
25 organizations?

1 The very back row and I'll work my way forward.
2 Yes, Miss Guiler.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband and I own a
4 business. It's Drive Safe Driving School, and it's dealing
5 with the DMV and the MADD association, Mothers Against Drunk
6 Driving, that type of thing. So we do teach young people
7 the laws of the road and the rules of the road.

8 MR. BOSLER: Not that I would know this, but is
9 that where you go and get the merits off your record?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. This is teaching
11 young people how to drive.

12 MR. BOSLER: How do people get referred to this
13 group?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's not really a group.
15 It's just -- basically it's a business that we're selling
16 the classroom education and the driver education for a young
17 person under 18 to learn how to drive and teaching them the
18 rules of the road and to respect the police authority.

19 MR. BOSLER: The reason I asked is I would
20 think you get your license at 16. So if you are kind of
21 getting them at 18, is it people who have already been
22 tagged as problem drivers or people with problems?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, not anymore. The law
24 was passed October 1st, the NRS 285, 283 was passed that no
25 one under 18 can get their driver's license unless they go

1 through classroom instruction of 30 hours and six hours of
2 driving.

3 MR. BOSLER: So at 16 can they get it if they
4 go through that?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

6 MR. BOSLER: Probably a good idea. Anybody
7 else? Anybody else? Yes.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Decker.

9 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Decker.

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm a lodge member of
11 Nevada Rifle and Pistol Association; also American Rifleman,
12 life member.

13 MR. BOSLER: Does your enrollment or your
14 activities in that group bring you into contact with law
15 enforcement authorities?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. However, the
17 National Rifle Association is pretty involved in police
18 training and things of that nature.

19 MR. BOSLER: Police officers carry guns and go
20 to gun ranges and shoot.

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 MR. BOSLER: How many of your close friends do
23 you think are police officers, if you could?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: How many close friends I
25 have?

1 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Three or four.

3 MR. BOSLER: Close friends that you bring over
4 for dinner, go out for a drink with them?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A couple of them I bring
6 over for dinner. Others are just casual acquaintances.

7 MR. BOSLER: Knowing that you have --- are these
8 local law enforcement officers or are these officers local
9 people?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

11 MR. BOSLER: Reno Police Department?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sparks Police Department.

13 THE COURT: I think he told us their names
14 earlier.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One of the Washoe County
16 court bailiffs is a very good friend of my son's.

17 MR. BOSLER: And I would imagine you have had
18 opportunities to talk to these officers about these
19 circumstances that bring you into court today?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not this particular case,
21 no. I haven't talked about that to any of them.

22 MR. BOSLER: Knowing that these people are
23 police officers, do you think you have some obligation or
24 how would you feel if you had to sit here as a juror and
25 eventually I would imagine you'd see these people again?

1 Do you feel that they, the fact that they are
2 your friends and you talk to them, you kind of have to take
3 into consideration that friendship when you make your
4 decisions?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't think it would
6 have any bearing on our friendship, no. No matter what, how
7 I voted in a --

8 MR. BOSLER: Do you think that separation is
9 easy or hard for you?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would be relatively
11 easy. The past few years we haven't been that close. I
12 still see them occasionally.

13 MR. BOSLER: I appreciate that information.
14 Yes.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm also a member of the
16 NRA.

17 MR. BOSLER: Same questions. Does that
18 relationship or that organization's activities bring you
19 into contact with law enforcement officers?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, it doesn't.

21 MR. BOSLER: You indicated you had formed an
22 opinion. We have kind of gone over this a few times. That
23 opinion is? The magic question, that opinion is?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have done a lot of soul
25 searching here in the last 24 hours, and I believe I have a

1 strong opinion about this case, and I have been really
2 looking at this level-headed, and I believe I could look at
3 the evidence in a fair fashion. But I do have to tell you
4 folks that I do have a strong opinion of this case.

5 MR. BOSLER: With that opinion in mind, do you
6 think you are the type of person that should be sitting on
7 this jury?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right now, to be honest
9 with you, I'm borderline. I'm on the opposite end of the
10 spectrum. I think that I would have to see innocence proven
11 to me. That's exactly where I stand right now.

12 MR. BOSLER: I appreciate your honesty. Again
13 there is no wrong answer. Has that changed since yesterday?
14 You said in the last 24 hours.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You know, in retrospect
16 from yesterday, it has changed a little bit. I have a
17 little bit more time to think about it. I got hit with a
18 lot of questions.

19 Basically all I really wanted to get across to
20 you people is that what I just told you, how I feel inside,
21 and I don't know if that makes a good juror or a bad juror,
22 to be honest with you.

23 MR. BOSLER: We'll get back to that. I
24 still -- it's not clear to me. Have you -- has your opinion
25 become stronger over the last 24 hours or have you been able

1 to back off of it a little bit?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I had the opinion
3 yesterday. I guess I probably didn't know how to express it
4 in the way the questions were.

5 MR. BOSLER: So it is the same? You can just
6 express it now?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just told you how I
8 feel.

9 MR. BOSLER: Thank you. Going down the line,
10 second row? Third row? Any groups, organizations related
11 to law enforcement, anything like that?

12 Fourth row? Front row?

13 Mr. Thomas, Sheriff's search and rescue? Other
14 organizations that are ancillary to that or related to that?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not having anything to do
16 with law enforcement.

17 MR. BOSLER: If you could, I had a friend when
18 I was a kid whose father was in search and rescue. You wear
19 uniforms; right, search and rescue uniforms?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We have a uniform, but
21 I'm air squadron. We spend our time in the aircraft. We're
22 not held to wearing a formal uniform.

23 MR. BOSLER: Flight gear, something like that;
24 right?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

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1 MR. BOSLER: The uniform that you have for
2 search and rescue, is that something supplied by the
3 Sheriff's Department?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is something that we
5 acquire.

6 MR. BOSLER: Do you buy it from the Sheriff's
7 Department?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. Well, the uniform
9 company here in town.

10 MR. BOSLER: And does the Sheriff's Department
11 tell you what uniform you are supposed to buy to meet the
12 requirements of the sheriff's search and rescue?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 MR. BOSLER: Do you carry a gun as part of that
15 search and rescue stuff?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We're not peace officers
17 as it were. We're strictly search. We're actually not even
18 rescue.

19 MR. BOSLER: You just kind of do the spotting,
20 spot plane?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

22 MR. BOSLER: Anything about that, anything,
23 duty to that particular occupation other than I guess your
24 ability to fly an airplane?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I like flying, and that

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1 gives you a good reason to go out and do it.

2 MR. BOSLER: Do they pay you money?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Reimbursement for costs.

4 MR. BOSLER: Gasoline, stuff like that?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 MR. BOSLER: That comes from which department;
7 do you know? Does it come from the Sheriff's Department or
8 the County, the City?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: The County.

10 MR. BOSLER: I know it is kind of popular. How
11 many people in the jury find themselves kind of watching TV
12 and watching programs like "911," "Police Dispatch,"
13 "Unsolved Mysteries," "Top Cops," "America's Most Wanted"?
14 Fox carries most of them, if I'm not mistaken. Anybody
15 admit to watching those types of programs?

16 If you could, I'll try to keep track of these
17 people.

18 Miss Denton, I'll come back to you. Apologize.
19 This may take a little time. Miss Denton, which of those
20 programs do you find most -- that draws your attention the
21 most or you find yourself watching the most?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Probably the rescue
23 programs on the learning channel and like Fox or whatever,
24 "911."

25 MR. BOSLER: Any particular reason you prefer

1 watching those programs as opposed to something on PBS, or
2 whatever, another channel?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Action packed.

4 MR. BOSLER: Action packed? How often do you
5 find yourself in that time slot turning to the search and
6 rescue stuff as opposed to the local news or ESPN?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If we are not watching a
8 movie, we just flip through the channels and see what's on.

9 MR. BOSLER: So of all the like variety type
10 entertainment things, that's probably the one you watch more
11 often than -- I can't think of any other sitcom names --
12 "Seinfeld," something like that?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. We watch that.

14 MR. BOSLER: Miss Guiler.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Guiler. In the past I
16 have watched "America's Most Wanted" and there was a man
17 that came in our shop that they caught. And --

18 MR. BOSLER: He was on "America's Most Wanted"?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He was on "America's Most
20 Wanted." He was the one with the spider on his hand.
21 Anyway, he was caught. But now we have our grandson a lot,
22 we don't watch things like that. We mostly watch 45 or 36
23 or 37.

24 MR. BOSLER: When this person was caught, were
25 you actually in the shop at the same time? Did you make the

1 phone call for the reward?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I made the phone call.
3 It was a Saturday afternoon. He stayed in the shop with his
4 niece and nephew for several hours. He kept buying things.
5 And I noticed the tattoo on his hand. And so that night
6 they happened to air that particular one, and I picked it
7 up.

8 MR. BOSLER: Were you part of any television
9 program or anything like that? Did they interview you?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, no.

11 MR. BOSLER: Just anonymous tip, I guess? Did
12 you make an anonymous tip?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

14 MR. BOSLER: Enjoy reward money or anything
15 like that, personal satisfaction to know that you helped to
16 some extent?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I just felt, I don't
18 know, there was an air about the man that was different than
19 most customers, and so when he aired, it was like he was --
20 I knew there was something wrong with him, is basically what
21 I said to my husband. I had told him that there is
22 something wrong with this guy. I don't know if he is going
23 to rob us or what, but there is just something wrong with
24 this man.

25 MR. BOSLER: Air, you are talking A-I-R, like

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1 aura, energy about him?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

3 MR. BOSLER: Do you see energy about any of us
4 in the courtroom?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

6 MR. BOSLER: Just checking. If I could go down
7 the line.

8 Yes, Mr. Sotero, please. What show do you find
9 yourself watching?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I enjoy the real life,
11 the cop shows. I enjoy the sci-fi. I enjoy news and a good
12 movie.

13 MR. BOSLER: We all enjoy a good movie. Is it
14 "Real Life" or "Real Cops," something like that?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. The cop shows,
16 whatever it is. I don't remember the exact name. There are
17 several.

18 MR. BOSLER: Any reason you find yourself
19 sitting for half hour, 20 minutes, watching that show
20 instead of going to the Nature Channel we all should be
21 watching or educational channels? No?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I watch those also.

23 MR. BOSLER: I guess there is a general feeling
24 that when you watch "America's Most Wanted" and someone gets
25 caught, we generally feel that good things happen, or Clint

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1 Eastwood movies, Charles Bronson movies. Do you find
2 yourself kind of engaging in that same type of whether it is
3 catharsis or whatever, the bad guy got his due?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

5 MR. BOSLER: Taking those feelings into
6 consideration, how does that make you feel about sitting in
7 a criminal case where you have to make -- this is one of the
8 most profound decisions I think any person would have to
9 make in life, someone lives or dies?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is going to be tough.
11 But it's my duty, is it not?

12 MR. BOSLER: With that in mind, I can't tell
13 you what your duty is. I mean, we take oaths, and we are
14 all humans. We have human qualities that may transcend
15 things.

16 Do you think you are the type of person who
17 should be sitting on a case like this when someone's life is
18 at stake and you are going to have to make that profound
19 decision?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I feel I can do the
21 job as well as anyone else.

22 MR. BOSLER: All right. I appreciate that.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler, Mr. Stanton, approach,
24 please.
25

1 (Whereupon, a bench conference was held among
2 Court and counsel as follows:)

3 THE COURT: You are going further than I
4 anticipated. You requested to ask them if they did this and
5 how often, not --

6 MR. BOSLER: You said follow-up questions.

7 THE COURT: I guess what I'm saying now is the
8 choice that you are making for follow-up is too broad, and
9 I'm not comfortable with it. The depth that you are going
10 into with these people's lives.

11 I think it is appropriate if you want to ask
12 the question if they watch these shows and how often they
13 watch the shows. But talking about whether they should be
14 watching the Nature Channel or, you know, whether it's good
15 to watch movies, all of that, we kind of really have to
16 tighten up on your question.

17 MR. BOSLER: I was trying to maybe cover two
18 things about the fairness because I'm going to have to cover
19 that at some point and just working -- I'll come back to
20 that later.

21 THE COURT: It is fine with me if the follow-up
22 is, Can you be fair, but let's not --

23 MR. BOSLER: All right.

24 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
25 in open court, in the presence of the jury.)

1 MR. BOSLER: If I could, thank you for your
2 response, Mr. Sotero.

3 The next person. Mr. Adamson, what show do you
4 find yourself watching?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have seen several shows
6 over the years. I don't generally watch all of them week
7 after week, but I like to watch the cop shows on occasion
8 and some of the -- those he was speaking of, over the
9 sitcoms, which are totally ridiculous. So I watch those
10 kind of shows all my life. "Dragnet," going back to
11 "Dragnet," highway patrol.

12 MR. BOSLER: "FBI" was one. Do you find
13 yourself watching -- is there like a Tuesday night where you
14 say, I got to go home because this crime show is on?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I have no schedule.

16 MR. BOSLER: Nothing regular like that?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MR. BOSLER: Miss Springer, if you could, which
19 show do you find yourself watching?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: "America's Most Wanted"
21 and all of the ones they have mentioned once in a while.

22 MR. BOSLER: Fox lineup pretty much?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

24 MR. BOSLER: Do you find yourself watching
25 those regularly or an occasional thing?

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1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Usually when there is
2 nothing else on.

3 MR. BOSLER: More as a matter of default than
4 scheduling that in your nighttime viewing?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

6 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Hinxman?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Is the question have I
8 ever or do I regularly watch? What is the question?

9 MR. BOSLER: Well, it is really do you watch.
10 I guess it encompasses both of those things.

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have watched in the
12 past, but I don't set my VCR when I'm not going to be there
13 to make sure I see something.

14 MR. BOSLER: So not something you regularly
15 watch?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is not a regular
17 passion.

18 MR. BOSLER: I appreciate that.

19 Miss Kominek.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would have to answer
21 pretty much the same way. I have watched a lot of the
22 different shows. I don't watch them regularly.

23 MR. BOSLER: Just kind of by default or
24 something, this is my show, I want to watch it, see if the
25 guy got caught type of thing?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't watch it for
2 that.

3 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Lafond.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, the time I get off
5 at night, about the only thing they got on is "LAPD", CNN
6 News and Philippine news. I watch the Philippine news. I
7 work til midnight every night.

8 MR. BOSLER: Is it in English or native
9 dialect?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It is in English. Some
11 of it is Tagalog.

12 MR. BOSLER: Do you get a chance to watch
13 anything but the Philippine news?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If they have a movie on,
15 I stay up a little bit later.

16 MR. BOSLER: Nothing -- anything you watch
17 regularly every night?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. "LAPD" is only on
19 certain days after midnight.

20 MR. BOSLER: Mr. O'Daye, I didn't see you raise
21 your hand.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I sometimes watch "Cops,"
23 whatever is on the tube.

24 MR. BOSLER: Just as a matter of default?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Whatever is on. Whatever

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1 comes on.

2 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Barger?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have got other things
4 to do.

5 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Stephenson?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch it if there is
7 nothing else on.

8 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Berg?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just watch it once in a
10 while. If I'm home. Usually I'm not home.

11 MR. BOSLER: Any particular show that you enjoy
12 watching?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: "America's Most Wanted."
14 They give you some tips on how to be safe.

15 MR. BOSLER: Mr. King?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch most of them, but
17 not regularly.

18 MR. BOSLER: Nothing you schedule in your
19 nighttime viewing?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Definitely not.

21 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Gerbatz?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I never watch them.

23 MR. BOSLER: Mr. -- is it Damoth?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: "Trauma" and "E.R." on
25 Tuesday nights just for the emergency room thing.

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1 MR. BOSLER: So you are more interested in the
2 medical angle?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

4 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Sheets?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't have time.

6 MR. BOSLER: I noticed you are wearing your
7 garb today. Are you scheduled to be in the Guard?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work there full time.

9 MR. BOSLER: Your work schedule, is it a day
10 shift, or is the Guard open 24 hours a day?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work from 7:30 til
12 about 5:00, 5:30. I don't have time. I work the horse.

13 MR. BOSLER: You live in an area where you have
14 a horse?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

16 MR. BOSLER: You live in the city of Reno?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Lemmon Valley.

18 MR. BOSLER: And how long have you had the
19 horse, if you don't mind my asking?

20 MR. STANTON: Your Honor, I would object at
21 this point.

22 THE COURT: I'm going to sustain it. I don't
23 think it matters how long he's had the horse.

24 MR. BOSLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 Mr. Decker.

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch most of them.
2 Probably I watch "Law and Order" the most of any.

3 MR. BOSLER: Anything regular you watch?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: "Law and Order."

5 MR. BOSLER: Is that just a regular show you
6 like to watch?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. It's kind of
8 interesting.

9 MR. BOSLER: Enjoy the courtroom drama part of
10 it?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I do. Also the
12 investigative part of it.

13 MR. BOSLER: If I could, do I have a lot of
14 hands in the bottom area, too? Miss Lyman.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch "America's Most
16 Wanted," a lot of the different shows. As I stated
17 yesterday, my husband and son are both in law enforcement.
18 So my husband tends to watch them. Sometimes if I'm in
19 there, I'll sit down and watch a little bit, but I don't
20 watch them all the time.

21 MR. BOSLER: Something like a family activity?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, just happens to be he
23 is into it. He likes to stay on top of things because he
24 teaches crime intervention in the school district, so he
25 stays on top of everything. So sometimes I'll watch it with

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1 him.

2 MR. BOSLER: I appreciate that. Next? Sir.
3 Mr. McCargar.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch "Cops" and
5 "America's Dumbest."

6 MR. BOSLER: Do you watch "Dumbest Criminals"
7 regularly? How often do those shows play per week?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Once a week.

9 MR. BOSLER: Any particular reason you feel you
10 are drawn to those programs?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: "America's Dumbest" is
12 funny.

13 MR. BOSLER: Any other ones besides kind of
14 humorous ones that you watch?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

16 MR. BOSLER: No? Miss Frandsen?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

18 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Jones? You had a knowing look
19 about you. Do you have something to say?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I watch "Ally McBeal."

21 MR. BOSLER: "Ally McBeal"? Hopefully we can
22 keep up with them today. Anybody else? This row, second
23 row, anybody find themselves regularly watching crime
24 programs, police programs? Yes.

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I used to watch what was

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1 mentioned here, "Dragnet", and I like -- because I like it,
2 provokes you to think. To think about it. Also I like
3 "Mystery" on PBS. It also does the same thing, makes you
4 think about the results.

5 MR. BOSLER: That is mostly English programs?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

7 MR. BOSLER: Front row. Anybody admitted to
8 watching? Yes.

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Occasionally I'll watch
10 on Discovery Channel forensic science, and I watch a lot of
11 the channel "E.R."; and my husband watches them, so by
12 default I'll watch the cop shows.

13 MR. BOSLER: Do you find that he watches it a
14 lot in the household?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

16 MR. BOSLER: You think it is on pretty much
17 every night of the week?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it is on
19 Saturdays, something like that.

20 MR. BOSLER: You find that he watches it
21 regularly then?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, he does.

23 MR. BOSLER: But you may watch it with him?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If I'm there, I'll peak
25 at it, but I don't watch it that much.

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1 MR. BOSLER: You have two TV sets?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 MR. BOSLER: Anybody else in the front row?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just wanted to make it
5 clear that I don't watch "America's Most Wanted" every week
6 like they were saying, you know. It's not a regular thing.
7 I have caught the show a couple of times.

8 MR. BOSLER: Just kind of got lucky that the
9 guy came into your store?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: One time I did watch it
11 on purpose, and it was when they had all the missing
12 children.

13 MR. BOSLER: I'm not familiar with the episode.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: They had on there all the
15 missing children that had been abducted throughout the
16 certain time period. I don't know what time period it
17 covered.

18 MR. BOSLER: So it is pretty rarely that you
19 watch the show; would that be fair to say?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

21 MR. BOSLER: If I could, I know several people
22 here have served on juries. Anybody ever been elected
23 foreperson of a jury of those people who had the privilege
24 of giving jury service?

25 Anyone think that they possess qualities that

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1 either should disqualify them from being a juror, a
2 foreperson, based upon all the questions that have been
3 asked over the last two days? Your quality of stubbornness
4 or whatever quality that may be? Does anybody feel they
5 have that quality that isn't really fair for this type of
6 case?

7 Miss Guiler.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I feel inferior as to the
9 law, and if I can understand the law, the way it should be
10 presented or interpreted.

11 MR. BOSLER: Just kind of confusing the way the
12 lawyers talk, judges talk?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Uh-huh.

14 MR. BOSLER: Any other quality that you think
15 disqualifies you from being a juror in this -- I'm really
16 talking this specific case, a case where you have to decide
17 guilt or innocence, and if it comes to a point, you will
18 have to decide whether the person lives or dies? Any
19 quality that is in you that says, Well, I'm not the person
20 who should be making this decision?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I can't really say
22 that I could answer that at this point. Because I have
23 never had that opportunity to make a decision like that.

24 MR. BOSLER: Do you feel confident you can, or
25 are you just going to cross that bridge when you get to it

1 type sentiment?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I feel I'm confident that
3 I can make a decision. It's not hard for me to make
4 decisions. Sometimes I make bad choices.

5 MR. BOSLER: I note the District Attorney asked
6 you point blank, Can you sign the warrant of death, the
7 verdict form?

8 Does anybody share her views that that is
9 something I would do with reluctance as personal thoughts
10 that have to go into that process before I affix my
11 signature? Anybody have any -- I don't know what the word
12 would be -- personal reservations about that?

13 Miss Imasaki.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think it would be
15 difficult to do.

16 THE COURT: I know it's getting warm and it's
17 hard to hear, but notice how I almost yell at everyone so
18 everybody can hear me? So please try to speak up. It is
19 hard for me to hear you, Miss Imasaki.

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It would be difficult but
21 I would probably be able to do it if necessary.

22 MR. BOSLER: Do you think you are the type of
23 person who could separate those emotions? Not that you have
24 to separate them, I guess. I can't really say that. But
25 those qualities taken into consideration, the type of person

1 who should sit on this type of jury?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

3 MR. BOSLER: Anybody else have anything to say
4 about that? This is a pretty profound decision. Anybody
5 have any moral reservations about what's going on?

6 If I could, there is I guess some obvious
7 differences between the way I look and the way Mr. Vanisi
8 looks. He is Tongan. Anybody have any friends that are
9 Tongans?

10 The two in the back row. Let's start with Miss
11 Denton, if you could.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I just went to high
13 school with quite a few at McQueen High School.

14 MR. BOSLER: Here locally?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. I don't keep in
16 contact. But just know of them. Friends with them in high
17 school. That's it.

18 MR. BOSLER: Characterize them as close friends
19 when you were in high school?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

21 MR. BOSLER: Ever invited to Tongan community
22 type things? Cookouts, things like that?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just parties.

24 MR. BOSLER: Parties where they were at or
25 parties that were thrown by Tongans?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: There was -- they all
2 hung together, and had parties every Friday or Saturday
3 night or whatever, and if you show up, you hang out with
4 them.

5 MR. BOSLER: Anything about that experience
6 that you think impacts upon your ability to sit as a juror
7 today?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

9 MR. BOSLER: Next?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I had a friend back in
11 '87, and she moved away, and I don't even remember how to
12 say her last name. It was a very difficult name. But her
13 first name was Tua. She was from American Samoa.

14 She was a close friend. She named her sixth
15 child after me. But since then we lost contact through the
16 years. I haven't seen her.

17 MR. BOSLER: Anything -- do you know whether
18 she was American Samoan or Tongan or other islander?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe she was
20 American Samoan.

21 MR. BOSLER: I guess you must have had a close
22 relationship with her if she named her daughter.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. We did a lot for
24 the family, and I took her to the store because she didn't
25 drive. We were just friends like that. I mean just

1 acquaintances. Not really that close. I was surprised when
2 she named her baby girl after me.

3 MR. BOSLER: And top row, is there anybody
4 else? Second row? Third row? Second row? Yes, sir.

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I stated before that when
6 I was building my house, I'm not sure the person's name but
7 I think his name was Sioni (phonetic), that was a
8 contractor, the concrete contractor, and I do recognize the
9 defendant as one of the crew members, I think. There is a
10 resemblance.

11 MR. BOSLER: Was there other Tongans or people
12 who appeared to be islanders helping you with the crews or
13 just him?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It was all Tongans.

15 MR. BOSLER: Did they come at your house to
16 pour the foundation, something like that?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. They did the
18 driveway concrete. They put up the forms and poured the
19 concrete.

20 MR. BOSLER: Any problems?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, no problems.

22 MR. BOSLER: No problems with behavior, things
23 missing?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No.

25 MR. BOSLER: Driveway still a good driveway?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: A couple little cracks.

2 MR. BOSLER: How long has it been there?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Four years now. Going on
4 four years.

5 MR. BOSLER: Not too bad. Third row? Fourth
6 row? Anybody else?

7 Miss Imasaki.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I grew up with a number
9 of people of Polynesian descent. I don't recall if they
10 were necessarily Tongan or Samoan.

11 MR. BOSLER: The reason I ask that is to get to
12 the next question. If you have had contact with islanders,
13 Tongans, other minorities, some people say that there is
14 still a certain amount of racism that exists in the United
15 States. Some people say that it's pretty much all solved.
16 We have gone through the racial struggle in the '50s and
17 '60s, and now it is pretty much an equal field.

18 Anybody feel that they are in either of those
19 camps, either there are a lot of racism that needs to be
20 dealt with or it is a completely fair system right now?
21 Yes.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I lived with an African
23 American for a couple years, and before that I was involved
24 with an American Indian as well. So I would say they have
25 had their -- there is still racism out there.

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1 MR. BOSLER: Were you actually a witness to
2 this while you were in this relationship?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

4 MR. BOSLER: Was it by people that you expected
5 to be exhibiting racism?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Just by people out in
7 general public. Being out together, African American, we
8 had to deal with some situations. Just from strangers,
9 people out in public.

10 MR. BOSLER: Anybody that shares Miss Booth's
11 idea about there is still a long ways to go? Miss Guiler
12 again.

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: With a G. My daughter
14 was married to Guatemateco for seven years, and there were a
15 lot of people in the States that were very much against that
16 marriage. And they showed their prejudice towards them
17 being married.

18 And I don't know if you realize it or not but
19 in Central America, there is a caste system that people do
20 look down on ones that marry people from --

21 MR. BOSLER: Outside the group?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: -- outside of their
23 category basically, their money group.

24 MR. BOSLER: So you are talking about some
25 racism involved in that system?

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1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah.

2 MR. BOSLER: How about in the United States?
3 Have you experienced the same stuff?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, definitely.

5 MR. BOSLER: Any chance you could spell that
6 name for the court reporter?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Guatemala.

8 MR. BOSLER: How long did this relationship go
9 on, if you could?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My daughter was married
11 to him for seven years, and now she's dating an African
12 American man.

13 MR. BOSLER: And do you have the same --

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: She said there is not as
15 much prejudice towards them as there are Central American.

16 MR. BOSLER: Anybody else raise their hand?
17 Mr. Sotero. You had your hand raised earlier.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I am a minority.
19 Both my parents came from another country. And
20 unfortunately, prejudice is alive and thriving in this
21 country. Anybody that doesn't believe that is living with
22 their head in the sand.

23 MR. BOSLER: How long have you lived in Washoe?
24 26 years?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Approximately.

1 MR. BOSLER: And if you could share your
2 parent's native country is?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mexico.

4 MR. BOSLER: Have you actually been a witness
5 to open acts of racism?

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Many times.

7 MR. BOSLER: Locally?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: All my life, locally or
9 not.

10 MR. BOSLER: Sorry to hear that. Anybody else?
11 Miss Frandsen.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm first generation
13 American. My mother came from Czechoslovakia, and my father
14 came from Hungary, and I know that there is prejudice in the
15 United States of America. But I'm not -- I just look at
16 everyone the way they are. I don't make preconceived
17 notions or feelings.

18 MR. BOSLER: I was going to ask you this
19 question because you work at UNR; right?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: My husband passed away in
21 June, worked for the system. He worked for the community
22 college. He was on campus sometimes.

23 And I taught in the system until 1990, and that
24 was teaching real estate, and it was in at Truckee Meadows
25 Community College. All my kids -- I shouldn't say all my

1 kids -- graduated from UNR.

2 MR. BOSLER: The reason I asked, I graduated
3 from UNR. I know there is a Frandsen Humanities Building.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: There is Frandsen
5 Humanities Building, and Dr. Frandsen unfortunately is not a
6 relative.

7 MR. BOSLER: Sorry to hear that.

8 With that in mind, anybody else have any
9 thoughts they'd like to share?

10 With that in mind, is there anybody thinks that
11 people of a different ethnic background or race, people of
12 color, deserve a separate legal system? Shall we have 12 or
13 16 white Caucasian people judging every minority, or should
14 the systems be put together where people have to sit in
15 judgment of other races?

16 THE COURT: I'm a little uncomfortable with the
17 phraseology of that question because there are some issues
18 that I'm concerned there may be a misunderstanding of that
19 question. Can you -- I don't know. I was a little confused
20 about where you are going. Can you rephrase that?

21 MR. BOSLER: I'll try. I don't know if I can.

22 Anybody thinks that there needs to be two
23 separate systems when there are people of different ethnic
24 backgrounds versus people of Caucasian backgrounds?

25 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

1 MR. BOSLER: The Court talked a little bit
2 about constitutional rights. If I could just touch on it
3 briefly because I think she's covered most of it.

4 Anybody think that there needs to be -- the
5 system as it exists today, there is a presumption of
6 innocence, there is a burden of proof placed on the State,
7 the highest burden of proof of the law. Anybody think that
8 that isn't a system that they think should be in place in
9 the United States, there should be a different system?

10 And now is the time to talk. There is no right
11 or wrong answer. I saw a slight nod of the head,
12 Mr. Damoth.

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe the system is
14 fair and competent.

15 MR. BOSLER: Miss Guiler?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I feel that people need
17 to be able to express themselves and whichever that they
18 believe, whichever their beliefs are as far as what is going
19 on and their knowledge and their schooling and so forth.
20 But there are different people from different countries
21 think differently than people in the United States. Their
22 customs are different, so therefore, their upbringing and
23 their thinking is different.

24 MR. BOSLER: Is that a thing that should be
25 considered in the justice system or not?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I think it should
2 be considered in each, in everyone's -- every case is
3 different. But a lot of times race has a lot to play in
4 what people, how people react to things.

5 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I'm getting kind of
6 warm. Is it possible to take a break at this point?

7 THE COURT: The court reporter and I kind of
8 hit a pact that we are going to break at 2:30. Are you
9 through everything that you wanted to ask except for a few
10 things?

11 MR. BOSLER: No. I actually have more specific
12 questions. I have a couple more general questions.

13 THE COURT: Why don't you go ahead and get
14 through whatever you can. We talked about taking a break at
15 2:30, maybe 20 to 3:00. So keeping in mind how long it
16 takes us to move everybody in and out.

17 Mr. Stephenson -- no, Mr. Jones, did you have
18 something?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Were you finished with
20 that question?

21 MR. BOSLER: Do you have a response?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have a comment on that.
23 I defend our Constitution, and I believe in the theory of
24 the system. However, I don't believe it always works.

25 MR. BOSLER: And why is that, if you could?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: From my personal
2 experiences and just observations. I don't believe justice
3 is always served by the system.

4 MR. BOSLER: And those personal experiences, if
5 you could? If it is something you want to talk separately
6 about or something you feel comfortable with.

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not good experiences.
8 Obviously, it wasn't necessarily my own cases. I was
9 involved through a previous marriage with the legal
10 profession. I saw a lot of shenanigans. That is the
11 simplest way to put it.

12 MR. BOSLER: And this marriage, the other
13 person was involved in the legal profession?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

15 MR. BOSLER: A lawyer?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Paralegal, works locally
17 through a local firm.

18 MR. BOSLER: And the firm, do you know what
19 types of cases they handle?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Personal energy --
21 personal injury. Wrongful terms.

22 MR. BOSLER: Civil suits?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Civil actions, yes.

24 MR. BOSLER: I mean, I can't help but ask you.
25 How has that affected your ability to look at lawyers,

1 attorneys when they argue cases? Obviously the question
2 needs to be asked.

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think there's a lot of
4 showmanship. That's why I hold an impression of the whole
5 operation. Whoever puts on the best show here, whoever can
6 present the information, the evidence or whoever can
7 restrict it in some way.

8 MR. BOSLER: How is that going to affect --
9 obviously you may have some life experiences that are
10 different from other jurors. How does that affect your
11 ability to sit here?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll watch the show.

13 MR. BOSLER: So you are just here for the show?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'll see what you guys do
15 and make my decision.

16 MR. BOSLER: I wish I could say I was
17 comfortable with that. The judge talked to you at length
18 about instructions and things like that.

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Absolutely. I understand
20 that, yes.

21 MR. BOSLER: In your mind, that is part of the
22 show?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I hate to be cynical but
24 I am.

25 MR. BOSLER: You are honest. That is all we

1 can ask for.

2 Anybody else have any follow-up questions to
3 that? That is a pretty big subject area. No one has heard
4 a lawyer joke, anything like that?

5 THE COURT: Everybody has heard a lawyer joke.

6 MR. BOSLER: I thought it was going to be
7 dishonest.

8 THE COURT: You certainly may ask if anybody
9 has any feelings about attorneys that would impact their --
10 the case or the way it's presented. If anybody has those
11 concerns, please tell Mr. Bosler about it.

12 MR. BOSLER: Along with these other
13 constitutional rights, there is also a right that says that
14 when you are charged with a crime, no one can force you to
15 sit up at the witness stand for whatever reason because the
16 law doesn't force you to do it, have to defend yourself.
17 That is the presumption of innocence.

18 Anybody -- some people say that unless you take
19 the stand, you have something to hide. Some people say that
20 it's a choice you make through your lawyers. I can't put
21 any weight on it.

22 Anybody feel that they are in one of those two
23 camps? Anybody feel that they have to see Mr. Vanisi
24 testify in order to even consider his innocence to this
25 offense?

1 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

2 MR. BOSLER: No positive responses? Does
3 anybody think that there should be a rule that says
4 everybody has to testify whether they are small witnesses,
5 big witnesses? I want to see every witnesses before I can
6 make a decision? Does anybody feel that that is the way the
7 law should be?

8 THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS: No.

9 MR. BOSLER: The State again asked you
10 individually whether you could sign your name to a death
11 warrant. Does anybody feel that that's something they would
12 gladly do at this point?

13 I know a lot of people have already expressed
14 they have formed opinions about the case. This is an honest
15 time. There is no right or wrong answer. Is that something
16 that -- something that anybody looks forward to at this
17 point?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't feel, from my
19 viewpoints, I don't feel it's anything that anybody would
20 want to do voluntarily. It's something that if you do get
21 picked and you have to make that decision, then you have to
22 do what you have to do. But it's not something that is
23 enjoyable, pleasure.

24 MR. BOSLER: A decision that should be taken
25 lightly?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, sir, not at all.

2 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, at this time I have
3 individual questions to ask. I don't know what the Court --

4 THE COURT: Go ahead.

5 MR. BOSLER: If I could, Mr. Adamson, you
6 indicated that you had formed an opinion on this case?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, yes, I did. I
8 think a lot of jurors seem to have had the same comments. I
9 think it's unfortunate that you can't pull from jurors that
10 didn't have preformed opinions on this case. However, I
11 told you, I did have an opinion going in, and I would be
12 willing to look at all the evidence and weigh it and come up
13 with a --

14 MR. BOSLER: You also indicated that on your
15 questionnaire, that you are not sure you could be fair.

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: That was the reason why.
17 It preformed a guilt and innocence before you come to the
18 trial. So I would like to -- I'd like to see all the
19 evidence, of course, and then form an opinion based on that
20 as well. All I'm basing this on is the media coverage, what
21 I talked with a friend about a year ago.

22 MR. BOSLER: So the opinion that you formed you
23 had formed over a year ago? Approximately a year ago?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

25 MR. BOSLER: Is there anything that we have

1 said that has taken that opinion away from you?

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not at this point, no.

3 MR. BOSLER: So you are going to wait to see if
4 your opinions match up at this point?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would have to weigh the
6 evidence and see all the evidence. It is all based on media
7 and from a year ago.

8 MR. BOSLER: The ultimate question is, if you
9 were charged with a similar crime, would you be the person,
10 would you want a person like you with a
11 previously-formed-year-ago opinion sitting as a juror? Are
12 you the type of person that can be fair in this case?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I would rather not if it
14 was me being charged.

15 MR. BOSLER: Do you think you could be fair in
16 those circumstances?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I can be fair. I
18 would rather not have someone that had a preformed opinion
19 if I was in trial personally.

20 MR. BOSLER: And I'm kind of confused. You
21 don't want someone that has a preformed opinion but you
22 would say right now you kind of had a preformed opinion?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I had a year ago, like I
24 told you. Coming into the trial, I said I think it is
25 unfortunate you can't draw from a jury that doesn't come in

1 with preformed opinions on guilt and innocence. I think
2 that is unfortunate for the defendant.

3 I would weigh the evidence, like I said, and
4 form an opinion based on the evidence.

5 MR. BOSLER: So there a point where you have
6 lost that opinion, you had the opinion a year ago and
7 sometime during the last year you lost it? In the court
8 proceedings you lost it?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We haven't looked at any
10 evidence or anything to change my opinion.

11 MR. BOSLER: I thank you for your honesty.

12 Miss Springer, you also had the same remark
13 that you had formed an opinion about the case.

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have.

15 MR. BOSLER: Is that opinion based upon media,
16 or have you talked to people about the case?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, media from before
18 and talking. I don't know Carolyn Sullivan, but she is a
19 member of my church. So there was a lot of things going on
20 there. But that was my opinion formed last year.

21 MR. BOSLER: And these things that happen in
22 your church, do they benefit Miss Sullivan? I mean, are you
23 involved in --

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know her
25 personally. They have four or five services at that church,

1 and I never met her or seen her. It was just talked about.

2 MR. BOSLER: Fund raising activities, things
3 like that, are you involved in that type of stuff?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I'm not involved in
5 that.

6 MR. BOSLER: But you have told us, and I thank
7 you for your honesty, you formed an opinion about the case?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I have.

9 MR. BOSLER: Has anything -- have we done
10 anything to take that opinion away from you, or is it
11 something that you are going to carry into the case?

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It will probably be
13 something I carry into the case. There's been no evidence
14 or anything. I have only what was said before.

15 MR. BOSLER: So you are still going to carry
16 that opinion that you formed into the case?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. I don't know how
18 you can get rid of it once you formed it.

19 MR. BOSLER: I don't know if it is possible
20 either. Do you think, the same question I asked before, do
21 you think that taking into consideration that you have a
22 preformed opinion, that you are the type of person who could
23 be fair in this case?

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I do.

25 MR. BOSLER: And what -- how easy is it for you

1 to say that I have made -- I made my mind up, I made this
2 opinion and maybe I have expressed it, but I can clear my
3 mind and be a fair juror when the judge says now is the time
4 to be a fair juror?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, you have to hear
6 the evidence. I don't know if I can or not. All I can do
7 is try.

8 MR. BOSLER: There is no assurance you can give
9 to the Court or the parties you can actually put the opinion
10 aside, you will just try your best?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I have never had to do it
12 before. So I can't honestly answer.

13 MR. BOSLER: Again, I appreciate your honesty.

14 Mr. Lafond, I notice that you had a particular
15 event happen to you where you broke up a fight, I guess?

16 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir. It was at the
17 Nugget. The guy went crazy.

18 MR. BOSLER: The guy, I guess, I get the
19 impression was wrestling with police officers?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We were the security
21 there. He grabbed one security officer, threw him into a
22 machine, and if I hadn't been in there he probably would
23 have got killed. The guy was really crazy.

24 So he put his hand in my mouth and starting
25 biting on me and wouldn't let it go. Then I went over to

1 court. We went twice. I guess he was a ward of the State.
2 And we were trying to get the max on him because four
3 security officers got hurt. And he ended up plea
4 bargaining, and he got six months.

5 MR. BOSLER: Were you actually involved as a
6 witness?

7 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was actually involved
8 as one of the people hurt.

9 MR. BOSLER: Did you actually have to testify
10 in court?

11 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: We told the story, but
12 like I said, they plea bargained. That is all we seen of
13 it. We didn't have to go again after that.

14 MR. BOSLER: Were you a security officer at
15 that point when you broke up the fight, or were you off
16 duty?

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was a security officer
18 at that time.

19 MR. BOSLER: At the Nugget?

20 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: At the Nugget. I have
21 been working there three years.

22 MR. BOSLER: You indicated that you wanted to
23 be a juror in this case, on your questionnaire.

24 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I want to be a what?

25 MR. BOSLER: You wanted to be a juror.

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, sir.

2 MR. BOSLER: Why do you want to be a juror in
3 this case?

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I don't know
5 anything about the case. But I can -- like I say in there,
6 I work nights. I never heard what actually happened. And I
7 don't watch Channel 2 news. It is always CNN.

8 MR. BOSLER: So you haven't saw media accounts?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I haven't seen
10 nothing on it with the exception of somebody said a cop got
11 killed on campus. Being I work nights.

12 MR. BOSLER: Why do you think you would be a
13 good juror in this case other than the lack of exposure to
14 media?

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I don't know if I could
16 be a good juror, but I would be fair. I would weigh it.

17 MR. BOSLER: You would wait until all the
18 evidence is done?

19 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

20 MR. BOSLER: Before you make a decision?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

22 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Decker.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

24 MR. BOSLER: You also made the same response on
25 your questionnaire. It said, Would you like to be a juror?

1 And you checked the box yes.

2 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes, I did.

3 MR. BOSLER: But I don't think you put any
4 explanation that says why.

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, for one thing, I
6 haven't formed an opinion. I have heard relatively small
7 amounts of the media coverage and things that have gone on
8 since the incident happened.

9 MR. BOSLER: Any other qualities you think that
10 you have that make you the type person who is a good juror
11 in this case? Having not heard the evidence, of course.

12 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I think I consider
13 myself a fair person, able to give equal weight to two
14 different situations.

15 MR. BOSLER: The State talked about the fact
16 that you may be presented with pictures that are unpleasant
17 at the least. Are you the type of person who could - not
18 everybody is - are you the type of person who could look at
19 that picture for evidentiary value and put that -- decide
20 that is one more thing that goes into the decision-making
21 process?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I could, yes.

23 MR. BOSLER: Do you think that the presentation
24 of those pictures would emotionally handicap your ability to
25 think about the case?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't believe it
2 would.

3 MR. BOSLER: Anybody --

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: If I could explain --

5 MR. BOSLER: Please.

6 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: -- why I feel this way.

7 MR. BOSLER: Please.

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I was raised in a farm,
9 ranch environment and I started very young butchering
10 livestock and things like that. So of course, a human being
11 is considerably different. At this time I really don't know
12 how I would react to seeing a human being in that condition,
13 but I have done things, like I said.

14 MR. BOSLER: Wanting to be a juror, do you
15 think it would be fair if you wanted to be a juror if you
16 had the idea that once you look at these pictures, they
17 would so handicap your ability to consider the other
18 evidence that --

19 THE COURT: Mr. Bosler, he said that they
20 wouldn't bother him. Why does it matter what he thinks
21 about if it would bother him? I mean, he said he didn't
22 have any concerns. I don't think you have to ask any more
23 questions.

24 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, what I'm trying to do
25 is since he's been so honest and forthcoming, is to try to

1 see if I can ask questions of him that maybe some other
2 jurors might have responses to.

3 THE COURT: We got an awful -- we got specific
4 responses from Mr. Stanton's general question. If you
5 wanted to ask another general question similar to
6 Mr. Stanton's, you may do so.

7 MR. BOSLER: He didn't get any responses to his
8 questions.

9 THE COURT: Yes, he did. He got four
10 responses, and one person was actually excused. So if you
11 think there's more, go ahead. But let's not explore it with
12 this gentleman who says he has no problem.

13 MR. BOSLER: Mr. Berg, you indicated on your
14 questionnaire -- and obviously everybody has read the
15 questionnaires -- you could be a fair juror but -- and you
16 had kind of a caveat, equivocation.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah. Well, because I
18 had the -- preconceived the fact that I believe in the death
19 penalty, and I believe that a lot of people have kind of
20 slid through the cracks over the years on life in prison.
21 They plea bargain their way out of some of these things.

22 That is why the but was there, because I didn't
23 want to make the -- I'm involved in the jury, and I have a
24 set value system. And then I go in there and we end up with
25 a hung jury. I mean, after I have seen the evidence. I

1 mean, I can pretty much keep an open mind, but that's why I
2 put the but in there, because I have that feeling about
3 that. My own personal feeling.

4 MR. BOSLER: And again, I appreciate your
5 candor. There is nothing wrong.

6 If you reached the point in the jury room where
7 you thought that your personal ideas, value system
8 conflicted with the law, how do you resolve that?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, like the judge
10 said, we have to follow her instructions, and if she said
11 that is out of the ruling because of the evidence, then I
12 have to go by what the judge tells me. She puts me in the
13 alley that I have to go in. I can't go too lean, can't go
14 too far. There is only one way down the middle.

15 MR. BOSLER: And I'm assuming in your opinion
16 that you believe not all first degree murder cases are death
17 penalty cases?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

19 MR. BOSLER: But you feel that maybe not enough
20 of them are?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I feel in some cases it
22 is appropriate. You show me enough information that
23 convicts this gentleman and that is -- then that's where I'm
24 going to go.

25 MR. BOSLER: So it is really the evidence that

1 is part of the conviction part rather than additional
2 evidence that guides your decision? Someone could be really
3 guilty of first degree murder as opposed to just guilty of
4 first degree murder?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

6 MR. BOSLER: The court interrupted.

7 THE COURT: I thought he was through, and I
8 thought we were going to take a break then when he was
9 through. So I wasn't trying to stop his answers. I thought
10 it was time to take a break.

11 So are you ready? Did you have any follow-up
12 for Mr. Berg based on what he said?

13 MR. BOSLER: I'd be happy to let the jury have
14 a break and come back to this. There is a few follow-up
15 questions.

16 THE COURT: For Mr. Berg?

17 MR. BOSLER: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Why don't you finish up with him.

19 MR. BOSLER: Just again, I don't want to put
20 you on the spot or make you nervous.

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: You're not.

22 MR. BOSLER: I understand your answer to be,
23 and please correct me if I'm wrong, that if you feel that
24 enough evidence has been presented in the case and it is a
25 murder case and you have reached that verdict of first

1 degree murder, that in your mind is the thing that says the
2 death penalty should be imposed?

3 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Sure. I mean, that's
4 what we're sitting here for, I thought. We're sitting here
5 to -- you're giving us information about what happened, and
6 if it goes that way, because that's why I wrote that down on
7 there, because I do believe in that. So if some people's
8 value systems are different. You have seen the people leave
9 the courtroom already. They were upset by it.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Berg, there are two parts of
11 the trial, though.

12 MR. BOSLER: Right.

13 THE COURT: There is the guilt or innocence
14 part and then the penalty part.

15 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

16 THE COURT: There will be additional evidence
17 in your jury instructions before you determine penalty.

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Right.

19 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Bosler's question is,
20 would you decide penalty based on the guilt or innocence, or
21 would you reserve ruling until you heard the rest of the
22 instructions and the penalty evidence?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I have to wait til
24 the end, til you instructed us on what we could consider and
25 what we could not consider.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. Did you want to ask
2 more questions in that regard?

3 MR. BOSLER: On the general subject matter.
4 Just follow-ups of your questions, Your Honor.

5 Mr. Berg, if I could, you indicated that in
6 your opinion, some people have either gotten away or gotten
7 lesser penalties than you think they deserve? Is that a
8 fair statement?

9 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, I wasn't on the
10 trial. So I can't -- I mean, I understand how some of these
11 court systems work and to get them done with, they do their
12 plea bargaining or whatever it is. And I wasn't there. So
13 I can't say that.

14 I mean, I felt at the time that this person
15 shouldn't have gotten off. But you know, I wasn't sitting
16 on the jury, so I don't know all the information.

17 MR. BOSLER: Fair enough. Do you think that in
18 your mind, since you have these ideas about the criminal
19 justice system, is this your opportunity to correct the
20 problem?

21 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, I don't think so. I
22 think we have a very good justice system. I think sometimes
23 we overlook a few of the little things. But as a whole, we
24 probably have the best system.

25 MR. BOSLER: And knowing that you have these

1 ideas, I kind of get a conflict here. You say some people
2 have maybe gotten -- have gotten what they deserved and the
3 next sentence saying that you think we have a good system.

4 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No. I mean what I saw on
5 TV. You get two feelings. I mean, you see like for
6 example, O.J. Simpson trial. You know, I mean, there is a
7 lot of people that thought that he was guilty, and I was
8 one, but I didn't hear all the information.

9 MR. BOSLER: Having those ideas about the O.J.
10 case, do you think that having those ideas you are the
11 person who should sit in judgment of another person and
12 decide whether they live or die?

13 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think I could be fair.
14 I could listen to the information or to what's been given.
15 I mean, maybe there was something that I didn't hear on the
16 news. I didn't watch it every day.

17 THE COURT: We'll go ahead and take our break
18 now. Ladies and gentlemen of the audience who are on our
19 jury panel, you will be going with Miss Lopshire to
20 Department 3. There will be restrooms available. You will
21 remain in the courtroom, have a telephone, we'll make sure
22 that is available to you.

23 Don't leave yet because I have to tell other
24 people what they have to do, and it makes it very annoying.

25 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury in the jury

1 box, you will be going with Mrs. Davis. She will take you
2 to Department 9. Again, there will be restrooms and a
3 telephone available if you need it.

4 Ask that you remain with these officers of the
5 court. You will be gone -- I don't know exactly how long
6 you will be out of the courtroom. You may be out of the
7 courtroom anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes.

8 Counsel, I want to see you back here in a
9 little less than 15 minutes according to the clock. I want
10 you here back at 3:00, just counsel, though, and we'll take
11 up any matters we have to outside the presence of the jury
12 panel before we bring the panels back from their individual
13 courtrooms.

14 Miss Davis, raise your hand so everybody knows
15 who is going with you. And Miss Lopshire, raise your hand.

16 We'll let Miss Lopshire's group leave the
17 courtroom first. Court is in recess.

18 (Recess taken at 2:46 p.m.)
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25

1 RENO, NEVADA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1999, 3:21 P.M.

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3
4 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were held
5 in open court, outside the presence of the jury
6 panel.)

7 THE COURT: We are convened outside the
8 presence of the jury for the purpose of determining if there
9 is any further requests with regard to the voir dire process
10 from the defense.

11 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, I have had an
12 opportunity to go over the questions that we talked about
13 this afternoon, and I appreciate the Court giving me an
14 opportunity to complete the record. In regards to the
15 alcohol and other issue that we were going to ask the Court
16 for an in camera hearing, after consulting with counsel,
17 Mr. Vanisi, we're not going to offer those subject matters
18 to the jury at this point.

19 The only other thing I would like the Court to
20 express to the jury, I think it may be a topic that needs to
21 be addressed or that needs to be brought up with the jury,
22 is the fact that they have options in death penalty cases.
23 It isn't just life or death. They have the life with, life
24 without is the other option.

25 What I want to do is ask people their opinions
about life without because certainly if a juror says that

1 life without means six weeks and an early parole, that's
2 going to impact their ability to judge the three options.
3 Normally the judge says life without in Nevada means life
4 without, life with is life with.

5 THE COURT: I'm required under the Sonner
6 decision to give that instruction at the penalty phase. Is
7 it really -- I don't see why it would really be necessary at
8 this juncture of the voir dire.

9 Do you have a position, Mr. Stanton?

10 MR. STANTON: Well, I believe the Supreme Court
11 has addressed that issue and has issued mandatory
12 instructions now regarding what a jury is advised regarding
13 punishments of life without and death. And that is the jury
14 is to consider that those punishments will be carried out.

15 THE COURT: I have the Sonner instruction on
16 the bench with me right now. But it's pretty lengthy, and
17 it all deals with the potential penalties. I intend to give
18 it at the penalty phase if we get to a penalty phase, but I
19 don't see how my instructing them on that would tell us
20 whether or not they'd automatically or not vote for the
21 death penalty.

22 MR. BOSLER: I think it is just akin to the
23 Weatherspoon analysis that we have, that there are opinions
24 on whether they would ever vote for life without because
25 they think it is meaningless. I think it is akin to the

1 same type of analysis we have already done, and that is my
2 point.

3 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I understand your
4 request, but I don't think it's necessary. So I'm going to
5 deny your request to do it at this stage. You will get that
6 instruction, however, absolutely at the penalty phase if we
7 get to it.

8 MR. BOSLER: Your Honor, for the Court's
9 education, I just wanted to finish up with specific areas of
10 concern that were on questionnaires. Hopefully be able to
11 wrap it up that way.

12 THE COURT: Okay. As I understand it, counsel
13 in chambers requested that we exercise peremptory challenges
14 in a slightly different manner than is normally the case in
15 cases in this district. Mr. Gammick and Mr. Specchio
16 requested that they be allowed to utilize a master sheet
17 provided by the court clerk that has boxes that say
18 plaintiff 1 and defendant 1 through the challenges, and they
19 wanted to exercise the peremptory challenges by marking the
20 seat number of the juror and initialing it in the
21 appropriate box and by passing this piece of paper back and
22 forth. So it won't verbally be on the record.

23 Do I understand that correctly?

24 MR. STANTON: Yes. That's the request of the
25 State. Although I would -- it may be unique for this Court,

1 but it's been my experience that's how it's been handled in
2 the Second Judicial District Court in cases like this.

3 THE COURT: I guess it's done somewhere else.
4 Mr. Specchio?

5 MR. SPECCHIO: Yes, Your Honor. I thought we
6 were going to use names, but I guess we can use juror
7 numbers.

8 THE COURT: Well, can you write small enough to
9 fit that name in that box?

10 MR. SPECCHIO: I think the clerk advised me she
11 was going to just make another one of these. We would write
12 the name in there, in these boxes.

13 THE COURT: It doesn't matter to me if you want
14 to put seat number or name.

15 MR. SPECCHIO: I'm liable to make a mistake
16 with the seat number, but I won't make a mistake with the
17 name.

18 THE COURT: You will get the whole sheet so you
19 can see the placement of each of the people. You will get
20 the sheet. She's made that up.

21 MR. SPECCHIO: Okay.

22 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Vanisi, your counsel are
23 not going to be saying out loud the name of the person that
24 you are striking from the jury panel. You are sitting with
25 your counsel. If for some reason they write down a name

1 that you disagree with and that isn't what you have agreed
2 to strike, be sure to either call it to my attention or
3 understand that you have waived any later objection.

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I understand that, Judge.

5 THE COURT: Thank you. We have an issue with
6 Mr. Lafond and Miss Arlitz. I ask that the bailiff bring
7 both of those people, notify Mrs. Davis to get the panel
8 ready to come.

9 (Whereupon Prospective Juror Arlitz entered the
10 courtroom.)

11 THE COURT: Miss Arlitz, come on in. Go ahead
12 and have a seat. We're going to bring the rest of the panel
13 in. I'm not trying to single you out. It was a little bit
14 quicker to get you here. The bailiff indicated that you had
15 something that you felt we should know about that you hadn't
16 already told us.

17 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. As the time goes,
18 on it makes it more difficult for me because I have a
19 business, and I am the only one that does the office work.
20 I have one person in the warehouse, and I'm in the office
21 taking care of the clients.

22 THE COURT: What business is that?

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Warehousing Distribution.

24 THE COURT: So when you said you worked with
25 Mr. Auld, it wasn't the same business?

1 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, we have an interest
2 in his company.

3 THE COURT: I see. You just have a personal
4 interest in his?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes.

6 THE COURT: So what's happening at work for
7 you?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Not much. Nobody is
9 doing the paperwork. Nobody is calling the clients.
10 Because the guy at the warehouse, he loads and unloads the
11 freight. And I do the books, too, the quarterly reports and
12 the end-of-the-year reports for all the accounting.

13 THE COURT: Counsel, do you have any questions?

14 MR. SPECCHIO: We'll stipulate, Your Honor.

15 MR. STANTON: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Mr. Stanton.

17 MR. STANTON: State would stipulate.

18 THE COURT: Miss Arlitz, we're going to go
19 ahead and let you be excused. You may tell the Jury
20 Commissioner downstairs, one of the staff down on the first
21 floor.

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Where I came the first
23 time?

24 THE COURT: Yes.

25

1 (Whereupon Prospective Juror Arlitz was excused
2 from the courtroom.)

3 (Whereupon Prospective Juror LaFond entered the
4 courtroom.)

5 THE COURT: Go ahead and have a seat anywhere,
6 Mr. Lafond. The bailiff told me that you had a concern
7 about your wife. Can you tell me about that?

8 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. My wife has
9 pigmentosus. I can't pronounce the name. She is legally
10 blind. She can handle me being gone maybe eight hours a day
11 when I work.

12 She is supposed to come back from Chicago on a
13 plane today. She is with a friend of hers now. If I'm
14 not -- like I go to work after I leave here, but I'm gone
15 all those hours, I'm worried about her. She can get around
16 the house, but that's about it.

17 THE COURT: Where are you working?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I work at the Nugget.

19 THE COURT: The Nugget. Don't you think that
20 they will give you some time off if you tell them you are on
21 jury service?

22 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, the thing is, I
23 won't get paid for it.

24 THE COURT: Have you checked on that for sure?

25 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I could check on it.
They said -- one of my supervisors say only if it's on a

1 Nugget thing that's happened. You know, if something
2 happens in the casino, I got to go to court for it and that.

3 THE COURT: I see. They don't pay you for jury
4 service?

5 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: No, they don't, as far as
6 I know. See, the thing is, I would be gone all these hours
7 from here. She can't go to the store, she can't do nothing
8 during the week.

9 THE COURT: What days do you normally work?

10 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I'm off Thursdays and
11 Fridays.

12 THE COURT: So it would be Monday, Tuesday and
13 Wednesday that would be a problem, if you worked those days?

14 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. Well, actually,
15 yeah, it would be them days.

16 THE COURT: Is there some way that you might be
17 able to find someone to help you with your wife?

18 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: See, we have been -- only
19 been here three years. We haven't got too many friends
20 around because we don't associate too much with people.

21 THE COURT: You have already lost Monday and
22 Tuesday of the first week.

23 A PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yeah, but I worked last
24 night.

25 THE COURT: Did you?