

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

COLE DUANE ENGELSON

Appellant,

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA

Respondent.

Docket No. 82691

Appeal From A Judgment of Conviction (Jury Trial)
Fifth Judicial District Court
The Honorable Robert Lane, District Judge
Court No. CR9226

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No. CR-9226

Dept. No. 2

FILED
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FEB 05 2021

Nye County Clerk
Deputy

IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF NYE

THE HONORABLE ROBERT W. LANE, DISTRICT JUDGE

-oOo-

ORIGINAL

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COLE D. ENGELSON,

Defendant.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
JURY TRIAL - DAY 7

NOVEMBER 13, 2020
9:15 A.M.
PAHRUMP, NEVADA

APPEARANCES:

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The Defendant:

COLE D. ENGELSON

Reported by: CECILIA D. THOMAS, RPR, CCR No. 712

I N D E XWITNESSES FOR THE STATE: PAGEDR. AHMED MOUSSA

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1 PAHRUMP, NYE COUNTY, NEVADA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2020

2 9:15 A.M.

3 -oOo-

4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5
6 (Whereupon State's Proposed Exhibit
7 Nos. 50, 51A and 51B, 53, 62A and 62B, and
8 62D-H are marked prior to commencement of
9 proceedings.)

10 THE BAILIFF: All rise.

11 THE COURT: Thank you. Good morning.

12 Please be seated.

13 MR. VITTO: Thank you, Your Honor. Good
14 morning.

15 MR. ARABIA: Good morning, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Seems like you were just here,
17 doesn't it? Welcome back. Put me to work as soon as
18 I walk in. All right.

19 This is Day 7. We're back in the presence
20 of our 15 jurors. State's still on their case in
21 chief. They have a new witness they're going to call
22 today; so we're going to ask Jamele to go make a
23 couple of copies of this. Sorry. And then I will
24 read it and decide whether or not to pass it along.
25 Lengthy and very good handwriting.

1 Would you like to call your first witness
2 today, Mr. Arabia?

3 MR. ARABIA: Good morning, Your Honor. The
4 State calls Dr. Ahmed Moussa.

5 THE COURT: Thank you.

6 Face madam clerk. Raise your right hand,
7 please, sir.

8 Whereupon,

9 DR. AHMED MOUSSA,
10 called as a witness on behalf of the State, was sworn
11 and testified as follows:

12 THE WITNESS: I swear and affirm.

13 THE COURT: Good morning. Thank you for
14 coming in. We're hoping the jury can see your face
15 and hear your words, if you can take your mask down.
16 However, if you're worried about Covid, you don't have
17 to.

18 THE WITNESS: That's fine.

19 THE COURT: All right. Very good.

20 Oh, I'm sorry, sir. Have a seat, and the
21 attorneys are going to take turns asking you
22 questions.

23 Mr. Arabia.

24 / / /

25 / / /

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. ARABIA:

Q. Good morning, Doctor. Could you please state your name and spell your last name for the record -- or actually, if you could spell both names for the record, please.

A. Good morning. My name Ahmed Moussa. The spelling of my first name A-h-m-e-d, last name Moussa, M-o-u-s-s-a.

Q. Thank you, sir. And could you please tell us what is your occupation is, what you do for a living?

A. I'm an emergency room physician. I practice in Georgia. All right. I carry a license, medical license in Georgia. I'm a family medicine doctor, board certified in family medicine 2012. I have an extra fellowship in emergency medicine from the University of Alabama.

Q. It would fair to say then that right now primarily you're an ER doctor?

A. I'm an ER physician.

Q. Okay. And were you -- was that your occupation on July 15th of 2017?

A. Actually, on July 15th, I was an ER physician at Desert View Hospital in Pahrump.

1 Q. All right. Before we delve into the
2 particulars of this case, Doctor, please -- you were
3 going through your background -- please tell me a
4 little bit more about your journey, how you ended up
5 in this profession, and your educational background
6 and your training and whatnot, please.

7 A. So I graduated a medical degree in surgery
8 from University of Cairo Medical School in 1999. I
9 spent a year of internship at the University of Cairo
10 in Egypt. All right. And then I did my master's in
11 Egypt in urology and general surgery. And then I went
12 to New Zealand for five years where I worked as a
13 physician for five years.

14 I was sent from New Zealand to the U.S.
15 here for extra postgraduate degree in University of
16 Alabama at Birmingham in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. I
17 finished my residency in 2010, and I did an extra year
18 of fellowship in American medicine from 2010 to 2011.

19 Since then, I've been working as an ER
20 physician in the University in Alabama. And then I
21 moved to Georgia in 2013 where I've been practicing as
22 an ER physician. Starting from 2016, I started
23 working here in Nevada in Sunrise Hospital and in
24 Pahrump at Desert View Hospital as an ER physician.
25 Because of the corona, I settled back in Georgia

1 around, you know, beginning of this year. And I've
2 been practicing there full-time at the moment.

3 Q. Thank you, Doctor. I would like to go back
4 now to July 15th of 2017, just to set the table, at
5 7:30, eight o'clock that evening, what were you doing?

6 A. So basically, our shifts in Desert View
7 Hospital starts -- it's a 12-hour shift -- from 6:00
8 to 6:00, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from 6:00 p.m.
9 to 6:00 a.m. I was doing the night shift; so I
10 started my shift around 6:00 p.m.

11 Just an hour after my shift, we got on the
12 radio that there is an ambulance coming with a cardiac
13 arrest, pediatric cardiac arrest. So we -- that's
14 what we got the information that they were not able to
15 intubate her, and that there were no pulse. But they
16 were they were bagging her of inflation until they
17 come in here. So we prepared the trauma room,
18 Trauma One Room, for the cardiac arrest until it came
19 in around 7:34.

20 Q. Just so the jury is clear, this was
21 Yessenia Camp?

22 A. I'm sorry?

23 Q. This was Yessenia Camp?

24 A. Yessenia Camp, yes.

25 Q. Okay. Please continue, sir.

1 A. All right. So basically we prepared the
2 Trauma One Bay. The rooms, they have four trauma
3 rooms, so we prepared the room for the arrest. We
4 prepared the pediatric, because it's a special
5 scenario with the pediatrics. So we have to get the
6 pediatric rod so we can measure the amount of
7 medication and tubes and all of the procedure that
8 we're going to go, because kids are different than
9 adults in this. All right. And we got the
10 respiratory team and the nurses and myself, we were at
11 bedside when she arrived in.

12 Q. All right. So at some point that child was
13 brought in?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And can you please describe -- before we
16 get to any treatment that was given, describe what
17 your -- as an ER doctor, what your impression was when
18 you first saw the child.

19 A. So basically the child was brought in by
20 the ambulance. All right. And once she arrived, we
21 conducted the, what we call it in our profession,
22 primary survey. So in this situation, we do something
23 called ACLS protocol, primary survey, secondary
24 survey. Primary survey briefly discussed the airway,
25 breathing, circulation -- A, B, C, D, E, F, so airway,

1 breathing, circulation, decontamination, and exposure,
2 all right, and look for any kind of associated trauma
3 or injuries that can be reversed.

4 The patient was not showing any signs of
5 breathing. They were bagging her, and there was no
6 pulse on the monitor, complete asystole, what we call
7 in our occupation asystole. So based on the protocol,
8 we started with the airway; all right. So I inserted
9 a ET tube, an endotracheal tube to help her breathe,
10 all right, through the bagging or through the
11 ventilator. So we inserted it successfully. All
12 right.

13 The end is we were not able to get a
14 peripheral IV line. So there was an intraosseous
15 line, which is an alternative to the IV line to
16 administer medication. So there was an intraosseous
17 line. There was no signs of circulation so we started
18 high quality CPR concomitantly with intubation. But
19 prior to arrival, the paramedics, they were able to
20 give her a couple of epi's, which is a medication that
21 helps the heart to restart again.

22 Q. Was epinephrine?

23 A. Epinephrine; that's right. We call it
24 "epi" for short. So they were able to give two doses
25 of those. So when she arrived, we continued the

1 cycle. But when we checked her blood sugar was a
2 little bit elevated 116, which is not unusual in a
3 cardiac arrest situation even for nondiabetic
4 patients.

5 Q. Doctor, I apologize. I want to jump in
6 here and ask you something. During this process, were
7 compressions being done?

8 A. Yes. High quality CPR were done throughout
9 the process, yes, until we pronounced.

10 Q. Also, I wasn't sure whether or not you said
11 asystole; and if you did, can you just tell us what
12 that means?

13 A. So basically, asystole or pulseless
14 electrical activity means that there is no
15 identifiable rhythm on the monitor for the EKG which
16 records the electricity coming from the heart. So she
17 was showing no signs of electrical activity. A
18 certain period of time, there was a very minor, what
19 we call pulseless electrical activity. Because of the
20 medication we give, sometimes it gives a little bit of
21 a glimpse. All right. But there is no identified
22 rhythm on the monitor, and there was no associated
23 heartbeat with it.

24 Q. What you described with the medication
25 calling it a little blip, that wouldn't be a sign of

1 her --

2 A. No. That would not be a sign of lividity
3 at all. All right. It's just very temporary. But
4 there was not associated any signs of circulation or
5 heartbeat.

6 Q. Let me ask you this: You've discussed some
7 of the measures that you've took. Would it be fair to
8 say that you might have gone beyond what would
9 normally be done to try to bring Yessenia back?

10 A. Yes. So in a situation like this, you
11 know, a trauma situation with a young kid healthy and
12 no past medical history; all right, you know, usually,
13 you know, we don't go through all the cycles. So the
14 paramedics gives two cycles. I give about another
15 five cycles of medication, which is beyond what we
16 usually do in our ACLS protocol because she's a child,
17 and I like to give her that chance if there is a
18 chance to revive her back. All right. So definitely
19 we went beyond that recommended, all right, in cardiac
20 arrest situations just because of considering the
21 situation -- she's a healthy, young, innocent girl
22 that we want to give her more than we can, you know,
23 like an --

24 Q. You wanted to do everything you could --

25 A. Yes, exactly. Just to give her --

1 Q. -- and then some?

2 A. Yes, basically. And we were waiting just
3 for a glimpse of, you know, heartbeat or circulation,
4 and helicopter was waiting to transfer her to a higher
5 trauma center in Las Vegas.

6 Q. About how long would you say ER treatment
7 went on?

8 A. The ER treatment went for about 30 minutes,
9 like about 28, 30 minutes, all right, where we of
10 course intubated her, high quality CPR. We
11 administered different cycles of medications,
12 including epinephrine, atropine, bicarb, and calcium
13 just to try to at least to revive if there is a
14 reversible cause of death.

15 Q. And everyone knows the answer to this, but
16 I'm going to ask anyway. Were your efforts
17 successful?

18 A. It was unsuccessful. Sadly, it was
19 unsuccessful at the end, and there was not any signs
20 of circulation or breathing obtained by the patient.

21 Q. At some point did you make the, what I'm
22 sure would have been a very difficult decision to
23 pronounce Yessenia dead?

24 A. It was a very emotional situation even with
25 the nurses and the technicians around us just to

1 pronounce her, and I remember some of them were
2 actually crying because that situation was emotional.
3 But at that time there was really no hope in
4 continuing administering medication or continuing
5 ACLS.

6 Q. You are the ER doctor, so you have to make
7 that call?

8 A. I have to.

9 Q. Okay. Do you remember about what time on
10 the 15th you made that call?

11 A. Around eight o'clock.

12 Q. About eight o'clock?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, you've been an ER
15 physician for sometime; so I want to ask you a few
16 additional questions. What would you say, based on
17 your treatment of the patient, was likely to be the
18 cause of death?

19 A. So definitely it's a cardiopulmonary
20 arrest, all right, failure or basically. From what
21 I've examined, from what I've seen, most likely it's
22 due to trauma, because there was a lot of signs of
23 trauma on the patient.

24 Q. Doctor, please elaborate when you say
25 trauma; what specifically are you referring to?

1 A. So basically, the patient was brought in
2 completely unclothed, all right, and there was
3 different signs of trauma on the patient's body.
4 There was a lot of bruises, contusions, even on the
5 front part. As I mentioned before, during our
6 protocol, we do a primary survey. Of course, we
7 didn't go to a second survey, because we were not able
8 to initiate heartbeat or breathing. But after we
9 pronounced her, when we were turning her to the side,
10 all right, there was a significant amount of trauma to
11 the head, back of the head, back of the neck, the
12 whole back, the buttocks; in addition to the signs of
13 trauma that was on the front part around the face,
14 chin, nose, chest, and thighs.

15 Q. Doctor, would you say that some of those
16 injuries at least, based on your experience, would
17 have been caused by blunt force trauma?

18 A. Yeah. So the kind of trauma we usually
19 meet with is either a penetrating trauma or blunt
20 trauma. It seems like these injuries were secondly to
21 a blunt, forceful trauma.

22 Q. Doctor, would you say that what you saw
23 with Yessenia would be consistent with child abuse?

24 A. The amount and the degree and the spread
25 of, you know, bruises and contusions to her,

1 definitely I would say there was evidence of child
2 abuse.

3 Q. And based on your lengthy experience as an
4 ER physician, did you see anything on Yessenia that
5 struck you as possibly being bite marks?

6 A. You know, bites are very interesting; so
7 some of them were circular can denote some bite
8 injuries.

9 Q. Did you notice any curvilinear or half moon
10 type --

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. -- bruises?

13 A. That's right, sir.

14 Q. Yes?

15 A. Yes.

16 MR. ARABIA: Your Honor, Court's indulgence
17 for a moment?

18 THE COURT: Yes.

19 MR. ARABIA: Thank you.

20 Q. (By Mr. Arabia) Doctor, did you see
21 anything while you were treating Yessenia that would
22 be consistent with or would make you think that there
23 might have been bleeding or swelling in the brain?

24 A. Yes, sir. So part of the primary surveys,
25 we examine, we do a quick survey for neurological

1 function, and she had dilated fixed pupil on
2 examination, all right. And this usually denotes a
3 kind of severe insult to the brain or spinal cord.
4 There was also a big hematoma and bruises to the back
5 of the head and neck, which this is where the
6 unprotected area of the brain goes in; all right. So
7 this all denotes some definitely a severe insult to
8 the central -- central and peripheral nervous system.

9 Q. Doctor, you testified that in your capacity
10 as the ER physician, you made the very difficult
11 decision to pronounce Yessenia dead.

12 A. That's right.

13 Q. And so I wanted to ask, after the
14 pronouncement of death, at some point did Desert
15 Valley (sic) surrender custody of Yessenia to a
16 mortuary establishment?

17 A. Yeah. We released her to the mortuary,
18 yes, sir.

19 Q. Would it be fair to say that at that point
20 what happens is she's taken out of the hospital to
21 another location?

22 A. That's right, sir.

23 MR. ARABIA: Court's indulgence,
24 Your Honor?

25 THE COURT: Yes.

1 Q. (By Mr. Arabia) Doctor, I just want to
2 clarify a couple of things. You mentioned a brain, a
3 bleeding brain. So what I would like you to do or
4 what I'm going to ask you is how does that fit into
5 the overall situation here in the context of the
6 trauma that she was experiencing and the cardiac
7 arrest? And if you could, kind of tie together what
8 in your view was a more serious problem for her, and
9 how those three things relate?

10 A. Sure. So basically, during our
11 resuscitation for a cardiac arrest patient, we
12 usually -- our goal is to establish breathing and
13 circulation back to preserve the vital organs, namely
14 the brain. So sometimes, you know, you have
15 reversible causes, and sometimes you have irreversible
16 causes. So sometimes reversible causes is like maybe
17 infection or a kind of obstruction or foreign bodies
18 or different scenarios that you can reverse --
19 hypothermia, hyperthermia, drowning, aspiration. All
20 this can be reversible, and this is what our attempts
21 at the resuscitation retrieves.

22 But sometimes the causes are irreversible
23 for the cardiac arrest, which is usually the brain
24 bleed. So from this scenario, I have seen she's a
25 young healthy kid, and kids are very known to be

1 resilient; all right. Once you reverse the cause of
2 death, they bounce right back. And that's what we
3 were all hoping for.

4 But based on the presentation and the
5 extent of injuries on this patient, it seemed like her
6 injury was beyond repair. It's not reversible. It's
7 irreversible; all right. And given the fixed dilated
8 pupils, lack of reflexes, and the injuries on the back
9 of her head and neck, the irreversible cause seems to
10 be a severe brain insult which is a different kind of
11 bleed, either extracranial or in the meninges or
12 around the brain. And this cannot be reversed in a
13 situation like this.

14 Q. All right.

15 MR. ARABIA: Your Honor, may I approach the
16 witness, please?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 Q. (By Mr. Arabia) Doctor, I handed you
19 what's been marked as State's Proposed Exhibit 53. Do
20 you recognize that?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. And could you please tell the jury what
23 that is?

24 A. So basically, this is the ER records for
25 the patient coming in, starting from the personal

1 information, demographics, phone number, next of kin,
2 age, date of birth, of course the treating physician
3 and some of the treating team including nurses. There
4 were also progress notes recorded by me through the
5 Scribe and through the other nurses running the code
6 at the time. You will find the physical examination,
7 progress of events going from the moment she arrived,
8 description of the injuries, what we have done during
9 the code including timings, and the time of death at
10 that moment too.

11 There was also some charts about her graph
12 regarding her height, length, head circumference, all
13 of the, you know, the relevant data, clinical data
14 about the patient. There was also a description of
15 the injuries; a physical exams; and some pictures
16 about, you know, the extent of injuries around her,
17 some description; and some nurses' notes about the
18 medication given. There was intubation, respiratory
19 therapist's notes; and some, you know, legal papers
20 about the Consent For Treatment and --

21 Q. Doctor, this question is going to sound
22 silly after your testimony, but have you reviewed
23 that?

24 A. Yes, of course I have a copy of this.

25 Q. And, Doctor, is it an accurate rendering?

1 A. It's an accurate rendering.

2 MR. ARABIA: Thank you.

3 Your Honor, move to admit.

4 MS. BOSKOVICH: No objection.

5 THE COURT: It's admitted. What was that
6 exhibit number?

7 MR. ARABIA: 53 --

8 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

9 MR. ARABIA: -- State's Proposed.

10 (Whereupon State's Exhibit No. 53 is
11 admitted into evidence.)

12 MR. ARABIA: Thank you, Doctor.

13 No further questions at this point,
14 Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right.

16 Counsel?

17 MS. BOSKOVICH: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. BOSKOVICH:

20 Q. Good morning, Doctor?

21 A. Good morning.

22 Q. A couple of follow-up questions. So you
23 testified that you had a call come in regarding the
24 three-year-old. Were you provided any other
25 information, anything from the paramedics, prior to

1 her arrival?

2 A. There was some -- first of all, when we get
3 the radio, we get like three years old, cardiac arrest
4 coming in, estimated time of arrival, the other
5 information that we were not able to intubate because
6 of the situation. They said that there was some
7 domestic issues; they didn't clarify. But they were
8 bagging her; and they already inserted an intraosseous
9 line, all right, which is a line to administer
10 medication; and they just provided us with estimated
11 time of arrival. That's it.

12 Q. Okay. And they provided all of that
13 information to you before you started treatment on
14 her?

15 A. Before she arrived there.

16 Q. Before she arrived; okay. And once she
17 gets there, you're filled in on what kind of
18 life-saving measures the ambulance technicians took?

19 A. That's right. While we're moving her from
20 her gurney to our gurney, we usually ask them to give
21 us the bullet and repeat what we give her -- "two
22 cycles of epi," and we were bagging her. There was no
23 pulse on the monitor during that time.

24 Q. And did you go out to the ambulance and
25 meet them?

1 A. You know, Pahrump is a very small hospital.
2 So once they come in, the trauma room is just on the
3 right side. So we were waiting in the corridor, and
4 we took her right away to the trauma bay area.

5 Q. Okay. And you noticed a lot of bruising on
6 her body; correct?

7 A. That's right.

8 Q. There were a lot of bruising to her
9 buttocks?

10 A. Yes. There was a huge one on the buttocks
11 and the back.

12 Q. And those bruises were actually noted to be
13 in various stages of healing; correct?

14 A. Yes, some of them, but the significant ones
15 were recent.

16 Q. And there were also bruises to her face and
17 forehead?

18 A. That's right, ma'am.

19 Q. And those were also noted to be in various
20 stages of healing?

21 A. The one on the back of the head and neck
22 and around the face were recent.

23 Q. But there were some that were noted to be
24 in various stages of healing?

25 A. The body was a little bit -- the one that

1 you can tell they were a little bit in different
2 stages of healing, but the one around the head and
3 neck area were quite recently.

4 MS. BOSKOVICH: Court's indulgence,
5 Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Yes.

7 MS. BOSKOVICH: No further questions,
8 Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 MR. ARABIA: Court's indulgence,
11 Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. ARABIA: Thank you, Your Honor.
14 Nothing further.

15 THE COURT: Can he be permanently excused?

16 MR. ARABIA: No. But it's very, very, very
17 unlikely that that would be an issue, but just in case
18 for the record.

19 THE COURT: Thank you, Doctor. Don't talk
20 about the case with anyone but the attorneys. He said
21 there's a minute chance he may call you back again;
22 unlikely. Thank you for coming in to testify.

23 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.

24 MR. VITTO: Terri Haddix.

25 Please step up to the witness chair and be

1 sworn.

2 THE BAILIFF: Would you please face
3 madam clerk and raise your right hand?
4 Whereupon,

5 TERRI HADDIX MD,
6 called as a witness on behalf of the State, was sworn
7 and testified as follows:

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am, I do.

9 THE COURT: We would like the jury to be
10 able to see your face and hear your words, but if
11 you're nervous about Covid, you can keep the mask on.

12 THE WITNESS: I will see how it works with
13 the mask.

14 THE COURT: Our jurors are spread
15 throughout the courtroom. The last one is in the back
16 of the room; that's who you'll be talking to.

17 THE WITNESS: Got it. Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Thank you. Have a seat.

19 DIRECT EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. VITTO:

21 Q. Please state your name for the record
22 spelling your last name.

23 A. Terri Haddix, H-a-d-d-i-x, as in "X-ray."

24 Q. What is your occupation, ma'am?

25 A. I'm a forensic pathologist and

1 neuropathologist.

2 Q. And where do you currently practice?

3 A. I work for a private independent crime
4 laboratory in the San Francisco Bay area called
5 Forensic Analytical Crime Lab.

6 Q. And exactly in what capacity?

7 A. I work there as a forensic pathologist, a
8 neuropathologist, and I'm also considered the
9 technical director of the laboratory.

10 Q. How long have you been so employed?

11 A. Nearly 15 years with this company.

12 Q. Doctor, tell us about your journey. How
13 did you get to be where you are today?

14 A. I graduated from medical school in 1987
15 from the University of Colorado School of Medicine. I
16 completed a couple of years of general surgery
17 residency before I started my pathology training. My
18 pathology training was at the University of Washington
19 in Seattle. There I did what is called an anatomic
20 pathology training. I continued on in subspecialty
21 training in an area called forensic pathology, also in
22 Seattle, Washington, at the King County Medical
23 Examiner's Office.

24 I practiced as a forensic pathologist for
25 several years. And then in the early 2000s, 2003

1 specifically, I did another subspecialty training in
2 neuropathology at Stanford University Medical Center.

3 Q. Now, Doctor, you're here today to testify
4 regarding your work on this case. How did that come
5 about that you became involved?

6 A. I had been performing examinations of the
7 brain, the dura, and the spinal cord for the
8 Clark County Coroner's Office for sometime, and I was
9 contacted in July of 2017 by Dr. Roquero after he had
10 performed this autopsy inquiring if I would be
11 available to do this examination.

12 A couple of months later, I believe it was
13 in September of 2017, I then subsequently received the
14 brain, the dura, and the spinal cord for examination.

15 Q. All right. Now, upon receiving those
16 items, what did you do?

17 A. I basically examined them. And in the
18 course of doing that examination, what I do is look at
19 the brain, the dura, and the spinal cord separately.
20 I look at them from the outside of them, and I take a
21 lot of photographs of what I see, not just the
22 outside. But then when I want to see what's contained
23 within the brain for instance, I will make a series of
24 cuts. I then take photographs along the way at each
25 of those different steps.

1 After I do that photography and the
2 examination, I then decide, predicated upon some
3 published standards, what areas of those tissues I
4 wish to look at microscopically. So I take small
5 samples. One can't examine every single piece of a
6 brain, for instance. I would still be looking at my
7 very first brain if that were the case. So one has to
8 look at representative areas or things that look of
9 interest in the brain.

10 Those pieces of tissue I then put through a
11 processor, and glass slides are made that I can look
12 at under a microscope. So the very first part, that
13 is just looking at it with my naked eye is called a
14 "gross examination." And then when I get the glass
15 slides, that's called the "microscopic examination."

16 After I get the microscopic slides done, I
17 will look at those, I'll assemble that and think about
18 it associated with what I saw in the gross examine,
19 decide if I need to do anything else. Sometimes I
20 have to do what we would call "special stains," which
21 means something above and beyond just the routine
22 staining.

23 After doing all of that, I then put
24 together a report that I author, I sign off on. I
25 return that to the consulting pathologist, who is

1 Dr. Roquero in this case, along with the remnants of
2 the tissues, the microscopic slides, and everything
3 else associated with the case.

4 Q. Okay. And how many times have you done
5 that in your career?

6 A. Privately, in terms of performing these
7 types of brain examinations, it might be somewhere in
8 the vicinity of about 50 times. However, previously I
9 stayed on after I completed my fellowship at Stanford,
10 and I did this on a regular basis there. Many, many
11 times a year, we received forensic consults. And up
12 until the time that I left in 2012, I was the person
13 that was doing those.

14 Q. So let me show you State's Proposed
15 Exhibit 50. Take your time, as much time as you need.
16 Let me know when you've had opportunity to review
17 that, and I will ask you some questions about it.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You recognize that?

20 A. I do.

21 Q. How do you recognize that?

22 A. I recognize this because this is a report
23 which I personally generated for this case in
24 particular. My signature is on the very last page,
25 and I make a habit of initialing all of the individual

1 pages. And so all of my initials appear on pages 1
2 through 4.

3 Q. Okay. So that's your report, and that
4 report includes what you did, what you found, what you
5 discovered, and your opinions regarding -- opinions
6 and conclusions regarding what you saw; is that
7 correct?

8 A. Yes. It also includes a brief clinical
9 history, which I was provided as well.

10 Q. All right.

11 MR. VITTO: Your Honor, I request that this
12 exhibit be admitted into evidence.

13 MR. MARTINEZ: No objection, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Admitted.

15 (Whereupon State's Exhibit No. 50 is
16 admitted into evidence.)

17 Q. (By Mr. Vitto) Doctor, with regard to the
18 injury you observed, what can you tell us about the
19 time between this injury and death?

20 A. Well, there were various injuries which I
21 observed and various observations I made with regards
22 to the brain. But there was one really fundamental
23 finding that should have been present had this child
24 survived beyond about a three-hour time interval, and
25 that wasn't present. So my estimate would be that she

1 died within three hours of when this injury was
2 sustained.

3 Q. And do you have an opinion regarding --
4 well, let me ask you this: You were able to observe
5 swelling; is that correct?

6 A. That's right.

7 Q. But you saw a complete lack of herniation?

8 A. Yes. And herniation of the brain is like a
9 hernia anywhere else in the body. It's basically
10 tissue that should live -- should normally reside in
11 one area moved to another area. And this herniation
12 occurs when there have been increased pressure due to
13 swelling or some type of mass that causes that to
14 occur.

15 So if swelling goes on long enough and is
16 severe enough, you will get herniation. In this case
17 we just had swelling.

18 Q. And how does that play into your three-hour
19 window?

20 A. The presence of swelling indicates to me
21 that she did not die, the child did not die
22 immediately after this injury was sustained, that
23 there was a period of survival. It's a little bit
24 difficult to say exactly how long that period of
25 survival is, but it's probably well into the realm of,

1 say, 15 or 30 minutes kind of at a minimum.

2 Q. Now, when you say that the initial injury
3 was survived, does that mean that she was up running
4 around and playing?

5 A. No. By that I mean that her heart was
6 still beating. So in other words, her body, her brain
7 was responding to this injury. And the brain has a
8 relatively limited repertoire in terms of how it
9 responds to certain insults, in fact, to a number of
10 insults, and one of those is swelling. The swelling
11 is relatively nonspecific, but it is a marker that
12 there was survival after that insult, the injury was
13 sustained.

14 Q. And survival simply meaning that for
15 technical purposes the heart was still beating?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You also noticed an absence of beta-APP
18 staining. Can you explain what that is and what it
19 means?

20 A. Sure. So this is a little bit complicated.
21 Let me go back and step back a little bit and explain
22 to you a little bit of anatomy.

23 Within the brain, there's all sorts of
24 different type of cells that make up the brain, but
25 one type of cell is the nerve cell. The other cells

1 actually support the nerve cells and do other things
2 as well. But the nerve cell has a structure that's
3 called the body of the cell in that it contains the
4 nucleus where all of the DNA lives.

5 Now, there are processes, which means
6 things that just branch off of that body of the
7 neurons, including long structures that are called
8 "axons"; that's a-x-o-n. Now, these axons can travel
9 variable distances. I'm showing something like a
10 couple feet long; very few are actually that long.
11 They are relatively long.

12 Now, in those axons, material, fluids,
13 proteins flow up and down the length of those axons.
14 Now, if that axon is perturbed in some fashion -- now,
15 it can be due to deprivation of oxygen. It can be due
16 to trauma. It can be due to some metabolic process.
17 It can be due to a bunch of different things -- but
18 that flow up and down that axon stops. When that
19 stops, proteins that are present normally within that
20 axon start to kind of clump together, and you can see
21 those microscopically.

22 And they're particularly well able to be
23 seen if you use some special types of staining
24 techniques. So the beta-APP, which you're talking
25 about, the very -- the long word for that is

1 beta-amyloid precursor protein -- in any case,
2 somebody made antibodies to that protein; okay. Those
3 antibodies, when we apply it onto the tissue, can
4 identify when that protein is starting to glom
5 together, sort of stick together.

6 Now, we're able to visualize that in the
7 microscope, and when we see that, we know that that's
8 first generally reported to appear -- different people
9 have different time frames, but three hours is one
10 that has been frequently reported. Some people report
11 that it's even a shorter period of time than that.
12 Therefore, when I mentioned to you earlier that I
13 thought the child had died in less than three hours,
14 it's predicated upon the fact that I don't see this
15 type of staining. Yet, there are injuries and forces
16 that we know to have been applied to this child's head
17 and to the brain where you would expect to see these
18 types of changes, yet they weren't there.

19 Q. So the absence confirms your finding, which
20 is consistent with the lack of herniation, as far as
21 your time frame is concerned?

22 A. The lack of herniation to me indicates that
23 the swelling process did not go on for a protracted
24 period of time. Similarly, she did not live long
25 enough for the beta-APP staining to be positive.

1 Q. Got you. And you mentioned a couple of
2 time different injuries. How many separate and
3 distinct brain injuries did you see?

4 A. Well, there were a few things that I saw.
5 There were areas of hemorrhage in multiple areas
6 around the brain. I've made reference to a structure
7 called the "dura" -- that's d-u-r-a -- and that's a
8 thick lining that covers the entirety of the brain and
9 spinal cord. There were areas of bleeding on the
10 outside of the dura which we would call "epidural" --
11 e-p-i- dural. There was bleeding beneath the dura,
12 which is called "subdural" -- s-u-b- dural. And then
13 there was bleeding that was associated very intimately
14 with the surface of the brain. And that involves an
15 entirely different layer called the "arachnoid," like
16 a spider, a-r-a-c-h-n-o-i-d. And there was bleeding
17 in that area beneath that membrane. There were also
18 some very tiny hemorrhages that were only visible
19 microscopically into the brain itself.

20 Q. The injury you observed, would you
21 characterize that as a substantial injury?

22 A. Yes. I mean these are substantial injuries
23 in so far as we have bleeding in multiple layers
24 around the brain and within the brain. It's not
25 normal; it is not a normal finding to have blood in

1 those locations.

2 Q. And this injury to Yessenia, this didn't
3 happen the day before she died, did it?

4 A. No. Predicated upon looking at these
5 things microscopically, no, I don't believe it
6 happened the day before she died. And furthermore,
7 these injuries she would have been symptomatic from
8 them. Having blood in these different locations, let
9 alone the skull fracture, which I personally didn't
10 see but it was reported to me, those would have been
11 things that she would have been definitely symptomatic
12 from, you know.

13 And the type of symptoms certainly is
14 headache. I would absolutely expect her to have a
15 headache. It's not uncommon with people who have
16 these types of injuries, they will be nauseous, they
17 will just be lethargic, they just generally won't feel
18 well. And that's assuming that they're conscious.

19 Q. Okay. So let's talk about symptoms for a
20 second then. Symptoms of brain bleeding, brain
21 swelling are going to be a child being limp,
22 nonresponsive, and unconscious?

23 A. Well, that's certainly at one extreme, yes.

24 Q. And then the other extreme?

25 A. It can be lesser symptoms.

1 Q. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

2 A. Pardon me. It can be lesser symptoms than
3 that as well too.

4 Q. Like a headache?

5 A. Maybe a headache. May not want to move
6 around. Because blood in these areas is very
7 irritating, and if you are trying to move your head --
8 you know, when you move your head, you do jostle your
9 brain a little bit, and that's very irritating. And
10 so the person generally isn't going to want to move
11 around a great deal and may not be capable of moving
12 around a great deal.

13 Q. Not going to be really happy going to
14 breakfast, for instance?

15 A. Yeah. I mean, people with these types of
16 head injuries will frequently be nauseous or vomiting,
17 so it would be difficult to believe someone who had
18 these injuries and want to eat.

19 Q. Now, without medical -- well, let me go in
20 a different area. Is there a vicious cycle, so to
21 speak, of a brain needing oxygen?

22 A. Yes. So when the brain ends up being
23 deprived of oxygen -- for whatever reason it is,
24 whether it's because the blood flow to it is too low
25 or the blood that's getting to it doesn't contain

1 enough oxygen -- when that happens, like I said, the
2 brain has this relatively limited repertoire of how it
3 behaves. That type of insult, the deprivation of
4 oxygen, is one of the things that will start the brain
5 to swell. Unfortunately, when the brain starts to
6 swell, that starts to put pressure and compresses
7 blood vessels that would normally be delivering blood
8 and oxygen to the brain, which then leads to more
9 swelling. And so then it ends up being very circular
10 and a rather vicious circle.

11 Q. And the reason Yessenia died was because of
12 the injury to her brain?

13 A. That's my opinion, yes.

14 Q. And, Doctor, I believe that you prepared a
15 slideshow to help the jury understand what it is that
16 you saw; is that correct?

17 A. That's right.

18 MR. VITTO: Your Honor, without objection
19 from the Defense -- well, let me get them -- they're
20 marked. I would like to see if you can identify them,
21 and we'll go from there.

22 (Showing Defense Counsel the exhibits.)

23 Q. (By Mr. Vitto) Showing you State's
24 Proposed Exhibits 51A and B. Let me ask you if you
25 recognize those.

1 A. Yes, I do.

2 Q. And how do you recognize those?

3 A. These are enlargements of some photographs
4 I took during the course of my examine of the brain,
5 dura, and spinal cord. And there are also some images
6 here which were taken from standard pathology,
7 actually anatomy texts to better demonstrate,
8 hopefully, where these injuries are located, these
9 different areas where bleeding have occurred.

10 Q. And would those photographs and the
11 PowerPoint presentation that you created help you
12 explain your testimony to the jury so that they can
13 see it?

14 A. I think it would, yes.

15 MR. VITTO: Your Honor, I request that
16 these exhibits be admitted into evidence and published
17 at this time.

18 MR. MARTINEZ: No objection, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Admitted.

20 MR. VITTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 (Whereupon State's Exhibit Nos. 51A and
22 51B are admitted into evidence.)

23 MR. VITTO: Your Honor, for the Court's
24 edification -- and, Kassie, what number do you have
25 there, 51B?

1 MS. WARD: Yeah.

2 MR. VITTO: 51B is a PowerPoint
3 presentation admitted into evidence, created by this
4 witness. 51A are a photographic representation of
5 each of the slides that are on that PowerPoint
6 presentation so that during deliberation, the jury
7 would not have to watch what we're about to show.
8 They will have the slides that they can look at that
9 are represented during the presentation.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 Q. (By Mr. Vitto) Doctor, it's going to come
12 up on this screen and then the screen in front of you.

13 THE COURT: Could they demonstrate for you
14 how you could write on that screen if you need to?

15 THE WITNESS: I've had occasion to deal
16 with these. So hopefully I'll have it right.

17 Q. (By Mr. Vitto) Doctor, if you will, I will
18 simply turn this over to you. Explain what you see,
19 and then you can let us know when you're ready for the
20 next slide.

21 A. You bet. Okay. So this very first slide
22 is a photograph that I took. It's a standard
23 photograph simply to document what I received and how
24 it was received. And again, recognize that these are
25 sample pictures that I took. This is not the totality

1 of the pictures. But this photograph in No. 1
2 basically shows our label, and you can see that
3 there's three items there. Those are labels that are
4 generated at our laboratory simply to show what in
5 fact was received. And you may or may not be able to
6 see it incredibly clearly, but those represent three
7 separate tissues. There's the brain, there's the
8 dura, and there's the spinal cord; and they all came
9 to me in this one container, which was sealed. It was
10 delivered to us under chain of custody by a FedEx
11 which is our usual routine.

12 Next slide, please. Now, I'm going to be
13 talking about some anatomy, and so this is a slide
14 taken from "Grant's Atlas of Anatomy," which is a
15 standard medical school reference and pathology
16 reference. So this is an image, a cartoon, that is
17 basically a cut, and so a cut had been made in the
18 skull and the brain from basically separating the
19 front from the back. So in other words, it would be
20 coming down as I'm demonstrating here. So what I'm
21 showing is with my hands basically coming from either
22 shoulder up towards the top of my head. So it's more
23 or less a cross section through the brain and through
24 the skull. So if we start from outside in, there's
25 multiple layers of the scalp. We'll just consider

1 that as one layer for our purposes here.

2 We next move in, and it's a very, very
3 faint yellow off to the side, it is indicated that
4 that is bone. So that's just the skull back there.

5 Now, the next three things we're going to
6 be talking about are in the lower left-hand part of
7 that image, and it says off to the side "mater,"
8 m-a-t-e-r. And that represents the three different
9 layers of tissue that surround the brain. So the very
10 outside one is the dura, which we've already made
11 reference to. So the dura is right adjacent to the
12 skull. So as we come in, scalp, skull, dura.

13 We then move down, and there are two layers
14 right below the dura, but those are very intimately
15 associated with the brain. So for instance, when the
16 brain is removed from the skull, you can remove the
17 brain and not remove the dura at the same time. You
18 can't easily remove the brain and not remove the
19 arachnoid and the pia mater. Those stay with the
20 brain unless you go through some efforts to really try
21 hard not to remove those. Collectively, the arachnoid
22 and the pia are sometimes referred to as the lepto-,
23 l-e-p-t-o, meninges, -m-e-n-i-n-g-e-s. That's to
24 distinguish them from the dura. Dura is tough,
25 "lepto" means delicate. So the pia and the arachnoid

1 are more delicate.

2 Now, we're going to be talking about
3 epidural. Epidural will be between the skull and the
4 dura. "Subdural" is beneath the dura, so beneath the
5 dura but above the arachnoid. Then the subarachnoid
6 hemorrhage is going to be below where the arachnoid
7 is.

8 Okay. Next slide, please. Now, this ends
9 up being a little bit dark, but this is what the
10 outside surface of that dura looks like. So now the
11 dura covers the top, it covers the base of the brain,
12 it even covers all the way down to the spinal cord
13 here. So what I'm looking at here is the top --
14 imagine if I had just taken the skull off and I look
15 straight down on the dura, that's what I would be
16 looking at is something like this. But the dura has
17 been removed from the brain; so it's just free on its
18 own here. Now, the darker areas -- it's kind of quite
19 dark here, unfortunately -- but these darker areas
20 that I have indicated off on the lower right-hand side
21 to the epidural blood. That means that there are
22 collections of blood in that area. Now, it wasn't a
23 huge volume of blood; it was a relatively small
24 amount. But that's still abnormal to be present.

25 Next, please.

1 Q. Can I ask you about that?

2 A. Certainly, please.

3 Q. What causes bloods to flow through a body?

4 A. Well, it's if the heart is beating, the
5 blood will flow. After death, there can be some
6 oozing from damaged vessels and things like that. But
7 generally speaking, if you're going to get a
8 substantial collection of blood, it's going to be as a
9 consequence of a heart beating in the setting of the
10 injury.

11 Q. So a small amount of blood can be
12 attributable to the fact that the pump, the heart, has
13 stopped beating?

14 A. That's one explanation.

15 Q. Thank you. Go ahead.

16 A. All right. So this next image we have
17 here, if you envision what I've told you before that
18 we were looking at basically the top of the dura.
19 This photograph here shows you, if I flip the dura
20 over and looked at the undersurface. So that
21 undersurface would be that which is closest to the
22 surface of the brain. So since it's under the dura,
23 that's subdural hemorrhage.

24 And there's multiple areas. I tried to
25 indicate some of these; I certainly didn't get all of

1 them. But the areas that show up as kind of this
2 brownish and even darker areas of discoloration here,
3 those all represent areas where there has been
4 bleeding that still remains with the dura here. And
5 the midline separating the right from the left is
6 approximately horizontal across this image here.

7 Now, the amount of blood that I see here is
8 not necessarily the amount of blood that the
9 pathologist saw at the time of the autopsy. Fresh
10 blood will frequently fall away from the dura. I mean
11 even if you're handling it very, very carefully, it
12 may just come off. So what I'm seeing here almost
13 certainly doesn't represent the totality of the blood
14 that the pathologist -- that Dr. Roquero saw.

15 Next slide, please. Okay. Now, I'm going
16 to show you this sort of image a few times over with
17 some modifications, but this is just to kind of help
18 you better understand these collections of blood.

19 So we just finished talking about the
20 subdural hemorrhage, bleeding beneath that dura. This
21 also comes from the same anatomy textbook and again
22 starts from outside going in. The word up on the
23 right-hand side "calvaria," that's a fancy way of
24 saying bone or skull.

25 So if we move down from the skull, that

1 yellow that we see there -- we can see it continuous
2 mostly on the left-hand side -- that's the dura.
3 Subdural, again, is bleeding beneath that dura; and if
4 the volume of it is sufficient enough, it can push
5 down onto the brain which is what's demonstrated here.

6 Next photograph, please. So now we're
7 going to talk about a different type of bleeding that
8 was present in several different areas in this case.
9 Now, this image is looking at the top of the brain,
10 just on the tabletop looking straight down on the top
11 of this. The front surface of the brain is towards
12 the left-hand part of the screen; the rear is towards
13 the right-hand side. And I've indicated what's right
14 and what's left here as well; okay.

15 Now in the red box there, what I'm trying
16 to bracket there are areas where you're seeing more of
17 this brownish reddish discoloration. And it goes
18 basically from roughly halfway through the brain, all
19 the way towards the front, and it continues actually
20 down onto the front surface of the brain as well too.

21 This is not normal, this is blood that's
22 called subarachnoid hemorrhage or subarachnoid blood.
23 Now, this is blood that is intimately applied to the
24 surface of the brain. So if you were to wipe your
25 hand over the surface of the brain here, this blood

1 wouldn't be removed. Subdural blood, however, would
2 be.

3 Now, you can see that there's a little bit
4 other discolorations on the right and the left side if
5 you're looking really closely there, and you'll see
6 those in some other slides here.

7 So next slide, please. So to put this in a
8 little bit of perspective with the cartoon here, the
9 bleeding we're talking about now, starting from again
10 outside in, it's beneath the skull, beneath the dura,
11 but beneath that arachnoid lining, one of those
12 linings that is intimately on the surface of the
13 brain. And that's where it accumulates.

14 That subarachnoid hemorrhage can arise from
15 a disruption in a vein. It can arise from a
16 disruption from an artery. The subdural bleeding
17 classically is thought to arise from a disruption of a
18 vein. So just talking about different sources; they
19 can arise for different reasons.

20 I'm sorry. Next slide, please. As
21 promised, I indicated that there were also some
22 subarachnoid hemorrhages that were found on the right
23 and the left-hand side as well too. So this is a
24 section -- this is a view of the brain from just the
25 outside of the brain from the right side -- again, the

1 front is towards the right-hand side; the rear of the
2 brain is to the left. What I've indicated in the red
3 circle is a small collection. It's not thick, but it
4 is nonetheless abnormal to have subarachnoid bleeding
5 there. So that's the location of bleeding.

6 Next slide, please. Similarly, on the
7 left-hand side, which is what's shown in this slide --
8 again, just for orientation, the front of the brain is
9 towards the left, the back is towards the right. This
10 is the left hemisphere, left half of the brain; and
11 within the circle, I'm trying to demonstrate where
12 there is some of this patchy, brownish reddish
13 discoloration there. And that's subarachnoid
14 hemorrhage again which is not normal.

15 Next slide, please. And then lastly, there
16 were -- you recall that we talked about some epidural
17 hemorrhage earlier. I showed that to you when we were
18 looking at the outside of the dura there. There was
19 also a small amount of it associated with the spinal
20 cord. So I've indicated up here with a red circle.
21 This is what the spinal cord -- and just to be clear,
22 the spinal cord connects basically right at the base
23 of the skull, all the way down to the length of the
24 spine. And this is the totality; this is the entire
25 length of the spinal cord in this case.

1 There is a small amount of hemorrhage
2 located up in the cervical end. "Cervical" refers to
3 the neck region, so it's way high up there. And
4 that's what was found was a little bit of epidural
5 hemorrhage there. That's not terrifically surprising
6 in consideration of how the skull fracture was located
7 and where it was located for there to be some epidural
8 hemorrhage there. Epidural hemorrhage, 99.5 or more
9 of the time, is associated with a skull fracture!
10 There's very few other things that it's going to be
11 associated with. So that actually makes sense that we
12 would see that amount of hemorrhage in that region
13 there.

14 I think that's it then.

15 Q. Thank you, Doctor. And I know we talked
16 about cerebral edema without herniation. Did you also
17 address the thin multifocal leptomeningeal
18 hemorrhages; is that what we just went over?

19 A. Yes. That's -- the leptomeningeal, again,
20 is the collective term used to describe those
21 coverings that are very intimately associated with the
22 brain. And those areas of bleeding, they were not
23 thick by any means. But they're there, and that is
24 abnormal.

25 Q. And that would also include the focal

1 microscopic intraparenchymal hemorrhages basis pontis
2 and splenium?

3 A. No. Those are hemorrhages we did not see
4 here. I didn't include any photographs of the
5 microscopic appearances of those. But there were some
6 very small hemorrhages. But again, that's not normal
7 to find those there either.

8 Q. And what you saw that had happened
9 internally had an external cause; is that correct?

10 A. You're talking about what I saw with the
11 brain had an external cause; is that what you're
12 saying? Just to be clear, sorry.

13 Q. Is this a brain aneurysm?

14 A. Oh, no.

15 Q. Now, I believe -- correct me if I'm
16 wrong -- your report also addressed the spinal cord
17 having recent hemorrhage around several cervical nerve
18 roots and ganglia; is that correct?

19 A. Yes, microscopically, yes.

20 Q. Okay. So besides what we were able to see
21 with the naked eye, you also did some microscopic
22 examination that revealed other hemorrhage?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And I believe you determined that the
25 bleeding was recent?

1 A. Yes. I didn't find any indication that
2 there was an effort by the body to clean up any of
3 these hemorrhages, and that's based upon certain
4 microscopic criteria, and also one thing that we
5 frequently look for is the presence of iron. Iron is
6 derived when the red blood cells break down, and the
7 hemoglobin in it liberates the iron molecules. I did
8 iron stains on a number of these sections and found no
9 indication of that.

10 Q. And the same with the iron staining that
11 you do, you also are looking for -- and you have to
12 help me out with this word -- neophils?

13 A. Oh, neutrophils.

14 Q. Neutrophils. Thank you.

15 A. So a neutrophil is a type of inflammatory
16 cell within the body that can go to areas of injury.
17 I'm not just looking only for that kind of stuff. I'm
18 looking also for any indication of any reaction by the
19 body. And there's different reactions in different
20 areas of the body, and anyway long story short, I
21 didn't see anything to suggest there had been anything
22 that -- that the body was actually reacting to these
23 hemorrhages in the form of trying to clean it up as it
24 were. We know that the brain was reacting because
25 there was swelling, but not to the extent that we

1 actually saw anything going on otherwise or any other
2 time of reaction.

3 Q. So with all of the scientific testing you
4 did, empirical science, hard science, these injuries
5 were recent?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. We've heard about, in regard to Yessenia,
8 one eye being open or partially opened and another eye
9 being closed. Does that have any significance to you
10 from a neurological standpoint?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And what would be that significance?

13 A. Well, as we're all sitting here today,
14 you're not even noticing when you're blinking your
15 eyes. It's like a completely involuntary kind of
16 thing. Obviously, it can be under voluntary control
17 if you want, but generally it isn't. You're not
18 thinking every time you blink your eye. Your body
19 recognizes your globe is getting dry or something is
20 happening, and so you'll naturally blink your eye.

21 Well, when you stop losing those type of
22 basic sort of reflexes, that tells you there's
23 something wrong. There's a reason why that's not
24 happening; that your brain is not sensing that your
25 eye is dry, for instance, or it no longer has the

1 ability to cause that blink action to occur itself.
2 And so the fact that you have one lid open, one lid
3 closed, to me that indicates that there's been a
4 disconnect in terms of recognizing that the eye is
5 becoming dry, the child no longer had the ability to
6 blink on its own. So that indicates to me that
7 there's a neurologic reason behind that.

8 MR. VITTO: Your Honor, I have no more
9 questions of this witness at this time.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.
11 Counsel?

12 MR. MARTINEZ: Thank you, Judge.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. MARTINEZ:

15 Q. Good morning, Dr. Haddix.

16 A. Good morning.

17 Q. Dr. Haddix, on your resume, I believe it
18 lists that you've had some faculty positions; right?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. Does that mean that you were a professor or
21 a teacher?

22 A. I did teach, yes. I never got to the level
23 of full professor, but I think associate clinical
24 professor is the highest I got at Stanford.

25 Q. Okay. And that does not surprise me,

1 because you've been wonderful. You've already
2 answered most of the questions that I had for you?

3 A. Awesome.

4 Q. Now, on direct, you testified that when
5 there is flesh blood on the brain, it could spill off;
6 right?

7 A. You're talking about when the brain is
8 being moved at autopsy, yes. I think that's what I
9 was speaking in reference to, yes.

10 Q. Then I will clarify that. So is that only
11 when it's being removed at autopsy, or can that blood
12 spill off prior to the autopsy?

13 A. Well, if you're having, for instance, a
14 collection of subdural blood that's located around the
15 brain there, it's going to stay in that area until the
16 dura has been breached in some fashion, which would be
17 at the time of the autopsy.

18 Q. I understand.

19 A. So the subdural hemorrhage, for instance,
20 can be around the brain, but it can also be in
21 continuity around the spinal cord as well. But in
22 terms of spilling off, in terms of loss of it, that's
23 not going to happen unless the dura is breached.

24 Q. And now you said there could be the
25 subdural hemorrhaging that had been in continuity with

1 the spinal cord?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can you explain that a little bit more,
4 what you mean by that?

5 A. Sure. So the subdural space -- and let's
6 just leave it at that; there's controversy about it,
7 but let's just leave it at that for the moment -- that
8 that subdural compartment is continuity around the
9 spinal cord, around the brain. So if you have, for
10 instance, some blood that's up around the brain
11 itself, through simple gravity you can have it end
12 up -- some of it end up down around the spinal cord
13 too.

14 Q. Could that same sort of process happen with
15 epidural hemorrhaging?

16 A. No.

17 Q. And why not?

18 A. Because the dura is actually very tightly
19 applied or more snugly applied, let's put it that way,
20 to the surface of the skull. And in fact, it takes
21 some effort to be able to actually pull that off
22 actually away. So I've never seen that happen for
23 epidural to do that.

24 Q. Okay. Now, you did notice epidural
25 hemorrhaging on the spinal cord; right?

1 A. Right at the very top; that's correct.

2 Q. And now, when you did your microscopic
3 examination of that portion, you noticed it on the --
4 on the nerve roots themselves; right?

5 A. There was some involving the nerve roots
6 and then a structure that's called the ganglion, yes.

7 Q. And are those hemorrhages different than
8 the epidural hemorrhage on the spinal cord, or is it
9 just the same hemorrhage zoomed in?

10 A. No. Two different areas.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. These nerve roots that we're talking about
13 here, I didn't have a diagram of that. But if you
14 envision the spinal cord, you know, basically kind of
15 an oval-type structure if you're looking at it in
16 cross sections, these nerve roots will kind of come
17 off on the sides of it, and there's still -- portions
18 of it are still contained within the dura. So
19 actually, it's more subdural than it would be
20 epidural.

21 Q. All right. I understand. On direct, you
22 talked about some symptoms that could be present with
23 this sort of head injury?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Are there any -- are there any physical

1 indicators that could be present during a head injury
2 like this? So, for example, will there be darkening
3 around the eyes in this sort of head injury?

4 A. Not necessarily with this type of head
5 injury. There are certain types of head injuries
6 where you can see black eyes. So a couple of
7 different reasons I can think of that is if you have
8 fractures of the delicate bones that surround the
9 eyes, you can end up with black eyes. If one has
10 actually an impact on the front part of the scalp, as
11 that organizes and starts to settle, it can actually
12 settle down beneath the eyes.

13 In terms of other physical findings
14 associated with the site of a skull fracture, I would
15 think that you may well have an area where you would
16 feel a collection of blood or some type of boggiess
17 and certainly at other sites of impact, the same may
18 be present as well.

19 Q. The impact in this case, the skull fracture
20 was to the back of the head. But on the slideshows,
21 it looks like there was a lot of hemorrhaging on the
22 front of the brain.

23 A. Yes. There was -- it was kind of mostly
24 kind of in the midline here and a little bit on the
25 sides.

1 Q. Okay. So the hemorrhaging to the brain
2 doesn't happen at the site of impact?

3 A. Not necessarily. It can be variable. So
4 in fact, there's an entity which is called, it's a
5 coup-contrecoup mechanism. And that's c-o-u-p,
6 hyphen, c-o-n-t-r-e-c-o-u-p, coup-contrecoup. So
7 "coup" means at the site of the impact. "Contrecoup"
8 is at the opposite side of the impact.

9 Now, there is a classic scenario. Let's
10 use something really easy. Someone basically standing
11 upright, falling backwards, hitting the back of their
12 head on the ground. You may or may not necessarily
13 end up with a skull fracture in that setting -- you
14 could, certainly could. You could end up with an area
15 of injury, particularly if you have a skull fracture
16 in that area, but the larger degree of injury is going
17 to be on the opposite side, so more towards the front.
18 That's just kind of the way that the movement and the
19 forces end up being transmitted.

20 But coup-contrecoup refers to what are
21 called contusions of the brain. And a contusion of
22 the brain is actually bleeding into the superficial
23 layers of the brain. In this case what I saw was
24 bleeding around the brain. I didn't see anything that
25 looked to be contusions of the brain per se, though.

1 Q. All of the injuries that you noted in this
2 case, all of the hemorrhaging on the brain, on the
3 spinal cord, is it possible all of those injuries
4 occurred from one major traumatic event?

5 A. Well, if I -- am I being limited to only
6 what I observed, or what else I know about the case
7 when I answer that question?

8 Q. Why don't you give me both answers.

9 A. So based upon what I observed, just simply
10 if I'm only looking at the brain and all of those
11 kinds of stuff, the answer is could it be from one?
12 Yes, it could be from one. But it's my understanding,
13 though, that there are multiple sites of impact on the
14 scalp, and it's not going to be possible to say which
15 one of those sites of impact produced which of the
16 various injuries.

17 It may seem completely counterintuitive,
18 but you can have, for instance -- and I'm speaking
19 completely hypothetically here -- an impact on the
20 right side of the head that might actually just show
21 bleeding on the right side of the head. So there
22 isn't this one to one correlation with an impact on
23 the right, it must only have caused damage on the
24 right. It can be in a number of different areas.

25 So I would say looking at things in

1 totality and that there are multiple sites of impact
2 on the head, I can't tell you which one of these
3 injuries necessarily correlates this with the various
4 impacts with the exception of the skull fracture and
5 the epidural hemorrhage. That's associated with the
6 impact on the back side where the fracture is located.

7 MR. MARTINEZ: No further questions, Judge.

8 THE COURT: Counsel?

9 MR. VITTO: Yeah, yeah. I've got some
10 follow-up.

11 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. VITTO:

13 Q. Based on your training and experience, and
14 you've got a lot of it, are you comfortable offering
15 an opinion regarding whether shaking with an impact to
16 the occipital region of the skull caused what you saw
17 insofar as where the blood was seen?

18 A. In for what I've seen, shaking doesn't even
19 have to be any complement of this whatsoever.

20 Q. And why is that?

21 A. Simply the impacts alone are sufficient to
22 account for the findings that I have.

23 Q. All right. And let me show you -- are you
24 familiar -- do you know Dr. Plowey?

25 A. I do. Our times overlapped at Stanford a

1 little bit.

2 Q. You're familiar with his work?

3 A. Yes, generally, yes.

4 Q. Are you familiar with his findings in this
5 case?

6 A. Generally.

7 Q. All right. Let me show you -- see if I got
8 an exhibit list here. Do you guys have an exhibit
9 list handy? Looking for the Plowey's report and
10 (inaudible). Plowey and Roquero.

11 49A, Sarah? 49A and 58A, and why don't you
12 dig out for me -- how about some autopsy photos.

13 THE COURT: Anybody need a recess? All
14 right. Very good.

15 Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to take a
16 short recess. During this recess, it's your duty not
17 to converse among yourselves or with anyone else on
18 any subject connected with the trial. And don't read,
19 watch, or listen to any report of or commentary on the
20 trial. Don't form or express an opinion until it's
21 submitted to you.

22 We'll meet back here in about ten minutes.

23 THE BAILIFF: All rise.

24 (A short recess is taken.)

25 THE BAILIFF: All rise.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated.
2 We're back in the presence of our 15 jurors. The
3 State can continue with their redirect.

4 MR. VITTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 REDIRECT EXAMINATION (RESUMES)

6 BY MR. VITTO:

7 Q. Doctor, I'm going to want to show you some
8 things here in a second, but let me touch on something
9 first.

10 The injury that you saw to the brain, this
11 was a little girl who was in dire straits. She was
12 in -- she was potentially dying. Can you tell that
13 from the brain?

14 A. Well, the fact that the brain is swelling,
15 and that she lived for a period of time afterwards for
16 the brain to actually swell, she was in a process that
17 was what we call kind of an agonal or sort of terminal
18 process.

19 Q. Okay. She was in a terminal process?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And when you talk about nausea, we're not
22 talking about gagging on a tomato or gagging on mucus;
23 right?

24 A. No. I mean centrally mediated by that, you
25 know, by that I mean by the brain, that's a nausea

1 response. It's not I don't want to eat tomatoes, or I
2 am coughing on a little bit of mucus in the airway.
3 It's actually really quite involuntary, and it's
4 just -- it's usually really quite significant. It's
5 not just from a little transient, you know, I feel
6 queasy kind of thing. It's usually a pretty dramatic
7 feeling.

8 Q. Got it. And noticeable by those around
9 her?

10 A. Well, in the form of she doesn't want to
11 eat. Maybe she's even vomiting by that period of
12 time. You know, maybe some other symptoms as well.

13 Q. All right. So you were asked about --
14 during cross-examination about what you observed being
15 one traumatic event, I believe was the phrase that you
16 were presented with. I'd like you to review, to the
17 extent necessary -- I don't think it's going to
18 require any amount of time -- 58A, 49A, and 49B
19 through P as in Paul. I'd like you to look at those
20 exhibits. Look up when you've had that opportunity,
21 and I will ask you some questions.

22 A. (The witness complies.)

23 Okay. I've looked through these.

24 Q. All right. Now, with this information,
25 some of which you were at least partially previously

1 aware; is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. If all of this that you see before you and
4 everything that you saw in the work that you
5 personally did, if all of that was one traumatic
6 event, is it obviously one traumatic event with
7 multiple injuries, multiple impacts, and multiple
8 trauma?

9 A. If all of this is happening at one time, I
10 can't see a way that this is due to a solitary impact
11 just due to the distribution of -- let's just only
12 deal with the head. Due to the fact that there's
13 multiple sites of impact on multiple planes of the
14 face -- on the front, on the cheeks, on the back -- so
15 if it's happening all at one time, or even if it's
16 isn't happening all at one time, obviously there's
17 multiple impacts in multiple areas.

18 MR. VITTO: I have nothing further.

19 THE COURT: Counsel?

20 RE CROSS-EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. MARTINEZ:

22 Q. Doctor, do you know if all of this was
23 happening at one time?

24 A. I don't know that necessarily all happened
25 from what I can see that it happened at one time, but

1 there isn't anything that indicates that there's any
2 age to at least what I'm seeing and what I understand
3 I'm seeing also microscopically. So if it's separated
4 by time, it's not separated by a particularly long
5 period of time.

6 Q. And when we're talking about a particularly
7 long period of time, we're talking about a time period
8 of days; right?

9 A. No. Even hours; you can get some of the
10 changes even within hours. So looking at things
11 microscopically -- you know, the deposition of iron is
12 something that would take days to appear, but some of
13 the other cellular changes, you could see within
14 days -- excuse me, within hours.

15 Q. So all of the injuries in the report that
16 you observed happened within a matter of hours?

17 A. That's what appears to me.

18 MR. MARTINEZ: Okay. Nothing further,
19 Judge.

20 THE COURT: Anything else?

21 MR. VITTO: Let me think for a second.

22 THE COURT: Whenever an attorney says "let
23 me think for a second," I want to hit a button that
24 plays the Jeopardy song, but the Supreme Court would
25 frown on it.

1 MR. VITTO: One second, Judge.

2 THE COURT: Yes.

3 MR. VITTO: No more questions, Judge.

4 THE COURT: Doctor, there's a minute chance
5 that we will ask you to come back and testify some
6 more. Probably won't happen, but you never know what
7 will happen in the course of the trial. So don't talk
8 about the case with anyone but the two attorneys just
9 in case we need you again.

10 THE WITNESS: You bet.

11 THE COURT: Thank you for testifying.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you. There's all the
13 exhibits there.

14 MR. VITTO: Thank you very much, Doctor.

15 Your Honor, my next witness was instructed
16 to be here at eleven o'clock. Can you give me that
17 opportunity to see if in fact he's here?

18 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

19 MR. VITTO: Thank you.

20 (Mr. Vitto checks to see if his
21 witness is available.)

22 MR. VITTO: Judge, all I can report is that
23 he's currently not here. I'm assuming that he is on
24 his way here. I'm surprised, frankly, that he's not
25 here, but he's not. He's the last live witness that

1 we have.

2 THE COURT: So a short recess while you
3 call and see if you can get him on the phone, or do
4 you want to call it an early lunch and have him wait
5 until 12:15?

6 MR. VITTO: As tempted as I am, I can only
7 assume that his arrival is imminent.

8 THE COURT: All right. Short recess then.

9 MR. VITTO: Thank you, Judge.

10 THE COURT: We'll meet you back here in
11 about ten minutes. I'm not going to read the
12 admonition again, because you just heard it. But
13 we'll take a ten-minute recess.

14 THE BAILIFF: All rise.

15 (A short recess is taken, and proceedings
16 resume outside the presence.)

17 MR. MARTINEZ: Judge, we just figured this
18 would be a good --

19 THE COURT: We're back on the record.
20 We're outside the presence of the 15 jurors.

21 Counsel?

22 MR. MARTINEZ: Judge, when we started this
23 morning, one of the jurors handed a couple of
24 questions to us, and we thought this would be a good
25 opportunity to address them since we're on a recess

1 and we can let the Court know what the State and I
2 have decided and how to address them.

3 THE COURT: Very good.

4 MR. MARTINEZ: One question asked whether
5 or not when Dwight went in the room he noticed if the
6 shower was running. Ms. Boskovich did ask him that
7 question, and his answer was either no or he did not
8 notice. So we can relay that to the jurors.

9 THE COURT: Sure.

10 MR. MARTINEZ: The other one was is about
11 the glasses that Mr. Engelson pointed to and told
12 Detective Fernandes he was drinking out of. They
13 asked whether or not those were taken into evidence
14 and done forensic testing on. And the answer is no
15 they were not.

16 THE COURT: It's common during the course
17 of trials for us to get questions from the jurors that
18 are real blatantly obvious and it's going to come out
19 in the course of the trial, and sometimes we don't
20 even pass those along, like "What's the name of the
21 witness," or something. But these may be examples of
22 that where you're going to let them know either with
23 testimony or in closing argument and re-answer the
24 question.

25 Anything else?

1 MR. ARABIA: So we're not addressing them?
2 Is that --

3 MR. VITTO: I have no problem with those
4 answers being given to the jury. I didn't and I
5 didn't --

6 THE COURT: Do you want to give them when
7 they come in and sit down? Do you want to give them
8 the answers now, or do you want to just wait until
9 closing argument and give them the answer. Because
10 they're no rule about when they have to get the
11 answer.

12 MR. ARABIA: The only thing I would point
13 out is Mr. Martinez referred to no or didn't notice.
14 Actually, those are different things, so I would want
15 to have a look at the transcript. Because if he said
16 no, that's fine.

17 MR. MARTINEZ: We can wait.

18 MR. VITTO: It can wait. Let's find out
19 the answer.

20 THE COURT: Sure. As I mentioned, you
21 could actually say it in closing arguments. You could
22 say the answer was no. And you could say he doesn't
23 know. And what I usually instruct the jury is go by
24 your memory of what he says and so forth.

25 MR. VITTO: So we'll see if we can find

1 that. It was during the examination --
2 cross-examination of Dwight.

3 THE COURT: No. It won't be hard to find.
4 Did Jamele go to bring the jury back?

5 MR. VITTO: They're waiting for me to
6 state, "Bring them on it."

7 (The jurors are brought back into the
8 courtroom.)

9 THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated.
10 We're back in the presence of our 15 jurors. We're
11 back on the record.

12 We have our next witness on the witness
13 stand; so we're going to ask him to raise his right
14 hand and be sworn.

15 Whereupon,

16 DAVID BORUCHOWITZ,
17 called as a witness on behalf of the State, was sworn
18 and testified as follows:

19 THE WITNESS: I do.

20 THE COURT: You can wear your mask if your
21 nervous about Covid. If you're not nervous about it,
22 you can remove it so the jury can see your face and
23 hear your words. Thank you, sir.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Judge.

25 / / /