IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Appellant,

Electronically Filed Aug 30 2022 04:05 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

1.1

Case No. 2014-CR-00062 2014-CR-00062BD

TATIANA LEIBEL,

vs.

Respondent,

RECORD ON APPEAL

VOLUME 17

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TATIANA LEIBEL INMATE #1137908 FLORENCE MCCLURE WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL CENTER 4370 SMILEY ROAD LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89115

IN PROPER PERSON

THE STATE OF NEVADA

DOUGLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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- THE COURT: Do you intend to call him?
- 2 MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Sir, you are released. Thank you
- 4 for your appearance.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 6 MR. GREGORY: The State calls Joe Rajacic.
- 7 THE COURT: Come on in, sir. If you would
- 8 stand right about where you are and raise your right
- 9 hand, please.

10

- 11 JOSEPH RAJACIC,
- having been first duly sworn, was
- examined and testified as follows:

14

- 15 THE COURT: Come on up and have a seat,
- 16 please. Help yourself to some water there.

17

- 18 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 20 Q. Sir, please state and spell your last name.
- 21 A. Joe Rajacic: R-a-k-a-c-i-c.
- 22 Q. Is Mr. Rajacic, with were you familiar with
- 23 Harry Leibel?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 MR. GREGORY: Yes. The witness has
 - 2 identified the defendant.
 - 3 THE COURT: It does. It will.
 - 4 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Thank you. Did you and
 - 5 Harry and Tatiana ever go shooting together?
 - A. Yes.
 - 7 O. And would Tatiana shoot as well?
 - 8 A. Yes.
 - 9 Q. How often did you guys go shooting with the
 - 10 Leibels?
 - 11 A. I would say on average, maybe three, four
 - 12 times a summer.
 - 13 Q. Did you guys ever take a class together?
 - 14 A. Yes.
 - 15 Q. What was that class?
 - 16 A. Concealed weapon permit.
 - 17 Q. And did Tatiana participate in that as well?
 - 18 A. Yes.
 - 19 Q. When was the last time you saw Harry prior to
 - 20 his death?
 - 21 A. It would have been about around November or
 - 22 December the year before.
 - 23 Q. How did he seem at that time?
 - 24 A. Just like I remembered him all the time.

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- i age i to
- 2 A. I happened to meet him on an airplane one
- з day.
- 4 Q. About how long ago?
- 5 A. Approximately six years.

1 Q. How did you know Harry?

- 6 Q. All right. And after you met him, did you
- 7 have subsequent contact with him?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. To what extent?
- 10 A. I guess you would say we were friends. We
- 11 did some activities together, went out to dinners, to
- 12 events.
- 13 Q. Are you also familiar with his wife, Tatiana
- 14 Leibel?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you see her in the courtroom here today?
- 17 A. She looks different. Yes.
- 18 Q. Can you tell the Court where she's seated and
- 19 what she's wearing?.
- 20 A. She has the gray suit on.
- 21 MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor. I'd ask
- 22 the record reflect the witness's identified the
- 23 defendant.
- 24 THE COURT: It will.

- 1 Q. I didn't hear that last part.
- 2 A. Just like I've always known him.
- 3 Q. Okay. Thank you. When was the last -- What
- 4 was the last communication you had with Harry?
- 5 A. It was either e-mail or text. Harry had been
- 6 asking me for advice. He wanted to go on a honeymoon,
- 7 take Tatiana on a honeymoon and I travel a lot, so he
- 8 asked me help to find me a good place to go.
- 9 Q. Okay. If I could have Exhibit Number 61.
- 10 Sir, I'm going to hand you Exhibit Number 61, which is an
- extraction report that was done on Mr. Leibel's cell
- phone, and it's been introduced into evidence. Could you
- 13 look at page 2, entry number 17, please. Do you
- 14 recognize that text message?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Did you receive that from Mr. Leibel?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And does it indicate the date there?
- 19 A. 2-22-14.
- 20 Q. And does it indicate the time?
- 21 A. 5:27 p.m.
- 22 Q. The jury has already heard that e-mail. Can
- 23 you give context to it? What were the two of you
- 24 discussing there?

- 1 A. As far as I would say, what Harry was saying
- 2 was --
- 3 MS. BROWN: Objection. Speculation. He's
- 4 testifying to what Harry said.
- 5 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 6 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Well, there's a part about
- 7 Harry was expecting something to happen.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Did you have knowledge of what that was
- 10 through?
- MS. BROWN: Objection whether it's his
- 12 interpretation or whether it's Harry's thought.
- 13 THE COURT: Well, the question was did you
- 14 have knowledge, not do you believe you know.
- So, sir, when you answer this question, the
- 16 answer is going to be either yes or no. Did you have
- 17 knowledge of? Finish your sentence.
- 18 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Did you have knowledge of
- 19 what Harry was talking about in that text message?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And what was that?
- 22 A. The business that Tatiana was trying to get
- 23 off the ground had been taking much longer than anyone
- 24 expected, and from these words, it says this has dragged

- 1 A. I missed what you said.
- 2 Q. As couples, you socialized together?
- 3 A. Socialized. Yes.
- 4 Q. But the last time you saw Mr. Leibel in
- 5 person was like November-December of 2013?
- 6 A. Yes
- 7 Q. How often had you communicated with him by
- 8 phone, text, otherwise between the last time you
- 9 physically saw him and his death?
- 10 A. I can't recall the exact number.
- 11 Q. You said you sometimes went shooting with
- 12 Mrs. Leibel and Mr. Leibel?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did Harry appear to be a gun enthusiast?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Had you been in their home?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. There were numerous firearms in the home; is
- 19 that correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Whenever you would go shooting, would
- 22 Mrs. Leibel go along?
- 23 A. I'm sorry. I missed the second part of that.
- 24 Q. When you went shooting, would Mrs. Leibel go

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- 1 on way too long. I thought he meant --
- 2 MS. BROWN: Objection. Speculation.
- 3 THE WITNESS: -- this was the business.
- 4 THE COURT: I'm going to sustain it.
- 5 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You had been
- 6 communicating --
 - THE COURT: The jury is instructed to
- 8 disregard that last answer.
- 9 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You'd been communicating,
- 10 though, with Harry about that business that you
- 11 discussed?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 MR. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you. Returning
- 14 Exhibit 61, and I have no further questions.
- 15 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, Ms. Henry?
- 16

- 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MS. BROWN:
- 19 Q. And you're married; is that correct?
- 20 A. Yes, it is.
- 21 O. Were your wife and Tatiana friends?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. So as couples, you all socialized together;
- 24 is that right?

- 1 along?
- 2 A. Go along. Yes.
- 3 Q. Did she seem to prefer any type of weapon?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. And what about Mr. Leibel? Do you recall if
- 6 he had any type of weapon he preferred?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. How would you characterize the relationship
- 9 between Mr. and Mrs. Leibel?
- 10 A. Loving.
- 11 Q. And what led you to believe that?
- 12 A. How long do I have to answer?
- 13 THE COURT: You have until 5:00 o'clock, and
- 14 we'll start again on Monday morning at 9:00.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Just about everything we did
- 16 with them, Tatiana was the loving, perfect wife going out
- 17 of her way to make Harry happy, making dinners that would
- 18 be so amazing that we would just want to go there, and
- 19 then I could go on from there. Those kind of things.
- 20 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) How about did you know if
- 21 Harry had any health problems?
- 22 A. He did.
- 23 Q. And what do you know those to be?
- 24 A. When I met Harry, he told me he had some type

1 of a colon operation before I met him. And then we

- 2 together went on a business trip, and he got sick on the
- 3 way back, and then he was in the hospital for, I think,
- 4 about ten days.
- 5 Q. Do you recall when that was?
- 6 A. I'd say it's about three years ago.
- 7 Q. And once he was out of the hospital, did he
- 8 appear to get better? Worse? Stay the same?
- 9 A. He seemed much better.
- 10 O. Did Tatiana seem concerned about his health?
- 11 A. Very concerned.
- 12 Q. Did you ever see the two of them in any type
- 13 of argument?
- 14 A. I didn't see them, no.
- 15 O. And from everything you saw, they appeared to
- 16 be a loving couple together?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 MS. BROWN: Thank you.
- 19 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 20 MR. GREGORY: Nothing further, Your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Sir, thank you for your
- 22 appearance today. You are excused.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you. Is that from the
- 24 total case, or would I be called back?

- 1 2
- 3 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 5 Q. Please state your name and spell your last
- 6 name.
- 7 A. Leann Brooks. Lee Ann: L-e-e space capital
- 8 A-n-n. Brooks: B-r-o-o-k-s.
- 9 Q. Ms. Brooks, were you familiar with Harry
- 10 Leibel?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. How did you know Mr. Leibel?
- 13 A. Through our children. They moved to our
- 14 school district, and his stepdaughter and my daughter
- 15 were friends, and also associated with them at the
- 16 temple.
- 17 Q. And did you also know Tatiana Leibel?
- 18 A. Yes, I did.
- 19 Q. Do you see her here in the courtroom today?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- 21 Q. Can you tell the Court where she's seated and
- 22 what she's wearing.
- 23 A. She's in the light gray suit with the
- 24 glasses.

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- THE COURT: Yes, sir. No, I don't believe
- 2 you're going to be called back. You're releasing him?
- 3 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 4 MS. BROWN: Yes.
- 5 THE COURT: You're free to go about your day,
- 6 sir. Thank you for appearing.
- 7 MR. GREGORY: Court's indulgence.
- 8 THE COURT: Yes. Take your time, please.
- 9 MR. GREGORY: May I have a moment, Your
- 10 Honor?
- 11 THE COURT: Certainly, you may.
- MR. GREGORY: The State calls Lee Ann Brooks.
- THE COURT: Ms. Brooks, if you would pause
- 14 right there, raise your right hand, please.
- 15
- 16 LEE ANN BROOKS,
- having been first duly sworn, was
- examined and testified as follows:
- 19
- THE COURT: Ma'am, if you would come up and
- 21 have a seat up here, please. Have some water, if you
- 22 would like.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- THE COURT: You're welcome. Mr. Gregory?

- 1 THE COURT: The record will reflect that the
- 2 defendant was identified.
- 3 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Thank you. During the
- 4 course of the evening of February 23rd, 2014, did you
- 5 have contact with Ms. Leibel?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what did you do with her at that point?
- 8 A. Well, I gave her a ride from the
- 9 interrogation station in Douglas on the Lake side. I
- 10 picked her up and brought her to my house so she could
- 11 get some rest and try to give her some food.
- 12. Q. So in essence, that was the night of the
- 13 night following the shooting; correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. The shooting happened that morning?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. And did Ms. Leibel and you discuss
- 18 what had taken place?
- 19 A. Yes. I asked her what had happened.
- 20 Q. What did she tell you had happened?
- 21 A. That her and Harry were arguing over her
- 22 going to on a trip to L. A. To see her daughter, and that
- 23 he had a gun he'd been carrying around for the weekend.
- 24 And when she did not take her flight that I guess she

Rough Draft Page 157

- 1 supposedly had booked on Saturday, and on Sunday morning,
- 2 she told him that she was going to go anyway. And she
- 3 left the room, went into the kitchen and she heard a gun
- 4 go off.
- 5 Q. And did she tell you what she did after that?
- 6 A. She ran to Harry and I guess called 911 and
- 7 tried to resuscitate him.
- 8 O. So she just heard the one shot?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And did she describe for you at all where he
- 11 was shot?
- 12 A. Yes. She said somewhere in here with this
- 13 motion.
- 14 O. You're making a motion with your right hand.
- 15 kind of across?
- 16 A. Somewhere like in the stomach, chest area.
- 17 O. Okay. And did she tell you when it had
- 18 occurred?
- 19 A. Well, I'd asked her, "What time did this
- 20 happen?" She said, "In the morning around 9:30 or 10:00.
- MR. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you. Nothing 21
- 22
- THE COURT: Cross? 23
- 24

1

- 1 UNR: correct?
- 2 A. Yes, that is correct.
- 3 Q. And she was now getting her master's degree
- 4 after that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Didn't you say that you believe that the
- 7 Leibels were a great couple?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. And you never saw them fight?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. And that Ms. Leibel was very in love with
- 12 Mr. Leibel?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. And didn't you say that Ms. Leibel
- 15 continuously maintained that Harry had shot himself,
- 16 Mr. Leibel had shot himself?
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 Q. Do you recall what time you picked up
- 19 Ms. Leibel from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office?
- 20 A. Approximately 8:30, 8:45 in the evening.
- 21 O. Do you remember what time she called you or
- 22 was that what time she called you, or is that what time
- 23 you picked her up?
- 24 A. The detectives called me. That's when I

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- 2 **CROSS-EXAMINATION** 3
- BY MS. HENRY: 4
- 5 O. Ms. Brooks, you and Ms. Leibel shared each
- other's company frequently; correct? 6
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. And you invited her to your home on occasion?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. You guys were friends?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. And you had indicated that in your interview
- 13 with the police officers who interviewed you that she was
- 14 also really close with her daughters; correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. And she tried to visit them?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. As often, as much as she could?
- 19 A. That is correct.
- 20 O. And also that she was going to school at UNR?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. Do you know what she was studying?
- 23 A. Political science.
- 24 O. And she actually graduated with a degree from

- 1 picked her up.
- 2 Q. Okay. And so you picked her up from the
- 3 station at 8:30 or 8:45?
- 4 A. Approximately.
- MS. HENRY: Okay. Nothing further.
- 6 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- MR. GREGORY: No, thank you. 7
- THE COURT: Ma'am, thank you for being here 8
- today. You're excused. 9
- THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you. 10
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, may I have a recess 11
- 12 to review what evidence has been marked?
- THE COURT: Want to come here for a minute? 13
- Want a cough drop? 14
- MR. GREGORY: Thank you. 15
- THE COURT: Now you can have a recess. How 16
- long do you need? 17
- MR. GREGORY: Fifteen minutes should be 18
- sufficient. 19
- 20 THE COURT: Okay. I'll advise you as I'm
- 21 sure that you know, the clerk is keeping an ongoing
- 22 exhibit list, has been, but if you want to check to see
- 23 what's admitted and what's not admitted, she will share
- 24 that with you. We're going to give the State about a

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- 1 15-minute recess a little earlier than we would normally
- 2 take, but we will put this time good use. So why don't
- 3 we meet back at a quarter till.
- 4 During this recess, Ladies and Gentlemen, you
- 5 are admonished not to talk or converse among yourselves
- 6 or with anyone else on any subject connected with this
- 7 trial or to read, watch, or listen to any report of or
- 8 commentary on the trial or any person connected with this
- 9 trial by any medium of information, including, without
- 10 limitation newspaper, television, radio, or Internet.
- 11 You're not the form or express any opinion on any subject
- 12 connected with the trial until the case is finally
- 13 submitted to you. Thank you. We'll start again in about
- 14 15 minutes. Thank you.
- 15 Would you give that to the bailiff. Thank
- 16 you. Mr. Gregory, could I get you and defense counsel to
- 17 come up, please.
- 18 As this recess began, one of the jurors had
- 19 handed me a note indicating that he had had -- he had
- 20 made an offhanded comment about the weapon being a nice
- 21 weapon during the lunch hour as they came back. They had
- 22 no further conversation. I've revealed that note to
- 23 counsel for the State and the defense, and none of them
- 24 have any desire to make any comment or motion based on

- MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- 2 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: And can you tell me what those
- 4 numbers were.
- MS. BROWN: 100 and 101.
- 6 THE CLERK: Yes.
- 7 THE COURT: So the parties stipulate to the
- 8 admission of 100 and 101; is that correct?
- 9 MS. BROWN: Yes.
- 10 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- 11 THE COURT: Thank you. Then they're
- 12 admitted. Anything else that we need to establish before
- 13 we bring in the jury?
- MR. GREGORY: No, Your Honor.
- 15 MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- 16 THE COURT: Are you going to have any
 - 7 witnesses this afternoon?
- 18 MS. BROWN: No.
- 19 THE COURT: I don't know if you're going to
- 20 have any witnesses at all. You don't have to.
- MS. BROWN: No, but we are aren't going to
- 22 have any this afternoon. We may have some on Monday. We
- 23 are a still working on that. We will have some on
- 24 Monday.

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- 1 that note; is that correct?
- 2 MR. GREGORY: That is correct.
- 3 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: I'm going to go ahead and place
- 5 the note file, and go ahead and take your recess. Thank
- 6 you very much.
- 7 (Recess was taken.)
- 8 THE COURT: We're back in session 14DI62,
- 9 State of Nevada versus Tatiana Leibel. Mr. Gregory is
- 10 here for the State. Ms. Brown and Ms. Henry are here for
- 11 Ms. Leibel, who is also here, and the interpreters are
- 12 here. Mr. Gregory?
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, the State is going
- 14 to be resting. I don't know if you need me to do that in
- 15 the front of the jury or not.
- 16 THE COURT: You will. However, I understand
- 17 that there were some duplicates of exhibits and --
- 18 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- 19 THE COURT: -- apparently, one set of them
- 20 was introduced, but the other set was referenced during
- 21 the trial. So can I have a stipulation of the parties
- 22 that the other, that the part -- the set that was
- 23 referenced that wasn't admitted can be admitted so that
- 24 the record is complete?

- 1 THE COURT: All right. Let's bring them in.
- 2 To the extent we can, I want a full day on Monday.
- 3 MS. BROWN: Okay.
- 4 THE COURT: Thank you, folks. Have a seat
- 5 and relax for a moment, if you would, please. Sometimes
- 6 these breaks are a little longer than we anticipate, and
- 7 I want to assure you that when those things happen, it's
- 8 not that we've got out for milkshakes. Actually, there's
- 9 been some work being done, and that's what takes a little
- 10 bit longer.
- So, the parties, will you stipulate the
- 12 presence of the jury? Yes, Your Honor.
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Gregory?
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, the State rests.
- 16 THE COURT: Now, I want to explain to the
- 17 jurors that this case may have moved along a little
- 18 faster than the parties anticipated. As a result of
- that, Mr. Gregory has rested now, but the defense intends
- 20 to present some evidence to you, although those witnesses
- 21 are not available until Monday, and so we're going to
- 22 recess until then.
- Now, this is the difficult part. You've
- 24 heard me give you an admonition every time you take a

(41) Pages 161 - 164 QOT

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recess, every time we take a break, and I read the same

thing to you, and you can tell that I'm reading it

because I look down, but there's specific law that says

exactly what I have to say to you at every break, and the 4

law tells me that I have to recite that to you. I'm sure 5

that you figured that out by now. 6

That admonition is critically important for

you to bear in mind over this long recess, over this 8

period of time that we're taking a break over the

weekend. You'll get out early today in just a few 10

minutes, but the admonition that I'm going to give you 11

again in just a minute is something that I want you to 12

bear in your minds and bear in your hearts because it's 13

critically important that you not discuss this and that

you not make up your mind until you've heard all of the 15

evidence. So don't form an opinion. Don't talk to 16

anybody. 17

And over the course of a weekend, it's not 18

unusual for us to have family members or friends who will 19

ask, you know, "How is it going? What it's like? What

do you think?" And it's simply not appropriate for you 21

to engage in that discussion or to engage or form any 22

opinion until this trial is over. That's part of your 23

oath. And I spoke to you in those terms, not to sound

Now, over the weekend, I promise if you leave any water

bottles there, we will get rid of them.

Counsel, just for a moment, the exhibits that 3

are here in the middle of the courtroom, including the

couch and the end table, the box that's behind the couch

appears to be for demonstrative purposes but was never

introduced as an exhibit. So it is my intention to

return that box to Mr. Gregory, absent any objection.

Also, the rod is not an exhibit. It was never

introduced, and therefore, it will be removed and 10

returned, and is not part of the exhibit. So we never 11

made part of the exhibits. 12

MR. GREGORY: Thank you. 13

THE COURT: So unless there's some objection, 14

the rod and the box will go to Mr. Gregory. The couch 15

and the table, which are exhibits, are in the custody of 16

the clerk. Do counsel need anything before the weekend 17

recess? 18

MR. GREGORY: No, Your Honor. 19

20 MS. BROWN: No. Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay I thank you all. I wish all 21

of you a nice weekend too. Thank you for your 22

presentations this week. 23

-000-24

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like I'm a school teacher or that I'm scolding anyone because I'm certainly not doing that. I anticipate and I

have full faith that you will honor your oaths, but it is

incumbent upon me in my role as the judge the remind you

of the importance of that part of this process.

So with that having been said, we're going to 6 recess until 9:00 o'clock on Monday. If there is 7

something that you have experienced back in the jury room

that we can do to make your experience more comfortable,

I encourage you to tell Mr. Seddon, and we'll work on it 10

11 in the interim.

During this recess, you are not to talk or 12

converse among yourselves or with anyone else on any 13

subject connected with this trial. You're not to read, 14

watch, or listen to any report of or commentary on the

trial or any person connected with this trial by any 16

medium of information including, without limitation, 17

newspapers, television, radio, or Internet. You're not 18

to form or express any opinion on any subject connected 19

with the trial until the case is finally submitted to

you. I thank you for your attention. I wish you a good 21

weekend. I won't ask who you're rooting for in the 22

Superbowl, but everybody enjoy the weekend and the game. 23

See you Monday at 9:00 o'clock. Thank you very much.

STATE OF NEVADA 2

3 COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

5 I, Nicole Alexander, Certified Shorthand

Reporter of the Ninth Judicial District Court of the

State of Nevada, in and for the County of Douglas, do

hereby certify:

9

13

16

17

20 21

22

23

That I was present in Department No. I of the

10 above-entitled Court and took stenotype notes of the

11 proceedings entitled herein, and thereafter transcribed

12 the same into typewriting as herein appears;

That the foregoing ***ROUGH DRAFT***

14 transcript is a full, true and correct transcription of

15 my stenotype notes of said proceedings.

DATED: At.Carson City, Nevada, this 5th day

Tatiana Leibei, aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CK-0002				
Cars	son City, NV. Page 24167			
1	Nicole Alexander Capitol Reporters			
3	208 N. Curry Street (775) 882-5322			
4	IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF NEVADA			
5	IN AND FOR THE COURT OF BOOGLAS, STATE OF NEVADA			
6				
7	THE STATE OF NEVADA,			
8	Plaintiff,			
9	v. Case No. 14-CR-0062 DA 14-343G			
10	Dept. No. I			
11	TATIANA KOSYRKINA,			
12	Defendant.			
13	AFFIRMATION			
14	Pursuant to NRS 239B.030			
15	The undersigned does hereby affirm that the following document DOES NOT contain the social security			
16	number of any person:			
17	·			
18				
19				
20				
21				
22	NICOLE ALEXANDER June 5, 2015			
23	MICORE ADDAMINES USING 3, 2010			
24				

EXHIBIT 9

In The Matter Of:

State of Nevada vs Tatiana Leibel, aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062

> Trial - Monday February 2, 2015 Rough Draft

Capitol Reporters 208 N. Curry Street

Carson City, Nevada 89703

Original File 020215.txt
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	re of Nevada vs iana Leibel, aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062
	Page 1
1	CASE NO. 14-CR-0062
2	DEPT. NO. 1
3	IN THE NINTE JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
4	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
5	BEFORE THE ECNORABLE DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, NATHAN TOD YOUNG
6	
7	THE STATE OF NEVADA,
8	Plaintiff,
9	'vs.
10	TATIANA LEIBEL,
11	Defendant.
12	,
13	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
14	TRIAL
15	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015
16	
17	Appearances:
18	For the State: TOM GREGORY Chief Deputy District Attorney
19	Minden, Nevada

KRIS BROWN

JAMIE HENRY

Attorney at Law Minden, Nevada

Attorney at Law

Kathy Jackson CSR Nevada CCR #402

1	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015, MINDEN, NEVADA
2	-oOo-
3	THE COURT: We are in session in 14CR62, State of

ρf 4 Nevada versus Tatiana Leibel. Mr. Gregory is here for the

5 State. Ms. Brown, Ms. Henry are here for the defense, and

6 Ms. Leibel is here and our interpreters are here. We have one issue with the -- with the juror

8 which appears to be a minor issue. I met with counsel in

9 chambers before we started this morning. I was advised that

10 one of the jurors may work at a school -- indicated to the

11 bailiff that she works at a school where one of the

witnesses' children go, so she mentioned that to the bailiff.

13 It doesn't seem like a big deal, but I'm going to bring her

in. It's Donna Unsinn, is that correct, and she sits up in

15 this corner over here. If we can just maybe ask Ms. Unsinn

16 come in, only her. Thank you.

Good morning, Ms. Unsinn. How are you, ma'am? 17

JUROR UNSINN: Good, thank you. 18

THE COURT: Did you have a good weekend? 19

20 JUROR UNSINN: I did.

THE COURT: I'm glad. I don't mean to single you 21

22 out or anything but it was brought to my attention that maybe

23 you spoke with Mr. Seddon as we came in and just as I asked

24 you to do, and that's what exactly what I asked you to do, so

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Redirect Examination by Ms. Brown

1 I appreciate it.

And I understand you may work at a school where

3 one of the witnesses children goes or something like that.

4 What is it?

JUROR UNSINN: I recognized Mr. Antii, who I

6 thought was standing out there. Maybe it wasn't even him. I

7 just recognized the height and if it is him, his daughter

8 graduated from my school last year.

THE COURT: Okay.

JUROR UNSINN: I only met him once. He probably 10

11 wouldn't even recognize me.

THE COURT: And what do you do at the school? 12

JUROR UNSINN: I'm a school secretary. 13

THE COURT: And did you have any extensive 14

15 contact with him at the school or anything like that?

JUROR UNSINN: No. 16

THE COURT: Did you have conversations with him 17

18 about yourself or himself or anything like that?

19 JUROR UNSINN: No.

THE COURT: It doesn't seem to me any concern. 20

Mr. Gregory, do you need any further questions by 21

22 the State?

MR. GREGORY: No, Your Honor. Thank you. 23

THE COURT: Ms. Brown? 24

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For the Defendant:

Reported By:

- 1 MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- 2 THE COURT: Are both of you satisfied that she
- 3 still is qualified to be a witness in this case or a juror?
- 4 MS. BROWN: Juror.
- 5 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 6 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: You don't get to be a witness.
- 8 JUROR UNSINN: Thank you.
- 9 THE COURT: Ms. Unsinn, you did exactly the right
- 10 thing and I appreciate you telling me, and we're just going
- 11 to bring everybody else in. I was going to say would you
- 12 like to go back and come in with all of them?
- 13 JUROR UNSINN: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am.
- Good morning. Have a seat, please. Happy
- 16 Monday. For those of you that are Seahawks fans, I offer my
- 17 deepest condolences.
- 18 We will -- first of all, will counsel stipulate
- 19 the presence the jury?
- 20 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 21 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 22 THE COURT: We're going to proceed this morning
- 23 and probably we'll conclude this morning and then as I told
- 24 you, there's no court tomorrow. Actually, I have a very full

- 1 that once it's finally submitted to you, but I did want to
- 2 let you know that so that you could make your plans also.
- 3 Maybe you have employers you want to talk to or family
- 4 members or things like that or maybe you have some plans, so
- 5 that's kind of where we are right now.
- 6 We're going to go this morning and go however
- 7 long we go this mourning, and we will recess and we will meet
- 8 again, Wednesday, at 1:00 o'clock, okay.
- 9 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, do you have a witness.
- 10 MS. BROWN: Thank you. The defense would call
- 11 Kerry Rajacic.
- 12 THE COURT: Come on in, ma'am. If you would
- 13 pause right in front of the clerk and raise your right hand,
- 14 please.

15

20

- 16 KERRY RAJACIC
- called as a witness on behalf of the
- 18 Defendant having been first duly sworn,
- 19 was examined and testified as follows:
- 21 THE COURT: Come on up here, please, ma'am. You
- 22 can have a seat up here, and there's some water, if you would
- 23 like.
- 24 Ms. Brown?

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Page 8

Page 7

- 1 calendar, some other issues, it's called a law and motion
- 2 calendar, and so I probably have 16 or 17 different cases
- 3 that I have to hear tomorrow, and they are regularly
- 4 scheduled on Tuesday's, so I had vacated that calendar last
- 5 week so we could get the trial started, but I can't do that
- 6 two weeks in a row because it sets too many people behind so
- 7 tomorrow I have to hear that calendar, and we won't meet
- 8 tomorrow.
- 9 There has been a travel difficulty for one of our
- 10 witnesses and so what we're going to do is go this morning
- 11 and then recess, and we won't be in session this afternoon,
- 12 and we won't meet again until Wednesday, and we won't start
- 13 until 1:00 o'clock on Wednesday, but I expect that the case
- 14 will be concluded on Wednesday, just so that you can make
- 15 plans which is as you can tell, we're going a little faster
- 16 than I had told you originally and because I think I
- 17 originally told you that it would probably be Friday of this
- 18 week, so you can expect to have the case submitted to you on
- 19 Wednesday.
- Now, as I tell you that and as I have repeatedly
- 21 cautioned you, don't form or express any opinions yet. The
- 22 fact that I tell you that we may be getting close to an end
- 23 and having it submitted to you doesn't mean that it's time
- 24 for you to start drawing any of those conclusions. You'll do

- 1 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 2 BY MS. BROWN:
- 3 Q. Could you state your name, and spell your last
- 4 name, please.
- 5 A. Kerry Lou Rajacic. My last name is spelled
- 6 R-a-j-a-c-i-c.
- 7 Q. What is your occupation?
- 8 A. I'm a housewife.
- 9 Q. Where do you live?
- 10 A. I live -- do you want the address?
- 11 Q. Just the town.
- 12 A. Just the area, I live in Reno.
- 13 Q. Do you know Tatiana Leibel?
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- 15 O. Do you see her in the courtroom today?
- 16 A. Yes, I do.
- 17 Q. Could you describe where she's setting and what
- 18 she's wearing?
- 19 A. She's wearing a pinstripe jacket, and she's
- 20 sitting between the two ladies right there.
- THE COURT: The record will reflect the
- 22 identification of Ms. Leibel.
- 23 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And did you know Harry Leibel?
- 24 A. Yes, I did.

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Page 9

- 1 O. Was it your husband, Joe, that was here last
- 2 Friday testifying?
- з A. Yes.
- 4 Q. How long have you known or how did you meet the
- 6 A. Well, I met them through my husband.
- 7 Q. How?
- 8 A. He met Harry on a plane.
- 9 O. Okay. Do you recall when that was?
- 10 A. About five or six years ago, right before Harry's
- 11 60th birthday.
- 12 Q. And how did you and the Leibels become friends?
- 13 A. I'm sorry. I wasn't going to cry.
- 14 Q. Take your time. It's okay.
- 15 A. Thank you.
- 16 Q. Do you have some Kleenex up there?
- THE COURT: There are. 17
- THE WITNESS: Darn it. Joe -- Joe met Harry on a 18
- plane, and he was very excited to meet someone that he liked. 19
- We -- we then met up with Harry and Tatiana at their home and
- went on their boat for a picnic. It's very lovely.
- 22 Q. And after that, did you continue to socialize
- with the Leibels?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And what do you mean by that?
- 2 A. He could talk pretty much without breathing. He
- really talked a lot. He loved to talk, and he loved to
- philosophize. He was just charming.
- 5 Q. You said he liked to philosophize. He was raised
- in the Jewish religion; is that correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Was -- do you know if he was a study of the
- Kabbalah?
- 10 A. I don't remember him saying that per se.
- 11 Q. And when you said he loved to philosophize, are
- we talking philosophy subjects?
- 13 A. Yes, anything, even like fortune cookie type of
- 14 philosophy, just anything.
- 15 Q. Okay. What do you mean like fortune cookie type
- 16 things?
- 17 A. Just every -- you know, any kind of philosophy,
- everything that you would formally hear, he would -- he would
- reiterate. It was -- he was just charming.
- 20 Q. Did it include zodiac?
- 21 A. Yes, he was very much into the horoscopes.
- 22 Q. And did this strike you as unusual from somebody
- raised in the Jewish -- traditional Jewish family?
- MR. GREGORY: Objection, relevance. 24

Page 10

- THE COURT: Sustained.
 - 2 O. (BY MS. BROWN:) You said you had been to their
 - house on a number of occasions?
 - 4 A. Yes.
 - 5 Q. Do you recall if they had a dog?
 - 6 A. Yes.
 - 7 Q. Do you know his name?
 - 8 A. Bo.
 - 9 Q. And what type of dog was he?
 - 10 A. He was a cinnamon Doberman.
 - 11 O. Big dog, little dog?
 - 12 A. Big dog.
 - 13 Q. How was Bo treated?
 - 14 A. Wonderfully.
 - 15 Q. Was he an indoor dog?

 - 17 Q. When you were at the residence, would he be
 - 18 inside when there was company?
 - 19 A. Yes.
 - 20 Q. How would you describe Bo's personality?
 - 21 A. He was a sweet dog, very good.
 - 22 Q. Would you describe him as active or a laid back
 - 23 dog? How would you describe him?
 - 24 A. He would sort of surf his way through the room,

1 Q. How often would you say you would see them? 2 A. Well, it's difficult to say because -- you know,

- 3 some years we would see them more than others, so it's very
- 4 hard to round that out. We lived almost an hour away so it
- wasn't all of the time but -- but several, you know, several
- times, more than several times, more than three or four times
- a year, like, maybe five times a year, four or five times a 7
- year. 8
- 9 Q. And that continued over the five or six years you
- knew them? 10
- 11 A. It slowed down the last couple of years because,
- you know, our lives were all very busy.
- 13 Q. And when you would see them, what kind of
- activities would you participate in?
- 15 A. Mostly eating. Our lives kind of revolved mostly
- around dinners, and we went to a concert one time, and we | 16 A. Yes.
- went to Harry and Tatiana's quite a bit. Tatiana is a
- fantastic cook.
- 19 Q. At their home in Tahoe?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And that was the home on Kent Way?
- 23 Q. Would you characterize Harry Leibel as a talker?
- 24 A. Yes.

1 kind of like a shark, trying to get past from everybody and

- 2 get his little love in from everyone. He was -- he wanted to
- 3 be around everybody. He was very sweet.
- 4 Q. Do you recall seeing him on the furniture?
- 5 A. I'm not picturing it, but -- I'm not picturing
- 6 it.
- 7 O. Was he -- was he usually in movement or was there
- 8 a place where he would go relax and lay down when he sees
- 9 people around?
- 10 A. When I think of him, I think of him moving and
- 11 eating.
- 12 Q. And looking for attention?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And were both Harry and Tatiana Leibel
- 15 affectionate with the dog?
- 16 A. Very.
- 17 Q. Was he affectionate with them?
- 18 A. Very.
- 19 O. And you're aware Tatiana comes from a Russian
- 20 background; is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. Could you describe Ms. Leibel's use of the
- 23 English language?
- 24 A. Charming, very charming. She disposes words

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Where would you go?
- 3 A. We went to the -- there's a place in Carson
- 4 that's an open range outdoors. It's -- unfortunately, it's
- 5 across from like a dump but that's where it is so yeah.
- 6 O. How would you describe Mr. Leibel's attitude
- 7 towards guns?
- 8 A. They liked them.
- 9 Q. Okay. Would Mr. Leibel, was -- how would you
- 10 describe his attitude?
- 11 A. Enthusiastic.
- 12 Q. Did he appear to have more interest than Tatiana?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. When you and the Leibels and your husband would
- 15 go to the range, how many guns would Mr. Leibel bring with
- 16 him?
- 17 A. I don't know, a lot.
- 18 Q. Were they both rifles and handguns?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Did you see Tatiana practice with both rifles and
- 21 handguns?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Was there -- between the rifles and handguns, was
- 24 there a type of gun she preferred to shoot?

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1

- sometimes.
- 2 Q. I'm sorry?
- 3 A. She missuses the English language sometimes.
- 4 Q. Uh-huh.
- 5 A. But she has a pretty good grasp of the language,
- 6 but once in a while the words get mixed up. Every once in a
- 7 while, I would say something and she would say what mean
- 8 that
- 9 Q. She would say what mean that, what did you have
- 10 to do?
- 11 A. Explain what that meant.
- 12 O. Are there times she uses the incorrect word?
- 13 A. Sure, yeah, it's her second language, English.
- 14 O. Are there times she puts Russian words in with
- 15 the English?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And being familiar with her ability to speak and
- 18 understand English, are you surprised to see interpreters
- 19 here?
- 20 A. No, I'm happy to see an interpreter here.
- 21 Q. Was one of the activities you participated in
- 22 with the Leibels going to the shooting range?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Were you all interested in shooting?

- 1 A. Not that I could tell.
- 2 O. Which type would you say she used more often?
- 3 A. I wasn't really paying that much attention to. I
- 4 was shooting also, so I wasn't --
- 5 Q. You said you've been to the Leibel residence.
- 6 Were there guns in the house?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Did Mr. Leibel have any particular favorite gun?
- 9 A. Whatever he just bought.
- 10 O. Gun of the week club?
- 11 A. It looked like it.
- 12 O. In the last few times you saw Mr. Leibel, did you
- 13 notice any change in his health or appearance?
- 14 A. The last time -- the last couple of times that I
- saw him, the last time we went to his home, especially, I
- 16 noticed that he was thinner and drawn looking. It worried
- 17 me.
- 18 O. Do you recall when this was?
- 19 A. I think it was either in October or November.
- 20 Q. Of 2013?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. And the last time you saw Mr. and Mrs. Leibel, do
- 23 you recall when that was?
- 24 A. That would have been early December of '13.

Min-U-Script®

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- 1 Q. And was Mr. Leibel acting different than usual?
- 2 A. Not that -- not that day, but they were only
- 3 there for a moment. They came to our house to drop off a
- 4 present. They were there for ten minutes.
- 5 Q. Was there a time you noticed his attitude didn't
- 6 seem to be as upbeat as usual?
- 7 A. When we went to their house in October or
- 8 November, he seemed a little grouchy, like he didn't feel
- 9 well. He's not usually grouchy. He's usually, you know,
- 10 fairly good mood.
- 11 Q. And you said one of the things you would do when
- 12 you were socializing is go to each others house for dinners?
- 13 A. Mostly to Tatiana's. She's a better cook.
- 14 Q. Do you recall seeing Mr. Leibel drink alcohol?
- 15 A. I have seen him drink wine. I don't remember
- 16 seeing him or didn't notice him drinking anything else. I
- 17 don't look for that.
- 18 O. Did he appear to consume any large amounts of
- 19 alcohol?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 O. What type of beverage would you keep at your
- 22 house for him?
- MR. GREGORY: Object, Your Honor, to the
- 24 relevance.

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. Okay. And when was the last time you spoke to
- 3 Harry?
- 4 A. That would be the last time I spoke to Harry was
- 5 when they came to our home.
- 6 O. The December date?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. GREGORY: Nothing further.
- 9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MS. BROWN:
- 11 Q. And you said you learned from Hyanna about
- 12 Mr. Leibel's death?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. And who is Hyanna?
- 15 A. Hyanna is their daughter, well, Tatiana's
- 16 daughter, but Harry had adopted her.
- 17 O. And through what means did you learn of his
- 18 death?
- 19 A. We were -- we had been away for about a month and
- 20 a half and when we were coming back, we were supposed to get
- 21 together with them, and Joe had tried to reach Harry by phone
- 22 and e-mail and had not heard back from him, which was very
- 23 unusual. And at first we thought maybe they had gone on
- vacation or something, but then time kept going on and it

- 1 THE COURT: What's the relevance of that?
- 2 MS. BROWN: It would be tied in with Dr. Omalu's
- 3 testimony.
- 4 THE COURT: Sustained. Don't answer.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Oh, I see.
- 6 MS. BROWN: Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- BY MR. GREGORY:
- 9 Q. Good morning, ma'am.
- 10 A. Hi.
- 11 Q. How did you learn of Harry's death?
- 12 A. We -- I learned of his death from Hyanna.
- 13 Q. Do you recall when you learned of his death?
- 14 A. I don't remember the date but it was probably
- 15 March or early April.
- 16 Q. And you say that you last saw Harry either
- 17 October or November of 2013, correct?
- 18 A. No, sir, I said it was early December.
- 19 Q. Early December, I misunderstood. That was at
- 20 your house or their house?
- 21 A. That was at our house. They stopped to drop off
- 22 a present.
- 23 O. Oh, okay. So October, November was the last time
- 24 you had been to their house?

- 1 wasn't like Harry not to return a call.
- 2 So Joe said, you know, try to get a hold of
- 3 Tatiana. I think something is wrong with Harry. So I left
- 4 some messages on Tatiana's phone which was still hooked up
- 5 and I -- nothing back from Tatiana, and I said this is --
- 6 this is -- something is going on.
- 7 We don't watch the local news. We just get our
- 8 news from AOL because I don't know why but, and we had not
- 9 heard of this. And so I -- I'm Facebook friends with Hyanna,
- 10 and I private messaged her, and she messaged me back, and she
- 11 said I'm so sorry. I thought you knew.
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I object to the
- 13 hearsay.
- 14 THE COURT: That's sustained. She's answered the
- 15 question.
- 16 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) It was through Facebook
- messaging that you were able to get a hold of Hyanna?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Have you continued to stay in contact with
- 20 Ms. Leibel since this occurred?
- 21 A. Yes, I have.
- 22 Q. Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 23 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 24

		h Draft		State of Nevada vs
Fel	oruary 2, 2015			Tatiana Leibel, aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062
	Page 21			Page 23
1	RECROSS-EXAMINATION	1	Ο.	At the time on February 23rd, about how long had
2	BY MR. GREGORY:	2	•	been with Tahoe Douglas?
3	Q. You just indicated that you had some plans you	1	-	Since March 2013.
4	and your husband had plans to get together with Harry and	4	O	And that day, at around 11:06, were you
5	Tatiana; is that correct?	5	-	patched to 452 Kent Way?
_	A. Yes, we did.	6	-	Yes, ma'am.
7	Q. Thank you. Nothing further.			What was the nature of the call?
8	THE COURT: Ma'am, thank you for being here	1	-	A gunshot wound.
9	today.	1		How many folks from your station went to the
10	THE WITNESS: Thank you.	10	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
11	THE COURT: You're excused.	11	A. :	I believe it was five.
12	THE WITNESS: Thank you so much.	12	Q.	What did you see when you first arrived at the
13	(Witness excused.)	13	resi	dence?
14	THE COURT: Ms. Brown? You can just you're	14	A. :	I saw a lady standing out front.
15	welcome to remain in the courtroom. I don't think you're	1		Do you see that lady in the courtroom today?
16	going to call her back, are you?	16	Α.	I believe so, yes, ma'am.
17	MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.	17	Q.	Excuse me?
18	THE COURT: You can stay and observe, if you	18	Α.	Yes, ma'am.
19	want.	19	Q	And can you describe where she's sitting and what
20	MS. BROWN: The defense would call Nick Robidart.	20	she	's wearing?
21	THE COURT: Come on in, sir.	21	A.	She's wearing a suit, white shirt.
22		22		THE COURT: There's one of those in the courtroom
23		23	so t	he record will reflect that he has identified Ms. Leibel.
24		24	Q. ((BY MS. BROWN:) What was Ms. Leibel doing when
				·
	Page 22			Page 24
Ι,	NICK ROBIDART,	1	MOU	arrived?
1 2	called as a witness on behalf of the	1	-	She was standing out front crying.
3	Defendant having been first duly sworn,			And how would you describe when you say she
	was examined and testified as follows:	2		crying, how would you describe her total demeanor?
4	was examined and testified as follows.	-		She was distraught.
5	THE COURT: Come on up, sir. If you want some	6		ΓHE COURT: Sir, I'm going to ask you to speak up
7	water, are there cups?	7		ttle bit, okay?
8	THE WITNESS: Yes, there are.	8		THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
9	THE COURT: Okay.	9		THE COURT: There is an interpreter who has to
10	DIRECT EXAMINATION	10		r you. There's a court reporter who has to hear you, and
	BY MS. BROWN:	11		re's a jury that has to hear you also.
11		12		THE WITNESS: You got it.
12		13		THE COURT: Thank you, sir.
13		14		MS. BROWN: Thank you.
14	Q. Could you state your name, and spell your last name, please.	15		Did when you first arrived at the residence,
15			-	you have a chance to speak with Ms. Leibel?
16	A. Nick Robidart, R-o-b-i-d-a-r-t. Q. What is your occupation?	16		I don't recall speaking with her when we first
17		18		ived.
18	A. I'm a firefighter paramedic with Tahoe Douglas. Q. And are you stationed up at Tahoe, is that where	1		oved. Did you speak with her later?
1, 9	Q. And are you standined up at Tanoe, is that where	1 9	٧٠ :	Did you speak with her latel!

20 that is?

23 year? 24 A. Yes.

21 A. Yes, ma'am.

22 Q. Were you so employed on February 23rd of last

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And when was that?

22 A. That was after when we were leaving the scene.

23 Q. What type of conversation did you have with her?

24 A. My captain was talking to her, asking if she had

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Page 25

- anybody to call, any friends to call. She kept asking me if
- I could feed the fish, go back in the house and feed her fish
- for her. 3
- 4 Q. How would you describe her at this time?
- 5 A. She was very distraught.
- 6 Q. Did you at one point use the term completely
- hysterical?
- 8 A. Yes, hysterical as well.
- O. In a panicked state of mind?
- MR. GREGORY: Objection. 10
- THE COURT: Sustained. 11
- MR. GREGORY: Leading. 12
- 13 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) When -- when you were in the
- residence, did you see anything other than Mr. Leibel that
- seemed significant to the nature of the call?
- 16 A. I saw a firearm on the couch. I saw a bullet
- hole in a wall. 17
- 18 Q. How did you come about seeing the bullet hole in
- the wall?
- 20 A. I just saw it underneath the fish tank.
- 21 Q. How did you see it underneath the fish tank?
- 22 A. With my eyes.
- 23 Q. Did you listen to a recording -- you did a taped
- 24 interview with Investigator Chrzanowski --

- after the incident, was that you saw Douglas County Sheriff's
- Deputies move the couch and that's how you saw the bullet
- 3 hole?
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I object. That
- mischaracterizes what he stated.
- THE COURT: Overruled. Restate the question so
- that it's clear for the jury.
- 8 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) At the time you gave your
- interview to Investigator Chrzanowski a couple of weeks after
- 10 this incident occurred, did you state to her at the time I
- think the police moved the couch and I saw the bullet hole 11
- going through the wall underneath the fish tank?
- 13 A. That is what I stated in the recording, yes.
- 14 Q. During the time of this call, were you still on
- probation with the fire district?
- 16 A. Yes, I was.
- 17 O. And you're still employed with them?
- 19 Q. Okay. So obviously you made it through that?
- 20 A. Yes, I did.
- 21 O. Were you instructed at that -- thank you. I have
- 22 nothing further.
- THE COURT: Mr. Gregory? 23
- MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor. 24

Page 26

- 2 Q. -- concerning the incident, and that was about
- 3 two weeks after this had occurred?
- 4 A. I believe so, yes.
- 5 O. Was that when the incident was fresh in your
- mind?

1 A. Yes.

- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. And that interview was recorded?
- 9 A. Yes, it was.
- 10 O. Okay. Did you have a chance to listen to a
- portion of that interview this morning?
- 12 A. Yes, I did.
- 13 O. Did that refresh your recollection on how you saw
- that bullet hole behind that couch?
- 15 A. No, I stated in the statement that I thought a
- saw Douglas County move it but today I can't recall movement
- of the couch. 17
- 18 Q. At the time you told Investigator Chrzanowski
- what? 19
- 20 A. I thought I saw Douglas County Police Department
- move the couch.
- 22 O. And that was how you saw the bullet hole?
- 23 A. Today I can't recall.
- 24 Q. But your recollection at the time, two weeks

- 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- BY MR. GREGORY:
- 3 O. Mr. Robidart, you didn't smell anything abnormal
- when you entered the house, correct?
- 5 A. No, I did not.
- 6 Q. And Mr. Leibel was cool to the touch, correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. And his skin was cyanotic; is that correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. What does that mean?
- 11 A. Blue, blue in color.
- 12 Q. What did that indicate to you that?
- 13 A. It seemed like he had been -- well, he was
- obviously dead. He might have been there a little bit long.
- 15 MS. BROWN: Objection, speculation.
- THE COURT: Sustained. 16
- 17 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You were there to evaluate
- Mr. Leibel's health?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. So what was the purpose -- did the blue fingers
- and toes have any significance to your role there that day?
- 22 A. When we arrive on scene of cardiac arrest, we try
- to decide whether we're going to work the code or not, and it
- seemed to me we weren't going to work on the, diagnosis cool

February 2, 2015			Tatiana Leibel, aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062
	Page 29		Page 31
1	to touch and on the cardiac monitor.	1	JAMES ANTTI,
2	Q. And his breathing was apneic?	2	called as a witness on behalf of the
3	A. Yes.	3	Defendant having been first duly sworn,
1	Q. What does that mean?	4	was examined and testified as follows:
5	A. He's not breathing.	5	
6	Q. His eyes were dilated?	6	THE COURT: Come on up, sir. Have a seat. Have
1	A. Yes.	7	some water there if you would like.
8	Q. What significance was that to you?	8	THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
9	A. Shows death, no brain activity.	9	THE COURT: Yes, sir.
10	Q. And in your interview with Investigator	10	DIRECT EXAMINATION
11	Chrzanowski, you indicated you thought that somebody had	11	BY MS. BROWN:
12	moved the couch; is that correct?	1	
13	A. That's correct.	13	
14	Q. Did you see anybody move the couch?	14	Q. What is you're occupation?
15	A. I can't recall seeing anybody move the couch, no.	15	A. I'm a battalion chief with the Tahoe Douglas Fire
16	O. And you never told Investigator Chrzanowski you	16	District.
17	saw somebody move the couch, did you?	17	Q. How long have you been in that position?
18	A. No.	18	A. A year and a half.
19	Q. Do you recall the position of Mr. Leibel's left	19	Q. So you were in that position on February 23rd of
20	hand upon making entry?	20	last year?
21	A. Yes, I did.	21	A. Yes, ma'am.
22	Q. How was it positioned?	22	Q. At around 11:00 o'clock that morning, were you
23	A. Out to the side.	23	dispatched to 452 Kent Way?
24	Q. Thank you.	24	A. Well, actually, technically, I was not
	2		A. Well, actually, technically, I was not
	Page 30		Page 32
1	Page 30 THE JUROR: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that.	1	Page 32 dispatched. I'm the battalion chief of the shift so I went
	Page 30 THE JUROR: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. THE WITNESS: Out to the side.	1 2	Page 32 dispatched. I'm the battalion chief of the shift so I went to see if they needed any assistance.
1	Page 30 THE JUROR: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. THE WITNESS: Out to the side. Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) It was not laying flat on the	1 2 3	Page 32 dispatched. I'm the battalion chief of the shift so I went to see if they needed any assistance. Q. And what was the nature of the call?
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1 2 3 4	Page 30 THE JUROR: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. THE WITNESS: Out to the side. Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) It was not laying flat on the ground? A. No. Q. Thank you. Nothing further.	1 2 3 4 5 6	Page 32 dispatched. I'm the battalion chief of the shift so I went to see if they needed any assistance. Q. And what was the nature of the call? A. It came in as a gunshot wound I believe. Q. Did you go in a separate vehicle from the emergency responders and rescuers?
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Page 30 THE JUROR: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. THE WITNESS: Out to the side. Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) It was not laying flat on the ground? A. No. Q. Thank you. Nothing further. THE COURT: Ms. Brown? REDIRECT EXAMINATION	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	dispatched. I'm the battalion chief of the shift so I went to see if they needed any assistance. Q. And what was the nature of the call? A. It came in as a gunshot wound I believe. Q. Did you go in a separate vehicle from the emergency responders and rescuers? A. Yes, the shift battalion chief has their own response vehicle. I respond by myself.
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- 1 Q. Did you participate in any direct examination of
- 2 him?
- 3 A. No, ma'am.
- 4 Q. Did you see any weapon in the room that came to
- 5 your attention?
- 6 A. I did.
- 7 O. And what was that?
- 8 A. There were weapons on the walls, and then there
- 9 was a weapon laying on the couch, I believe.
- 10 O. Did you ever ask a deputy about the caliber of
- 11 that gun?
- 12 A. I asked them what type of gun it was, yes.
- 13 Q. Did you ask about the caliber?
- 14 A. I believe I did, yes.
- 15 O. What was the purpose of this?
- 16 A. It was a weapon that was unfamiliar to me and so
- 17 I -- just curiosity.
- 18 Q. Do you recall who it was that you asked?
- 19 A. It was one of the deputies, and I don't know his
- 20 name.
- 21 Q. What did that deputy tell you?
- 22 MR. GREGORY: Objection, hearsay.
- 23 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 24 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Was the deputy able to give you

- 1 A. It didn't look very fresh.
- 2 Q. Thank you. Nothing further.
- 3 THE COURT: Ms. Brown?
- 4 MS. BROWN: Nothing further.
- 5 THE COURT: Thank you for being here today. I
- 6 appreciate it.
- 7 (Witness excused.)
- 8 MS. BROWN: The defense would call Dave Billau.
- 9 THE CLERK: Raise your right hand and be sworn.
- 11 DAVID BILLAU.
- called as a witness on behalf of the
- Defendant having been first duly sworn,
- was examined and testified as follows:
- 16 THE COURT: Come on up, sir. If you would have a
- 17 seat there. Get comfortable. Have some water if you would
- 18 like.

10

15

- 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MS. BROWN:
- 21 Q. Could you state your name, and spell your last
- 22 name, please.
- 23 A. David C. Billau, B as in boy i-l-l-a-u.
- 24 Q. How are you currently employed?

- the caliber of that weapon?
- 2 A. I believe he told me the type of caliber, yes.
- 3 MS. BROWN: Nothing further.
- 4 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 7 Q. Sir, how long have you been with Tahoe Douglas?
- 8 A. 22 years.
- 9 Q. All right. And my understanding is you are a
- 10 bomb tech?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. You're familiar with the smell of gunpowder?
- 13 A. I am.
- 14 Q. Did you smell any gunpowder when you entered the
- 15 residence that day?
- 16 A. I did not.
- 17 Q. And you made an observation of the blood on the
- 18 couch, correct?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. What was your observation?
- 21 A. There was blood on the couch, and the victim was
- 22 lying on the floor, and the blood, you know, looked dark to 22
- 23 me, that was all.
- 24 O. What was the significance of that to you?

- 1 A. I have my own consulting business now.
- 2 Previously I was employed with the Washoe County Sheriff's
- 3 Office in the forensic science division as the supervisor.
- 4 O. Let me go back a minute. What -- you said you
- 5 have your own company now. What type of company is that?
- 6 A. I have a consulting business now. I consult with
- 7 forensic sciences to various law enforcement agencies and of
- 8 legal counsel.
- 9 Q. And prior to that, where were you employed?
- 10 A. I was employed with the Washoe County Sheriff's
- 11 Office in the forensic science division, commonly referred to
- 12 as the crime laboratory, and I was the supervisor with the
- 13 forensic investigation section.
- 14 Q. How long were you the supervisor of the forensic
- 15 division?
- 16 A. Oh, let's see, I was employed there for 23 years,
- a little over 23 years. The last five to six years, I was
- 18 the supervisor.
- 19 Q. And do you have any type of certification?
- 20 A. I did when I was employed with them as a
- 21 certified latent fingerprinting examiner and also a certified
- 22 crime scene analyst. Those certifications would be
- 23 International Association for Identification, and they are
- 24 international certifications.

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- 1 Q. And are you currently a member with the
- International --
- 3 A. Association for Identification.
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 A. Yes, I am. I'm a live active member.
- 6 O. Could you explain what that is?
- 7 A. It's a member that was an outstanding participant
- with the -- with the organization. You're granted -- if you 8
- retired honorably and without any mistakes made, we are 9
- tested every year in our profession so within our disciplines 10
- so it means that I was honorably retired and didn't make any 11
- mistakes according to them, so you're granted the life active 12
- status. 13
- 14 Q. And when you said you were certified, it was
- through them as a senior crime scene analyst and latent 15
- examiner? 16
- 17 A. That is correct. I obtained my testing for the
- latent fingerprints examination, that certification was in 18
- 1987. And then the -- in 1990 is when I tested and obtained 19
- the certification as a senior crime scene analyst. 20
- 21 Q. Prior to being with the sheriff's department in
- Washoe County, did you have any previous law enforcement 22
- experience? 23
- 24 A. Yes. In 1975, I began my career working with the

- 1 A. Yes, it did, and I do have college credits with
- California State University of Los Angeles and also through
- the University of Virginia through the department of justice.
- Q. And when you get certification as a senior crime
- scene analyst through the International Association for
- Identification, what process do you have to go through?
- A. At the time when I took the certification, this
- is in 1990, you were required to have a minimum of ten years
- experience in the field before you could even apply for it.
- With that, then you take a battery of written tests and also
- at that time we also took a practical examination in which we
- were proctored by actually performing crime scene 12
- investigation with any moot scene or mock crime scene and 13
- this was, again, under supervision, and you were graded so to 14
- see if you had, you know, enough of the experience and 15
- education to where you could obtain the certification. 16
- Q. And what about the certification as a latent 17
- print examiner?
- A. Again, that was I believe at the time I think you
- had to have a minimum of eight years. I had 12 years in
- before I was really confident enough to take that 21
- examination. It covered quite a bit of history. It was a 22
- written examination, plus a comparative examination of eight 23
- finger and palm prints to known individuals to latent prints

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- 1 city of Glendale Police Department in Southern California,
- and this was in 1975, and I was employed within the same 2 2
- manner. I've always been in the forensic sciences working 3
- within the crime laboratory.
- Q. And what is your educational background? 5
- Pertaining to the forensic sciences? A. 6
- 7 O. Yes.

- 8 A. Okay. Well, it began in 1975. I attended the
- Department of Justice, United States Federal Bureau of 9
- Investigation. They are training seminars and training 10
- courses that they provided at the time which was quite 11
- numerous. It covered various disciplines, such as the 12
- sciences of fingerprints, crime scene investigation, 13
- photography, bloodstain pattern interpretation, and these 14
- were also through updated materials that were in the courses 15
- supplied, also were provided by the Department of Justice 16
- State of California in I believe it was Arizona Department of
- 17
- Justice Arizona had also provided some of the training, also 18
- taken courses on my own, California State University of Los 19
- Angeles in the criminal justice system. 20
- 21 Q. Are you a college graduate?
- 22 A. No, I'm not.
- 23 Q. So your training came through your work in the
- 24 field?

- developed at a scene or often were given an item.
- We also had the classified fingerprints back in
- those days using the Henry System of classification. It is a
- form of classification in other words to search a fingerprint 4
- pattern that had been established back in the late 1800s in 5
- 6 England the United States adopted in the early 1900s, but you
- had to classify five individuals and without making a mistake within 30 minutes and that was including the fingerprint
- patterns, of all ten fingers on each hand or an individual
- 10 five fingers to each hand.
- Then you had to know the entire history of the 11
- science. That begins way back in the 1500s, so it was quite 12
- extensive. They give you eight hours to finish the exam. So 13
- within eight hours, you have to do everything that applied to 14
- the science and it was quite extensive. 15
- And you said as part of your company now that you
- do provide training to law enforcement agencies? 17
- That is correct. 18 Α.
- O. Have you previously taught courses in crime scene 19
- investigation before you left law enforcement? 20
- Oh, we did that every year, yes.
- Okay. What do you mean you did that every year? 22 Q.
- Describe it.
- 24 A. Excuse me, the crime laboratory, we provided

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- 1 services to all of the agencies in northern Nevada. The only
- 2 agency we excluded at the time was Las Vegas which was Clark
- 3 County. They had their own crime laboratory. Up here in
- 4 Reno, Nevada, Washoe County, has our own crime laboratory, so
- 5 you have two regional laboratories, one in the south and one
- 6 in the north within the State of Nevada.
- 7 We at Washoe County provided training every year
- 8 for crime scene investigation. These were what we call the
- 9 CSI units, crime scene investigation units. These are your
- patrol officers, your detectives and the outside agencies
- 11 where we could not respond in time or didn't have the means
- 12 to respond for a crime scene investigation, so we provided
- 13 the training for them. This is something that we gave them
- an eight-hour course or I'm sorry, a 40-hour course. It was
- 15 five days and that was the basic course that we gave them
- 16 training for.
- This course now is also approved through what
- 18 they call the POST, POST standard or the acronym, P-O-S-T
- 19 that's the police officer standard in training is what it
- 20 stands for. This has -- we have to meet the requirements for
- 21 peace officers for their training so it was under the
- 22 guidelines of the Nevada State POST Academy that we supplied
- training for these people provided it.
- So if fellow -- if we fell within the parameters

- 1 and the defense?
- 2 A. I have, yes.
- 3 Q. When you say in discussing fingerprints, you're
- 4 talking about latent prints, what is that?
- 5 A. Latent fingerprints, latent, the term means
- 6 hidden so you have to use various development means to
- 7 present a visual aid to where you can see it. This is
- 8 developmental stages of a latent print. Once it becomes
- 9 visible, it now becomes a visible print, but latet print
- 10 means hidden. We have an idea of where it might be so you
- 11 apply certain development techniques to try to develop that.
- 12 Sometimes you develop it and sometimes you don't.
- 13 Q. And what is meant -- what is the difference
- 14 between a usable print and an unusable print?
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, may I just voir dire
- 16 him very briefly regarding his expertise on fingerprints?
 - THE COURT: You may, sir.
- 18 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 20 Q. I understand you retired about 11 years ago?
- 21 A. Ten years ago.
- 22 Q. Ten years ago, I'm sorry. And you were -- at the
- 23 time you were a certified fingerprint analyst for the crime
- 24 lab, correct?

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17

- 1 of what they require and also what we require, this is what
- they have to know, basic crime scene investigation and every vear after that, we also provided a refresher course and that
- year arter that, we also provided a forester course and affect mean
- 4 was only an eight-hour course is all that was and that was
- 5 just a refresher course to make sure they were still
- 6 utilizing the same procedures they were taught and also if 7 there was any update to those procedures, we provided it to
- B them at that time.
- 9 O. Have you previously testified as an expert
- 10 witness in court?
- 11 A. Oh, yes, I have.
- 12 Q. Generally where would that be?
- 13 A. I'm sorry?
- 14 Q. Generally, where would that be?
- 15 A. Oh, well, gosh, the only court in the State of
- 16 Nevada would be easier would be in Eureka County, I have not
- 17 qualified as an expert in that county. All of the other
- 18 counties, including this court I have as an expert in the
- 19 crime scene investigation and latent fingerprints, also in
- 20 ballistic pattern interpretation, also in the State of
- 21 California within their court system, both municipal and
- 22 superior court level and also with the federal government in
- 23 the federal court system in Washoe County.
- 24 O. And have you testified both for the prosecutor

- 1 A. That is correct.
- 2 O. Are you still a certified fingerprint analyst?
- 3 A. No. Once I retired, they didn't have a program
- 4 at the time for once we retire, we retire. There was no
- 5 means to carry on the certification. And you have to
- 6 understand most -- in most of the time, we put 30 plus years
- 7 in, most of us did, and we didn't do anything after that. In
- 8 other words, we just retired, you know. So like probably
- 9 most people should, and so they didn't have a continuing
- 10 program for that -- that certification.
- In other words, every five years through the IAI,
- 12 International Association of Identification were retested.
- 13 They didn't have --
- 14 Q. So, sir, you have not retested since then?
- 15 A. No. They didn't have the -- for retired people,
- 16 they didn't have the testing procedure to do that. It was
- 17 always done through an agency you worked for.
- 18 Q. What education courses in regard to fingerprint
- 19 analysis have you done since you retired ten years ago?
- 20 A. The courses?
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. I haven't attended any courses. However, I do --
- 23 Q. Just answer the question, please.
- 24 A. Oh.

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1 Q. Have you attended any courses in education?

2 A. No.

3 MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I do not think he's

4 qualified as an expert in latent fingerprint analysis, and I

5 would ask that he not be asked questions about fingerprints.

6 THE COURT: Your objection is overruled. You

will have the opportunity to cross-examine him.

8 MR. GREGORY: Thank you.

9 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. BROWN:

11 Q. And what -- if a print is found, what is the

12 difference between a usable print and an unusable print?

13 A. I think -- I think what you're asking is a usable

14 prints would be that print for identification purposes. In

other words, it is usable for an identification. A non

16 usable print which I'm gathering is a print of no value for

17 identification.

18 O. And if it's of no value, what does that mean?

19 A. It means that it can't be used for identification

20 purposes.

21 O. And are you -- latent prints value the exception

22 rather than the rule in look and locating fingerprints?

23 A. They are, yes.

24 Q. Is that true also on a firearm?

latent print to be deposited in the first place. Number one, you have to understand that we have to secrete certain body

3 chemicals. On the hand, we -- we perspire.

4 And what you have to understand on fingerprints,

5 if we look at our palm or surfaces of our hand, you will

6 notice that it's a very tight, very special type of skin,

7 that's called friction skin, and it's made up of furrows and

8 ridges. At the tops of the ridges are where the sweat bowls

9 are. Now, there's certain glands biologically that are

10 within the human anatomy that we secrete perspiration and for

11 the hand, it's called an endocrine gland and it's underneath

12 our armpits is where it is.

And so when we perspire, we perspire fatty oils,

14 amino acids, but it's mixed in with this perspiration and

when we touch an object, we're depositing those items, and

16 it's only at the tops of the ridges now. It's not in the

17 furrows. It's only at the tops of the ridges. So what we

18 get is almost like a mirror image when we touch something

19 that those sebaceous materials are being deposited. Then

20 they dry. Sometimes they remain wet for quite a while, it

21 depends. There's a lot of variables. Humidity is one of

22 them. Dryness is another one. And the surface that we touch

23 is a variable. Is it smooth? Is it porous? You know, it

24 all comes into play here.

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1 A. Are we still talking about the latent print on a

2 firearm.

3 O. Yes.

4 A. It would fall within the same parameters, yes.

5 O. And so is not finding a latent print a value

6 unusual on a firearm that's being viewed to look for prints?

7 A. It would -- I'm trying to understand. It would

8 be --

9 THE COURT: The question kind of had some double

10 negatives in it. Why don't you rephrase that question.

11 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

12 O. You said finding usable latent prints is

13 basically the --

14 A. Exception.

15 O. Yes, is that --

16 A. That is correct.

17 Q. And that's true -- is that true of firearms also?

18 A. Latent prints on a firearm, yes.

19 O. And so would the lack of usable for latent prints

20 of value on a firearm mean somebody had made an attempt to

21 remove them?

22 A. You know, could be. You know, that would

23 certainly, you know, be one of the examples. The other being

24 that the print just -- there's a lot of requirements for a

1 So -- and with firearms, the difficulty with

firearms is that firearms, they utilize -- when I say they,

3 people that own firearms normally keep them clean, so to keep

4 them clean with solids, and that's one of the variables that

5 we have difficulty with is that the solvents react with the

6 chemicals that we're perspiring and when we touch that item.

So it's a good surface because it's a nonporous

8 surface but due to the fact that there's normally some

9 solvent that are mixed in along with ours, we don't usually

10 have that much success in developing latent prints on

11 firearms.

7

12 Q. Thank you. When you were teaching or when you do

13 training classes in crime scene investigation preservation,

14 what type of materials do you rely on?

15 A. When you say materials?

16 Q. Where do you get your information from that you

17 teach the classes with?

18 A. Oh, we actually developed a lot of the

19 information. Some of it is historic as a matter of fact,

20 that we employ and a number of, you know, texts have been

21 written regarding crime scene investigation now. Some of

22 them were back in -- the early ones were actually at the turn

of the century in which we do use a principle. It's called

4 Locard Principle and that's L-o-c-a-r-d. Dr. --

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- 1 Q. Let me back you up a second. When -- when you're
- teaching -- either back when you were teaching through the
- sheriff's department or in any training you do now, is there
- a specific kind of course material or outline you try to look
- at? What are you focusing on?
- 6 A. Oh. okay. I'm sorry, I misunderstood the
- question you gave me. We do have a plan outline that is .7
- through POST, and we submitted that outline back in the
- 1980's to the Nevada State POST, and it is an outline that's
- I think still being employed today because I just checked on 10
- it not too long ago, and they still use it as their teaching 11
- 12 method for the state academy police officers academy.
- So we actually wrote that program through the 13
- crime lab, and it was actually it was with the assistance of 14
- the district attorney at the time was Mills Lane for Washoe 15
- County, and it went through his approval also that this is 16
- what needs to be taught and utilized, and so subsequently the 17
- department of justice has written their own version of the 18
- crime scene investigation, and it's almost carbon copied 19
- ours. So and they -- you know, everyone is starting to use 20
- 21
- THE COURT: Sir, would you be careful just to 22
- listen to the question and answer that question only. 23
- THE WITNESS: Okay. 24

- provided the scene investigation.
- Also, we had those agencies work along with us
- hand in hand. You know, that was part of their -- got good
- training portion for them and a refresher if they were 4
- working side by side with.
- 6 Q. And so in addition to the teaching, you've had
- hands-on experience in the field of death investigations?
- 8 A. Oh, yes.
- 9 O. And how long has your active participation been
- in that field?
- 11 A. It's 30 plus years.
- 12 O. In being called to the scene of a death
- investigation, what is the broad goal of investigators?
- 14 A. It would be to document, collect and preserve
- evidence and analyze the evidence.
- 16 O. With what purpose in mind?
- 17 A. To gain an end result and a determination of how
- an individual expired. 18
- 19 O. And in approaching an investigation like this, is
- there dangers in reaching conclusions too quickly?
- 21 A. Oh, of course.
- 22 Q. Why is that?
- 23 A. Give a wrong answer.
- 24 O. What would be one of the main reasons?

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- 1 A. Main reason would be, you know, if you didn't
- have enough information, then you couldn't provide a proper
- 3 answer. I'm trying to grasp the question. You know, the end
- result would be if you had an individual that was accused of 4
- a crime and you don't have enough evidence and you give the
- wrong conclusion, that individual could, you know, lose their 6
- 7 freedom.
- O. And when you're doing -- in working with a death
- investigation, what are you trying to determine?
- 10 A. Well, again, you're trying to determine the cause
- and then if there is -- if there is a sequence of events, you 11
- try to prove that through your evidence, and then you try to 12
- provide an answer as to, you know, how this person, you know, 13
- again, expired.
- O. Have you seen in your background and experience
- suicide cases where there's been multiple gunshot wounds?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. How many times?
- 19 A. Just a handful.
- 20 O. So it's an unusual circumstance; is that correct?
- 21 A. It is.
- 22 Q. Now, going back to the training you provide
- concerning crime scene response, what would be the duties of
- the initial responder in that case?

- THE COURT: If there's another question, then you 1
- can follow-up. 2
- THE WITNESS: Thank you. 3
- THE COURT: But let's limit your answers to 4
- questions that are asked.
- Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And so the information or kind
- of course outline you rely on is developed by you but it's
- also similar to department of justice and other agencies
- throughout the country; is that correct? 9
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And when you're teaching concerning crime scene
- investigation, would this include or focus on death
- investigations? 13
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And in addition to training others in this
- background or in this field, have you yourself participated
- in the investigation of death investigations? 17
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you describe that background, just through
- the different law enforcement agencies you've worked for? 20
- 21 A. With the State of Nevada and California yes.
- Again, provided the services to various law enforcement 22
- agencies throughout the State of Nevada and when they call 23 for assistance, then the crime lab responded and supplied or

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- 1 A. The first responders have one of the most
- critical jobs. In law enforcement, naturally, what's 2
- paramount is officer safety. You have to remember that. 3
- Officer number one has to get there. Same thing with 4
- paramedic units and fire departments, they have to get their 5
- first, and there have been incidents where they get into 6
- traffic accidents and they don't get their first, so you 7
- still have a victim that's at a scene. So the first thing is 8
- officer safety, and you have got to get there. 9
- The second thing is upon arrival, you still have 10
- to be extremely aware of your surroundings and how are you 11
- going to approach this? What we teach is that if you can 12
- limit the entry and exit to a crime scene, you have one way 13
- in, one way out. So if an officer gets to the scene first, 14
- naturally, he's concerned about his safety, but he also has 15
- to think about the safety if there's a victim inside. So he 16
- needs to the get to the victim. Now, how does he do that? 17
- How does he or she do that? It's difficult because now they
- 18 are responsible for crime scene security, plus on top of 19
- their own security and the security of an individual inside 20
- that scene. A lot of responsibility right now, especially if 21
- they are working by themselves. 22
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I would object. This 23
- is unresponsive to the question.

- the medical response now so that officer needs to, once he's
- secured the scene needs to guide those individuals into the
- 3
- Q. And what is the purpose of guiding them into the
- scene?
- 6 A. You're limiting the distinction of evidence.
- Q. And other than letting -- I mean, paramedics,
- obviously, have to get in. Other than that, what should be
- done concerning the number of people entering that scene at
- 10 that point?
- 11 A. You try and keep the number of individuals out of
- the scene. You know, people that belong there need to be in
- there, your lifesavers, your first responders. Any other 13
- 14 personnel, we suggest that you keep them outside.
- 15 Q. And what if the paramedics, for example, have
- either finished their call or determined they are no longer
- needed, what should happen with them?
- 18 A. The officer in charge should lead them back out.
- He needs to get their names and, of course, he can get that
- through the dispatch but who responded to the scene, who was
- there. He needs to start what we call a crime scene sign-in 21
- 22
- 23 Q. Okay. And when emergency responders, I'm talking
- more the paramedics, are still in a residence or in a scene,

- THE COURT: Sustained. It's kind of a narrative, 1
- so why don't you ask another question. 2
- 3 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Who is in charge of the scene of
- a death scene initially?
- 5 A. The first responder.
- 6 Q. And you're talking within the law enforcement
- agency?
- 8 A. Yes.
- O. And what should their focus be with that initial
- response? 10
- 11 A. Their own safety first and then the safety of the
- 12 victim.
- 13 O. And if -- what should they do to try to basically
- preserve that scene?
- 15 A. Again, it would be --
- 16 O. Initially?
- 17 A. Initially would be to secure the scene make sure
- there aren't any perpetrators around at the scene. That also 18
- falls within the parameters of officer safety and then the 19
- wellbeing of the victim. 20
- 21 O. If trying to guarantee the wellbeing of the
- victim, they are obviously going to have to let paramedic 22
- personnel into the house?
- 24 A. Yes. If you have an injured victim, it would be

- what would be the duty of the first responding officer in
- relation to them moving about the scene?
- 3 A. Well, he needs to confined -- keep them confined,
- you know, as to their job, and their job primary job is to
- save a life, to treat an individual so that's what they are
- there for. You don't want them unnecessarily walking about a
- scene, so he has to make sure that they are doing their jobs
- 8 also.
- Q. And you mentioned previously the Locard 9
- Principle, what is that? 10
- 11 A. Dr. Edmond Locard, he was back in the 1870s, I
- believe, 1880, at the turn of the Twentieth Century, he was 12
- 13 Frances Sherlock Holmes, and he had written several articles
- regarding crime scene investigation. One of them that he 14
- came up with was a theory that evidence is transferrable. So 15
- 16 and that became -- becomes a principle.
- 17 He proved the fact that when we enter a crime
- 18 scene we're actually taking trace evidence, hairs, fibers,
- body fluids, whatever into the scene. We actually carry 19
- those into the scene. We transport them there. Any evidence 20
- inside that scene is also transported back out, and he's 21 22
- right, we do that. Anything we touch, we're transferring our 23 bodily fluids onto a given item, so that's trace evidence
- that's being transferred.

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- So the Locard Principle is one of the key issues
- 2 that we're dealing with is that, yeah, we're transferring
- 3 evidence everywhere. So by -- as I said before, limiting
- 4 excess into the crime scene, one way in, one way out, we're
- 5 limiting that transfer of evidence.
- 6 O. What are the duties of an investigator once the
- 7 they assume control over that crime scene?
- 8 A. When you say investigator, are you talking about
- 9 law enforcement investigators?
- 10 Q. Yes.
- 11 A. Okay. Their primary duty is to gain, you know,
- information that's within the scene that they can start their
- 13 investigation with. Contact the officer that's in charge and
- 14 that's the first responder. He's still in charge of that
- scene until relieved of that duty. So, and that could be a
- 16 detective or an investigator can relieve him of that duty.
- 17 However, you still need to have control of who is in there.
- 18 So you have your crime scene sign-in for. It's still -- it's
- 19 present during the entire time at the crime scene, who came
- into that scene, what was their purpose, and who left.
- 21 Q. And once -- once the paramedics have left, if
- 22 it's determined that the person is deceased, what -- what
- 23 should be done with the residence or the location of the
- 24 crime or the death scene?

- 1 A. The crime scene investigators, the detective in
- 2 charge and, of course, you still have, you know, an officer
- 3 securing that scene.
- 4 Q. Should anybody be in that crime scene that
- 5 doesn't have a specific purpose?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, I know you have more
- 8 questions of this witness, but it's 10:30, and I think it's
- 9 an appropriate time to take our morning break. So we're
- 10 going to take a 15-minute break. We'll be back at a quarter
- 11 to the hour.

12

- MS. BROWN: Thank you.
- 13 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, during this
- 14 15-minute recess, you are admonished not to talk or converse
- 15 among yourselves or with anyone else on any subject connected
- 16 with this trial. You're not to read, watch or listen to any
- 17 report of or commentary on the trial or any person connected
- 18 with this trial by any medium of information, including
- 19 without limitation newspapers, television, radio or internet.
- You're not to form or express any opinion on any
- 21 subject connected with the trial until the case has finally
- 22 been submitted to you. Thank you.
- Mr. Billau, you are going to remain under oath.
- 24 You are instructed not to discuss your testimony with anyone

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- 1 A. What should be done at that time, after the 1 other than the
- 2 paramedics ---
- 3 O. If they are still, yes, anticipating
- 4 investigators coming to begin processing evidence?
- 5 A. Yes, you should have individuals that are going
- 6 to process the crime scene, and they usually work -- I'm
- 7 talking about crime scene investigators now. Is that the
- 8 question you are asking?
- 9 Q. Yes.
- 10 A. Crime scene investigators are normally called to
- 11 the scene of the crime to collect and observe, document for
- 12 evidence. They do their own investigation. This is
- primarily their duties. As, again, you might have a
- 14 detective that works alongside them or in parallel with them
- 15 to see what evidence is being discovered and being collected.
- 16 This will aid in their investigation also so the primary
- duties of crime scene personnel is to document.
- 18 Documentation can be through photography, be through
- 19 videotaping. It could be through crime scene drawings with
- 20 measurements, that's all documentation of the scene.
- 21 O. And let me interrupt you a minute. Before in
- 22 anticipating there's going to be evidence gathered and
- 23 collected, who should have access to that residence or crime
- 24 scene?

- other than the three attorneys who are presently in this
- 2 room.
- 3 THE WITNESS: I understand.
- THE COURT: Please be on the stand at a guarter
- 5 'til, and we will resume.
- 6 Ladies and gentlemen, you need to take the
- 7 morning break. Thank you. We're in recess until a quarter
- 8 'til.
- 9 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)
- THE COURT: We're back in session on 14CR0062,
- 11 State of Nevada versus Tatiana Leibel. Mr. Gregory is
- 12 present. Ms. Brown and Ms. Henry is present. Ms. Leibel is
- present, and Mr. Billau is still on the stand. We're going
- 14 to bring the jury in.
 - Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Have a seat,
- 16 please.

15

- 17 Counsel stipulate the presence the jury?
- MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- MS. HENRY: Yes, Your Honor.
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you.
- Ms. Brown, would you proceed, please.
- 23 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And generally when there's going
- 24 to be investigators for example somebody like the Washoe

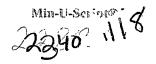
- 1 County Crime Lab would respond to collect evidence at the
- 2 scene, what are considerations you need to keep in mind in
- 3 the documentation of collection of evidence?
- 4 A. Number one, you have to locate the evidence.
- 5 Then in consideration with collecting the evidence is the
- 6 size of the evidence. You know, how are you going to package
- 7 it. How are you going to collect this particular piece of
- 8 evidence? And, of course, it's preservation, and that would
- 9 be in the packaging and then in the transportation and then
- 10 the analysis, the future analysis of that evidence.
- 11 Q. What about documentation?
- 12 A. Documentation, again, would include photography,
- videotaping, measurements, drawings.
- 14 O. And included in documentation, what about keeping
- 15 track of the location of the evidence and who handled it from
- 16 there on out, how was that done?
- 17 A. It's what we call a chain of evidence. In other
- words, if you collect the evidence, you generated that
- 19 evidence. After that, if anyone handles it, they must sign
- 20 onto a document that tells when they received it, the time
- 21 they received it, the date they received it and then where is
- 22 this evidence going, if it's going to an evidence locker.
- 23 You have to have a destination so you know exactly where that
- 24 evidence has been at all times.

- 1 documenting everything from the first responder up to?
- 2 A. What is the purpose for it, is that what you're
- 3 asking?
- 4 Q. What are we talking about with documentation
- 5 other than you mentioned photographs?
- 6 A. So we have a visual record, the documentation,
- 7 you have a visual record of what has taken place.
- 8 Q. And as to officers, what is -- what would their
- 9 need -- how would they document what happened at a scene?
- 10 A. Well, they could use it any number of means.
- 11 They're naturally with dispatch when they arrive on scene.
- 12 They have to tell dispatch that they have gotten there so
- that's the documentation, dispatch records.
- 14 Q. Sorry, as to reporting so other people can look
- 15 back and know what happened?
- 16 A. Oh, okay, you have notes. You keep notes, and
- 17 then you have to write a report. You have to write a report
- 18 on what you did, what you saw, basically, that's --
- 19 Q. And basically based on your training and
- 20 experience and the protocols you teach in teaching crime
- 21 scene investigation, what should be the responsibility of
- anyone that enters the scene of a death investigation?
- 23 A. They have to sign-in first, and then they also
- 24 have to write a report of what their function was, why were

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- 1 If someone checks it out and needs to sign onto
- 2 that chain again as to when they sign for it, the date and
- 3 time and what it's destination was, the person receiving it
- 4 on the other end such as the crime lab personnel needs to
- 5 sign onto that, stating they received that particular item of
- 6 evidence on it particular date and what is the destination
- 7 lab exam of some sort.
- 8 They have to return that evidence, again, back to
- 9 the evidence section and, again, the whole process just keeps
- 10 repeating itself until it find either winds up in court or
- 11 winds up staying in the evidence section. You know where
- that evidence has been at all times.
- 13 O. And what is -- what is the importance of -- you
- 14 were talking about documentation. What is the importance of
- 15 documentation and everything from the first responder up to
- 16 evidence collection?
- 17 A. We know exactly what is happened all of time,
- 18 from the initial response or even the dispatch order and then
- 19 all the way through the end until it either goes to court or
- 20 it doesn't. You have to have that documentation.
- 21 O. And what do you mean by documentation?
- 22 A. Well, you need to have proof. You need to have
- 23 proof of the case.
- 24 Q. But what -- what responsibility is there in

- 1 they there. They need to write that report.
- 2 Q. Were you asked to review reports and photographs
- 3 from this investigation?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. What reports were you asked to review?
- 6 A. I reviewed the reports from the crime laboratory,
- 7 also some of their notes, some photographs that they had
- 8 taken, and I believe that was about it. Also, there was the
- 9 crime scene sign-in log. I had reviewed that also.
- 10 Q. Did you review reports of officers' activities at
- 11 the scene?
- 12 A. At the scene I did, yes.
- 13 Q. Now, you had previously talked about a principle
- 14 called Locard?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And it has to do with trace evidence either being
- 17 carried in or carried out of a scene?
- 18 A. That is correct.
- 19 Q. If there is an animal, such as a dog present at a
- 20 scene, should there be some documentation concerning that
- 21 animal's presence?
- 22 A. There should be, yes.
- 23 Q. And why is that?
- 24 A. Well, again, evidence. There's a possibility of



9

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- 1 evidence being moved by an animal that's within the scene,
- 2 that's fairly great in nature. So you would like to know if
- 3 there is an animal in there, if they did serve any evidence
- 4 and, again if, the animal is in the crime scene, they are
- 5 transferring evidence.
- 6 Q. Did you receive any information that there was a
- 7 dog present at this scene?
- 8 A. Not until later. It wasn't until later.
- 9 Initially, I didn't have any information concerning the
- 10 animal.
- 11 Q. And where did the information concerning the
- 12 animal come from?
- 13 A. From you.
- 14 Q. And that was concerning a 911 call?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And was there any entry in it -- in the entry
- 17 logs?
- 18 A. I didn't hear your question.
- 19 O. Was there any information concerning the animal
- 20 in the crime scene log-in?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. I'll show you Exhibit 72. Do you recognize what
- 23 this is?

1

THE COURT: Did you see that, Mr. Gregory?

- 1 Q. And, again, back to Exhibit 73, do you recognize
- 2 what is shown in this photograph?
- 3 A. Yes, I do.
- 4 Q. What is it?
- 5 MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I object. This
- 6 photograph is not in evidence to my knowledge.
- 7 THE COURT: That's correct, it's not in evidence.
- 8 so we'll see if she can get it in.
 - Go ahead and ask your question again.
- 10 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And can you describe generally
- 11 what's in this photograph?
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I object. The
- 13 photograph is not in evidence.
- 14 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 15 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Is this representative of
- 16 photographs of the death scene that you reviewed concerning
- 17 this matter?
- 18 A. It is.
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would offer Exhibit 73.
- MR. GREGORY: I object, Your Honor. To my
- 21 knowledge, this witness was not on the crime scene, so he
- 22 cannot authenticate this particular photograph, so I continue
- 23 to object.
- THE COURT: He can testify that this is a

- MR. GREGORY: I did not, Your Honor.
- 2 MS. BROWN: I'm sorry, Your Honor.
- 3 MR. GREGORY: Thank you.
- 4 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Do you recognize what this is?
- 5 A. Yes, this is a crime scene sign-in log.
- 6 Q. Connected with 452 Kent Way?
- 7 A. That is correct.
- 8 O. And looking through that, do you see any
- 9 information concerning an animal at the scene?
- 10 A. There is a mention here. It was approximately at
- 11 1844 hours, a person with the last name of Munn, M-u-n-n had
- 12 entered the scene to retrieve the dog.
- 13 O. And other than those documentations, was there
- 14 any documentation in officers' report or any evidence that
- 15 you saw concerning that dog?
- 16 A. Not with the reports that I had received.
- 17 Q. And showing you what's been marked as Exhibit 73
- 18 for identification, do you recognize what is shown in that
- 19 photograph?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- THE COURT: Did you show that to Mr. Gregory?
- MS. BROWN: I'm sorry, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am.
- MS. BROWN: Thank you.

- 1 photograph that he reviewed to reach some conclusion. Now,
- 2 you'll get -- you know, it's limited there in its value
- 3 perhaps. We'll see what the defense does with it, but he's
- 4 already identified it as something he did review to reach a
- 5 conclusion. Therefore, I'm going to admit it, and we'll see
- 6 what argument is made about it.
- 7 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Again, showing you what's been
- 8 marked as or admitted as Exhibit 73, is this representative
- 9 of the photographs of the crime scene that you reviewed?
- 10 A. It is one photograph, yes.
- 11 Q. And is it a representative of that same scene
- that you viewed in other photographs?
- 13 A. I'm sorry, I missed your question.
- 14 Q. Is it representative of the main focus of other
- 15 photographs you reviewed of this scene?
- 16 A. It is, yes.
- 17 Q. And in this photograph, obviously, there's what
- 18 appears to be blood present at the scene?
- 19 A. It appears to be, yes.
- 20 O. And in your review of the photographs concerning
- 21 this scene, did you see any paw prints or anything that would
- 22 suggest that an animal was present in this room?
- THE COURT: Any what or anything? I'm sorry, I
- 24 didn't understand the question.

- 1 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Any paw prints or indications --THE COURT: Paw prints, thank you. I 2
- misunderstood. 3
- Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Paw prints or indication that a
- dog was present in this scene?
- 6 A. I did not notice, no.
- Q. And in your review of the laboratory report, did
- you see any documentation that any trace evidence was looked
- at for this dog? 9
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. And, again, what -- what type of trace evidence
- 12 would you -- if a dog was present when there was a
- bloodletting, what type of evidence would you be looking for?
- 14 A. To see if the animal was in the blood. Again, it
- would be paw print, footprint. Dog hair would be another one
- that would be trace evidence, even saliva in the animal.
- 17 O. What type of evidence might be viewed on the dog?
- 18 A. Viewed on the dog?
- 19 Q. Yes.
- 20 A. Again, that would be red staining, most likely
- blood. You would look at the paws, even look at the mouth.
- 22 Q. In your training and experience, when dogs or
- even possibly cats are present in a room where there's 23
- 24 bloodletting, are they attracted to it?

- 1 Q. What would that be?
- 2 A. One of them would be a projectile analysis within
- a crime scene or even outdoors of a crime scene.
- 4 O. And what is the correlation between, okay, you're
- looking at the, possibly the angle of the trajectory and the
- angle of for example blood spatter?
- A. They are both the same.
- 8 Q. And what do you man by that?
- A. Well, I mean, the trajectory, it's a path. It's
- a path that was taken by an object, whether it be a
- projectile, whether it be liquid blood. We're looking at it
- as a trajectory, in other words, at a travel area.
- 13 Q. You talk about the initial course you had. Have
- you received other training in the area of trajectory?
- 15 A. That was the basic training and then the other is
- just applying that training over a course of time at a number
- of crime scenes where we did have bloodletting. 17
- 18 Q. Do you use -- and do you keep familiar with
- current changes or trends in that?
- 20 A. Oh, yes, yes.
- 21 Q. How is that done?
- 22 A. That's done through being a life active member of
- the IAI. I do receive a scientific periodicals every month
- and actually review those all of the time.

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- 1 A. Oh, absolutely.
- And in your past training and experience, have
- you become familiar with process of figuring trajectory?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And what is trajectory?
- 6 A. Well, it's an angle basically is what it is. It
- gives us certain degrees of angles, that's a trajectory.
- It's a path of an object will give you a trajectory. 8
- Q. What training have you had in this -- in the 9
- 10 field of trajectory?
- 11 A. The first time I encountered it was in the mid
- 12 1980s when bloodstain pattern analysis became important at a
- crime scene. There was a 40-hour course that was provided by 13
- a Dr. Herbert McDonald, who was a physicist with Corning 14
- 15 University.
- We've always had this type of pattern at crime 16
- scenes, but we really didn't know what we were looking at 17
- until Dr. McDonald actually presented it to us, and it's just 18
- a basic form of trajectory is what it is. Given the size of 19
- the blood stain, we can actually perform a trigonometry 20 calculation and obtain an angle, in other words, a degree.
- 21 22 Q. Sorry, backing up from going into bloodstains,
- what is -- is there other uses of trajectory at a scene?
- 24 A. Oh, absolutely, yeah.

- 1 Q. What basic principles is the science of
- trajectory based on?
- 3 A. Mathematics.
- Q. And what is it looking at?
- Trigonometry.
- Q. Which would include -- which would include lines
- and angles?
- A. Oh, yes, absolutely.
- Q. Is there another part of trajectory that is --
- moves away from the true sciences? Is there a point when it 10
- becomes a subjective interpretation?
- 12 A. You can, yes.
- 13 Q. Were you asked to review the trajectory of a
- projectile in this case?
- 15 A. Yes.
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I'm going to ask for a 16
- 17 hearing outside the presence of the jury, please.
 - THE COURT: Okay. All right. I'm going to
- excuse the jury for a few minutes. I'm not sure how long 19 20 we'll be.
- 21 (Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the
- 22 jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.) 23
- THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to 24

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- 1 ask you to recess to the jury room until the call of the
- 2 Court.
- 3 Mr. Gregory?
- 4 MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor I appreciate
- 5 the opportunity. My concern is this, in the defendant's
- 6 notice of expert witnesses, here's what they told us about
- 7 the testimony of Mr. Billau, David Billau will testify
- 8 concerning crime scene investigation and his review of the
- 9 lab photographs and reports prepared in this matter.
- Mr. Billau did not provide a report in this case
- so that's the extent of the information that was given to the
- 12 State regarding his testimony. I'm now hearing things about
- 13 trajectory and blood spatter and things like that that, A, I
- 14 questioned his expertise in his areas but, B, we were not
- 15 provided with information. If he did any kind of experiment
- or figuring, it sounds like he did some math perhaps, the
- 17 State would ask to be able to see that, but my initial
- 18 question is that's not the purpose for which he was offered
- 19 as an expert.
- THE COURT: Do you have anything like that that
- 21 you intend to offer, Ms. Brown, and do you have anything like
- 22 that, period?
- MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor. No, Your Honor. I'm
- 24 not attempting to offer his conclusion. I'm attempting to

- 1 going to, he was going to be asked opinions about trajectory
- 2 and blood spatter and things like this.
- 3 THE COURT: It sounds like he's not but if he has
- 4 that stuff and you're going to -- you're not going to ask?
 - MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. Let's bring the jury back
- 7 in. My 1:00 o'clock statement to the jury may not be
- 8 accurate to the jury, noon. Do you think that's still
- 9 accurate?
- MS. BROWN: I'm going to wrap up here quickly.
- 11 THE COURT: You don't have to. Maybe we'll just
- 12 keep going until we get done for the day.
- (Whereupon, the jury was brought back in open
- 14 court.)
- THE COURT: Ms. Brown, your next question,
- 16 please.
- 17 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) You were asked to review --
- 18 THE COURT: Wait a minute. Will counsel
- 19 stipulate the presence of the jury?
- MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Now go ahead.
- 23 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) You were asked to review
- 24 documentation provided by the Washoe County Crime Lab

- 1 offer his review of the information provided from the crime
- 2 lab and the photographs concerning trajectory to review if
- 3 there was information, sufficient information to prepare a
- 4 report.
- 5 THE COURT: They didn't offer a report from the
- 6 crime lab, so are you telling me that you're going to
- 7 question him regarding the methodology that you were provided
- 8 and whether that is sufficient to come to a conclusion?
- 9 MS. BROWN: Correct.
- THE COURT: And I don't think you get to argue
- about their report because they didn't offer the report.
- MS. BROWN: Not the report.
- THE COURT: And I would be careful about saying
- 14 that. Tell me again what the notice was.
- MR. GREGORY: David Billau will testify --
- 16 THE COURT: Sir, would you slow down for me a
- 17 little bit, please.
- 18 MR. GREGORY: Yes. David Billau will testify
- 19 concerning crime scene investigation and his review of the
- 20 lab photographs and reports prepared in this matter.
- THE COURT: And so if he's not going to offer his
- own trajectory, his own calculations, simply he's reviewing what you provided the defense, your objection is overruled.
- MR. GREGORY: I'm good with that. The way he was

- 1 concerning their measurements and documentation of the scene;
- 2 is that correct?
- 3 A. That is correct.
- 4 Q. Were you also provided information concerning the
- 5 ballistics that was done at the scene or done later by
- 6 investigator or, yeah, Investigator Noedel?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. And as part of your review, did you also have an
- 9 opportunity to visit or look at other pieces of evidence in
- 10 this case?
- 11 A. Yes, I did.
- 12 Q. Did you go to the house at 452 Kent Way?
- 13 A. I did.
- 14 Q. Do you recall when that was?
- 15 A. Several weeks ago.
- 16 Q. Was there -- was the couch we've been talking
- 17 about still present at the scene?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Were you able to at one point view the couch?
- 20 A. I was, yes.
- 21 Q. And where did that occur?
- 22 A. That occurred here at the Douglas County
- 23 Sheriff's Office in their evidence section.
- 24 Q. Do you recall when that was?

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- 1 A. Last Friday, I believe.
- 2 O. What was -- did you view anything that was
- defective with the couch at that time?
- 4 A. Yes, I did.
- 5 Q. What was that?
- 6 A. That was the seat back on the couch. As you're
- facing the couch, it would be the left seat back was -- had
- either broken or fallen apart. And as a matter of fact, we 8
- actually got it back into place. 9
- 10 Q. Were you also able to observe a piece of drywall
- that had been with an apparent hole in it?
- 12 A. That is correct.
- 13 Q. Showing you Exhibit 107, was that one of the
- documents you were provided by the Washoe County Crime Lab
- information? 15
- 16 A. It is, yes.
- 17 Q. What does that represent?
- 18 A. It's a crime scene drawing from the living room
- area showing the decedent.
- 20 O. And does this diagram in Exhibit 67 indicate
- whether or not it's to scale?
- 22 A. I don't believe so.
- 23 Q. So it's not to scale?
- 24 A. That is correct.

- THE COURT: Take your time, ma'am.
- Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Showing you Exhibit 27, is that
- one of the photographs you examined in connection with the
- trajectory?
- A. It is.
- Q. And Exhibit 28, is that also one of the
- photographs you reviewed?
- 8 A. It is, yes.
- Q. And Exhibit 29 --
- THE JUROR: Can I get you to speak up just a 10
- little bit. 11
- 12 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Exhibit 29?
- 13 THE COURT: She's given him 27, 28 and 29.
- THE WITNESS: I have viewed this one, yes. 14
- Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Again, showing you Exhibit 67,
- you indicated this was one -- this was the initial diagram 16
- 17 that you viewed at -- from the crime lab that you reviewed in
- connection with your review in this case?
- 19 A. It is, yes.
- Q. And at the time you went to view the residence at
- 452 Kent Way, was this the only information you had
- concerning other than the photographs concerning the location
- of items at this residence? 23
- 24 A. It is, yes.

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- 1 Q. And when you went to view the residence at 452
- Kent Way, was this only the information that had been
- provided concerning the crime scene at that time? 3
- 4 A. That is correct.
- 5 Q. And showing you Exhibit 100, do you recognize
- that? 6
- 7 A. I do.
- 8 Q. And what's that?
- 9 A. This is a detailed sketch, including measurements
- of the same area of the living room and dining area of the 10
- residence. 11
- 12 THE COURT: What number is that, please?
- MS. BROWN: 100. 13
- THE COURT: Thank you. 14
- 15 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And showing you Exhibit 101, do
- you recognize that?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.
- 18 Q. What is that?
- 19 A. This is, again, another crime scene drawing with
- 20 measurements showing the view of the sofa, couch area,
- looking at it, in other words, a direct view. Instead of an 21
- overhead view, you're looking directly at the couch and the 22
- table next to it. 23
- 24 Court's indulgence.

- 1 Q. And this diagram had represented it was not to
- scale; is that correct?
- 3 A. That is correct.
- 4 Q. And we consistently received -- showing you
- Exhibit Number 100, again, what is this?
- 6 A. This is a drawing, an overhead view of the living
- room, dining room area showing items within there and also
- measurements thereof.
- Q. And at the time you went to visit the residence,
- had we been provided with this document?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. And with Exhibit 101, what's that?
- 13 A. This is, again, a diagram of the sofa, showing
- the sofa and the end table next to it, also with
- measurements, and this is looking from the ground floor 15
- 16 directly at the items.
- 17 Q. And, again, have we received Exhibit 101 by the
- time you went to view the residence?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. And when did you go to the residence?
- 21 A. It was approximately three weeks ago.
- 22 Q. And at that time, in addition -- excluding the
- 23 ballistics reports from Officer Noedel or Mr. Noedel from the Washoe County Crime Lab, had you received any information

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- 1 concerning his conclusions in this case?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. And showing you Exhibit Number 27, do you
- 4 recognize that?
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. And what is that?
- 7 A. This is a view of the back of the sofa area and
- 8 the wall directly behind that sofa. You also see what is a
- 9 probe that's been placed through the sofa cushion back and
- 10 entering -- touching the wall behind it, and it shows
- 11 approximately, let's see -- approximately 18 inches up from
- the floor is where this probe showing the trajectory of this
- probe is 18 inches above the floor.
- 14 Q. And at this point in the photograph, is that
- 15 trajectory rod lining up with the hole in the wall?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Showing you Exhibit 28.
- 18 A. This, again, is a view of the sofa back with the
- 19 probe, and now it's approximately ten and a half inches to 11
- 20 inches up from the flooring, and it shows the probe in line
- 21 with the hole in the wall.
- 22 Q. And concerning Exhibit Number 100 or Exhibit
- 23 Number 101, just reminding you, I'm showing you Exhibit
- 24 Number 100 and Exhibit Number 101, was there any reporting

- MS. BROWN: That he -- that he received some
- 2 trial testimony concerning how the couch was manipulated in
- 3 order to make that trajectory line up with that hole.
 - THE COURT: I'm going to allow it.
- 5 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And what was that?
- 6 MR. GREGORY: I would just ask in what manner he
- 7 received testimony.
- 8 THE COURT: You'll get to cross-examine him.
- 9 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Was that information provided by
- 10 me?
- 11 A. It was.
- 12 Q. And what was it?
- 13 A. It was that an individual had sat in the couch.
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I object to Ms. Brown's
- 15 testimony.
- 16 THE COURT: You'll get to cross-examine him.
- 17 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Go ahead.
- 18 A. Again, it was information I received from you
- 19 that an individual had sat in the couch and able for the
- 20 probe to line up to the hole.
- 21 Q. And, again, was there any documentation you
- received from those crime lab notes indicating that is how
- 23 that result was achieved?
- 24 A. No.

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- 1 O. Based on your review of the reports and evidence
- 2 available in this case, were you able to reach any
- 3 conclusions concerning trajectory?
- MR. GREGORY: Objection, Your Honor, as we
- 5 discussed.
- 6 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, I think that's outside the
- 7 scope of the notice.
- 8 MS. BROWN: I don't think so, Your Honor. If
- 9 there's ---
- 10 THE COURT: It's not allowed.
- MS. BROWN: Excuse me?
- THE COURT: It's not allowed. You may be able to
- 13 rephrase that question but that question is not allowed.
- 14 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) In your view of the
- 15 documentation and photographs that had been provided
- 16 concerning study or this trying to document trajectory, was
- 17 there enough information that was provided from the Washoe
- 18 County Crime Lab that enabled you to do anything in regard to
- 4 0 C 11 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1
- 19 that? Could you make a conclusion based on the information
- 20 that you were provided concerning trajectory?
- 21 A. I cannot.
- 22 Q. And what was the deficiency in receiving this
- 23 information? What did you need?
- 24 A. I needed more information.

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that you were aware of provided by the crime lab that had

- 2 information concerning how the sofa was manipulated in order
- 3 to get the difference between Exhibit Number 27 and Number
- 4 28?
- 5 A. No, there wasn't.
- 6 Q. And why would that information be important?
- 7 A. Well, if you manipulate evidence, then obviously
- 8 you're going to come up with various answers.
- 9 Q. Were you later provided information concerning
- 11 two -- that trajectory line was made to line up with that

trial testimony that was in reference to how that -- those

- 12 hole in the wall?
- 13 A. I was.
- 14 Q. And what was that?
- 15 A. That --
- 16 MR. GREGORY: Objection, hearsay.
- 17 THE COURT: Response?
- MS. BROWN: It's the information that he was
- provided in an attempt to make conclusions.
- MR. GREGORY: The only information that should be
- 21 relevant is information that came from this witness stand
- 22 that these jurors were able to hear.
- THE COURT: Are you asking him if he has reviewed
- 24 certain trial testimony?

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- 1 Q. And that would be the information from initial
- 2 investigators on the scene; is that correct?
- 3 A. That is correct.
- 4 O. Was that information documentation concerning
- 5 this investigation lacking in that case?
- 6 A. I feel it was, yes.
- 7 Q. And concerning your other investigation at the
- 8 crime or reviewing the reports and documentation concerning
- 9 the crime scene, did you see other deficiencies in
- 10 documentation or in handling of the evidence?
- 11 A. There were several points, yes.
- 12 Q. Such as?
- 13 A. Well, one, the number of individuals in the
- 14 scene.
- 15 Q. And, again, why is that important?
- 16 A. Again, we go back to Locard's Principles. All of
- 17 the cross contamination that's taken place with evidence
- 18 entering and on the crime scene. Also, the documentation of
- 19 the description of the photographs being taken, there was a
- 20 lack thereof, what were these photographs, and it appeared in
- 21 the photographs that I -- that I looked at that items had
- been moved and it's based on their photographs and
- measurements that they provided at the scene.
- 23 measurements that they provided at the scene. 24 O. And at a crime scene, in the course of necessity,

- 1 importance of documenting?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. Officers are supposed to do reports, correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Investigators do reports, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 O. And the expert personnel should do reports?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Did you do a report in this case?
- 10 A. No, I did not.
- 11 Q. Thank you. In any of the photographs that you
- 12 reviewed, did you see bloody dog prints all over the place?
- 13 A. Not in the photos I reviewed.
- 14 Q. And you're not going to tell me today the dog did
- 15 it, are you?
- 16 A. No, I don't think so.
- 17 Q. Nothing further.
- 18 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MS. BROWN:
- 20 Q. And the reason you didn't do a report in this
- 21 case?
- 22 A. Well, you didn't request one.
- 23 Q. Was there anything to report concerning
- 24 trajectory in your review of it?

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- sometimes things need to be moved, for example, to offer
- 2 first responders access to the victim?
- 3 A. That is correct, that happens.
- 4 O. And what should be done if an item of evidence is
- 5 moved?
- 6 A. It needs to be documented that it had been moved.
- 7 Q. And other than a reference to the coffee table,
- 8 was there any documentation concerned in this case concerning
- 9 movement of the items?
- 10 A. I'm sorry, can you repeat the question again.
- 11 O. There was a documentation in one officer's report
- of a coffee table being moved so paramedics had access to
- 13 Mr. Leibel; is that correct?
- 14 A. I recall that, yes.
- 15 Q. You testified that some items of evidence in
- 16 photographs seem to have been moved. Was there any
- 17 documentation concerning that?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 O. Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 20 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 24 Q. Sir, you just got done talking a lot about

- 1 A. No
- 2 Q. Could you reach any conclusions?
- з A. No.
- 4 O. Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 5 MR. GREGORY: Nothing further, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: Sir, thank you for being here. You
- 7 may step down.
- 8 (Witness excused.)
- 9 THE COURT: Do you need him to remain subject to
- 10 call of the Court?
- 11 MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- MR. GREGORY: No. Your Honor.
- 13 THE COURT: Sir, you are finally released. Thank
- 14 you.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 16 (Witness excused.)
- 17 THE COURT: Ms. Brown?
- MS. BROWN: Those are the witnesses I have to
- 19 present today, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: So now we run up against that travel
- 21 issue and --
- 22 MS. BROWN: Yes.
- THE COURT: -- so we're going to recess the
- 24 balance of today until Wednesday at 1:00 o'clock. So much to

_	Page 89) Page 91		
_	delight growll he ship to go to work ladios and	1	CAPITOL REPORTERS		
1	your delight, you'll be able to go to work, ladies and	2	515 W. Fourth Street, Suite B Carson City, Nevada 89703		
2	gentlemen, until Wednesday at 1:00 o'clock.	3	775-882-5322		
3	(Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the	4	THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT		
4	jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone	5	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS		
5	until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.)	6	STATE OF NEVADA, Case No. 14-CR-0062		
6	THE COURT: You are excused until Wednesday at	7	Plaintiff, Vs. Dept. No. 1		
7	1:00 o'clock. Thank you. We'll be in recess.	8	TATIANA LEIBEL,		
8		9	Defendant.		
9			AFFIRMATION		
10		10			
11		11	The Undersigned does hereby affirm that the following document DOES NOT contain the social security number of any		
12	·	12	person: (List of document(s) attached below)		
13		13	1) Trial 2/2/15		
14		14	-or- The undersigned does hereby affirm that the document		
15	•	15	named below DDES contain the social security number of a person as required by state or federal law or for the		
16		16	administration of a public program or for an application for a federal or state grant: (List of document(s) attached		
17		17	containing social security number information below)		
18		18	1)		
19		19	2)		
20		20			
21		21	(Your signature) (Date) 6/8/15		
22		22			
23		23			
24		24			
	Page 90				
1	STATE OF NEVADA,)				
2) ss. CARSON CITY.)				
3					
4	I, KATHY JACKSON, Nevada Certified Court Reporter				
5	Number 402, do hereby certify:				
6	That I was present in the District Court in Minden, in				
7	and for the State of Nevada, on February 2, 2015, for the				
8	purpose of reporting in verbatim stenotype notes the				
9	within-entitled Hearing;				
10	That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1				
11	through 90, is a full, true and correct transcription of said				
12	Hearing.				
13					
14	Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 8th day		•		
1	-				
15	of June, 2015.				
16	ricinel packon				
17	$O \cdot I$				
18	KATHY JACKSON, CCR		*		
19	Nevada CCR #402				
20	• •				
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EXHIBIT 10

In The Matter Of:

State of Nevada vs Tatiana Leibel. aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062

> Trial - Wednesday February 4, 2015 Rough Draft

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Carson City, Nevada 89703

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4	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS			
5	BEFORE THE HONORABLE DISTRIC	T COURT JUDGE, NATHAN TOD YOUNG		
6				
7	THE STATE OF NEVADA,			
8	Plaintiff,			
9	vs.			
10	TATIANA LEIBEL,			
11	Defendant.	,		
12		′		
13	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS			
14	TRIAL			
15	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015			
16	•			
17	APPEARANCES:			
18	For the State:	TOM GREGORY Chief Deputy District Attorney		
19		Minden, Nevada		
20	For the Defendant:	KRIS BROWN Attorney at Law		
21	•	Minden, Nevada		
22		JAMIE HENRY Attorney at Law		
23	Reported By:	Kathy Jackson CSR		
24	nagranam al.	Nevada CCR #402		
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1	WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015, MINDEN, NEVADA

- 2 -oOo-
- THE COURT: We are in session in 14CR62, State of
- 4 Nevada versus Tatiana Leibel. Mr. Gregory is here for the
- 5 State. Ms. Henry and Ms. Brown are here, with Ms. Leibel is
- 6 also here. Our interpreter is here.
- Before we get going too far today, I know that I
- 8 talked with the attorneys about maybe trying to give this to
- 9 the jury today and doing closings today, and I don't think we
- 10 can do that. I reassessed it. I think that it makes more
- 11 sense for us to take whatever witness that we're going to
- 12 have.
- 13 Ms. Brown, is this your last witness?
- 14 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: And do you expect any rebuttal, sir?
- 16 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. So then I think -- and you're
- 18 prepared to do that today?
- 19 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: Then I think we'll take those
- 21 witnesses, and I'll release the jury. My intention is to
- 22 settle the jury instructions with you today though, okay? So
- 23 I'm going to ask that you be prepared to do that. We'll have
- 24 the instructions settled when we bring the jury back

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1 tomorrow. I'm anticipating we may not have anymore

- 2 witnesses. Is that fair?
- 3 MS. BROWN: Yes.
- 4 MR. GREGORY: Yes, I do.
- THE COURT: I didn't hear the question, but I
- 6 probably don't need to hear it.
- 7 MS. BROWN: I was asking who the witness is, but
- 8 I made the mistake of asking who the witness is.
- 9 THE COURT: Oh, okay. I imagine Mr. Gregory does
- 10 know who the witness is.
- 11 MR. GREGORY: I do.
- THE COURT: And it would be my intention tomorrow
- 13 morning to begin by reading the instructions and having
- 14 closing argument. If the parties are going to request that
- 15 instructions be read before argument, does anybody make that
- 16 request? Ms. Brown is nodding her head.
- 17 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 19 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- THE COURT: It seems to me, you know, the rules
- 21 that I'm supposed to ask you if you agree to that, it seems
- 22 it's always the best order of business to have the
- 23 instructions read and then have argument so that the last
- 24 thing that they hear is your argument as opposed to me

18

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21 22

23

- 1 reading the instructions. So that will be the -- that will
- 2 be the order of business unless there are any questions or 3 concerns.
- MR. GREGORY: No. Your Honor. 4
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I just didn't bring my 5
- 6 files up with other witness information in it so depending on
- 7 who this next witness is, we may need a break so I can go to
- 8 my car.
- THE COURT: Well, Ms. Brown if you need a break,
- 10 I'll give you a break, and we'll work around that, and we'll go forward. 11
- MS. BROWN: I mean, it's just out in the parking 12
- 13 lot, not to my office or anything.
- THE COURT: Okay. Why don't we bring the jury 14
- 15 in.
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, there was the matter of 16
- 17 the State would like to move to limit Dr. Omalu's testimony.
- I think we should make a record of that. 18
- THE COURT: I agree with that, and let me start 19
- 20 by saying when counsel met with me informally yesterday
- 21 morning to discuss a concern that the State had regarding the
- 22 doctor's testimony, Ms. Brown had presented me with a couple
- 23 of -- a couple of sets of pictures of case studies, and I
- 24 advised that I thought that the photographs connected with

- 1 and won't be admitted and put with the other exhibits that aren't offered.
- Anything else that you want to take care of
- 4 before we bring the jury in?
- MR. GREGORY: No. Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Ms. Brown? 6
- MS. BROWN: No. Your Honor. 7
- MS. HENRY: No. 8
- THE COURT: Let's bring the jury in, please. 9
- Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Please 10
- 11 have a seat. Make yourselves comfortable. Before we begin,
- 12 I have a couple of statements to you. One, as you can tell
- probably, my voice is a little different today. I was quite
- sick last night and don't feel great today but certainly well
- enough to be here with you.
- If you can't hear me at some point, I really want
- 17 you to let me know, okay? I'll speak up. I'll shout at you
- 18 if I need. I won't shout at you. I'll shout so you can
- 19 hear, but you'll probably see me sucking on some cough drops
- and that sort of thing.
- Next, I want to talk to you about the course of
- 22 the trial and where I think we are so that you can make plans
- for your lives. I anticipate that we'll go a good bit this
- 24 afternoon, but I don't think that the case will be submitted

Page 6

- 1 to you today.
 - After the evidence is all concluded, the
- 3 attorneys meet with me and we do -- we go through a process
- 4 called settling the jury instructions. Some of the
- instructions that I will give you before you retire to
- deliberate are what we call stock instructions. In other
- 7 words, they are instructions that I may give in every trial.
- 8 Some of them I would give in every criminal trial, and some
- of them are peculiar to this case, and the attorneys are
- allowed to object or to suggest different instructions to me
- 11 if they think some other instruction would be more beneficial
- 12 to your understanding of the law.
- Given that, we go through a process and it 13
- 14 usually takes us at least an hour and often a good bit more
- 15 time than that. So once the evidence is concluded, which we
- anticipate it will be concluded today, I'm going to release
- you, and I'm going to meet with the attorneys and we will
- settle the instructions.
- Now, I understand that you may think this is
- something that could have been done earlier, but actually the
- instructions really can't be finally settled on until all of
- the evidence is in so that the attorneys can present any
- argument regarding instructions they object to or that they
- 24 want me to give you. Some of it is based on the evidence, so

- 1 those case studies were either irrelevant or were prejudicial 2 to the probative. Do you have those? Do you want to make
- 3 them part of the record?
- MS. BROWN: That's what I was going to do, Your 4
- 5 Honor.
- MR. GREGORY: I have a copy. We can make photo 6
- 7 copies.
- MS. BROWN: Do you want to mark them as an 8
- exhibit? 9
- THE COURT: Yeah, that would be fine. 10
- So for the record, I've got Exhibit 147. The --11
- 12 it consists of five pages of photographs.
- Ms. Brown, do you want to make a statement about 13
- 14 these?
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, Dr. Omalu had submitted 15
- 16 those to me. They are photographs that he uses as part of a class in atypical suicide, and he offered them as possibly
- 18 helpful in explaining that topic to the jury here. I did
- 19 show them -- I think I e-mailed them to Mr. Gregory several
- weeks ago, and then we discussed them in chambers yesterday
- 21 concerning your concerns, and I have no issue with not
- 22 offering them as exhibits.
- THE COURT: If you're not offering them, then I 23 24 don't need to say anything further. So 147 is not offered

Page 9

- 1 it's just part of the normal process that we do this once the
- 2 evidence is concluded.
- 3 So I'll be meeting with the attorneys once we're
- 4 done today, and then I anticipate that tomorrow morning, I
- 5 will instruct you, and the attorneys will argue their cases,
- 6 and the case will probably be submitted to you then. We
- 7 could push through tonight and get to that point, but I think
- 8 that you probably would not have the case submitted to you
- 9 until some time around 5:00 or later, and it seems to me
- 10 that's not fair to the State. It's not fair to Ms. Leibel,
- 11 and it's not fair to you to make you go back and start a
- 12 deliberation at that hour. So now you kind of have a roadmap
- 13 of where we'll be going and what the timeframes are.
- Any comment that you want to make on that,
- 15 Mr. Gregory?
- 16 MR. GREGORY: No. Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, or, Ms. Henry?
- 18 MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor.
- 19 MS. HENRY: No.
- 20 THE COURT: Will counsel stipulate to the
- 21 presence of the jury while I made those comments?
- 22 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Thank you. And please excuse me for

- 1 Q. I'm going to give you a second to get that water
- 2 because it can be complicated.
- 3 THE COURT: We never thought it was but a couple
- 4 of witnesses have had trouble with it.
- 5 MS. BROWN: I'm always spilling it.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 7 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) How are you currently employed?
- 8 A. I'm a medical examiner San Joaquin County in
- 9 California, president of Bennet Omalu Pathology, my
- 10 consulting company, and I'm also an assistant clinical
- 11 professor of pathology at University of California Davis
- 12 Medical Center. I'm also a staff physician at San Joaquin
- 13 General Hospital and a Contra Costa Regional Hospital.
- 14 THE INTERPRETER: A contractor?
- 15 THE COURT: Contra Costa Hospital.
- 16 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Sorry, could you repeat that
- 17 last.
- 18 A. Contra Costa Regional Hospital.
- 19 Q. And as part of your duties as chief medical
- 20 examiner at San Joaquin County, do you perform autopsies?
- 21 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q. Can you briefly describe your medical or
- 23 educational background?
- 24 A. I went to medical school in Nigeria in West

Page 10

Page 12

- 1 for sniffing and blowing my nose and such up here.
- 2 Ms. Brown, your witness.
- 3 MS. BROWN: The defense would call Dr. Bennet
- 4 Omalu.
- 5 THE COURT: Doctor, if you would come in right in
- 6 front of the clerk and raise your right hand.
- 8 DR. BENNET OMALU,
- 9 called as a witness on behalf of the
- 10 Defendant having been first duly sworn,
- was examined and testified as follows:
- 12

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- 13 THE COURT: If you would come up, please, and
- 14 have a seat. You can help yourself to some water if you
- 15 want. Sir, if you want to place your coat back over here.
- 16 You don't have to put it on the floor.
- 17 THE WITNESS: That's fine. Thank you.
- 18 THE COURT: Ms. Brown?
- 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MS. BROWN:
- 21 Q. Could you state your name, and spell your last
- 22 name, please.
- 23 A. My name Bennet Omalu, B-e-n-n-e-t Omalu,
- 24 O-m-a-l-u.

- 1 Africa. It's a seven-year medical school curriculum
- 2 fashioned after the British, six years of training and one
- 3 year of clinical internship.
- 4 During clinical internship, I worked as physician
- 5 but under supervision in the department of internal medicine,
- 6 general surgery, obstetrics and could not /TKPWAOEUL and
- 7 pediatrics. I performed surgeries and delivered over 400
- 8 babies, completed that, went to a university hospital in
- 9 Nigeria to work as an emergency room physician for five
- 10 years.
- 11 Again, I worked as a physician attending to live
- 12 patients. While I was doing that, I secured a world health
- of physician scholarship to come to the United States in
- 14 1994. I went to the University of Washington in Seattle,
- Washington. I was a visiting research scholar for eight months.
- 17 I moved from Seattle to New York to Columbia
- 18 University at Harlem Hospital Center until 1995 to do a
- 19 five-year residency training program focused in anatomic and
- 20 clinical pathology.
- Because of my special scholarship, five years or
- 22 regents and four years for me, I completed residency training
- 23 in anatomic and clinical pathology in four years.
- I then moved to Pittsburgh Pennsylvania to the

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1 University of Pittsburgh in 1999 to do a one-year fellowship

- 2 training in forensic pathology. Upon completing that, I
- again went to the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh,
- 4 Pennsylvania to complete a two-year fellowship training in

neuropathology.

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6 I completed that, went to the graduate school of

7 Public Health University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh,

- / Public Health Oliversity of Fittsburgh, Tittsburgh,
- Pennsylvania to do a three-year masters in public health a
 peeled /KWROPL /OLG I. I completed that, went to Carnegie
- 9 peeled /KWROPL /OLG I. I completed that, went to Carnegie 10 Mellon University in Tepper, T-e-p-p-e-r School of Business
- to do a three-year masters in business administration with a
- 12 focus in medical management.

After completing my training, I sat for five

14 board certification examination in five subspecialties of

medicine which I passed, some boards certified in five

16 subspecialties atomic pathology clinical pathology, forensic

pathology, neuropathology and medical management.

In addition to that, I hold a masters in public

19 health in pathology and a masters in business administration.

I was certified in 2008 by the American Association of

21 Physician Leadership as a certified physician executive.

22 After my training on board certifications, I

worked as an academic pathologist. I was associated

24 professor of pathology at University of Pittsburgh,

1 enforcement in cases?

- 2 A. Yes, I have worked for all sides for law
- 3 enforcement, for district attorneys. I also work for
- 4 difference attorneys in both criminal and civil matters.
- 5 Q. And do you have any professional associations or
- 6 memberships pertinent to today's testimony?
- 7 A. Yes, I belong to about 18 professional
- 8 organizations.
- 9 Q. Could you tell us the number of autopsies you
- 10 have performed?
- 11 A. My first autopsy was in 1984 while I was in
- medical. School since then, I've performed over 8,000
- 13 autopsies.
- 14 O. 8.000?
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am, and I have examined over 10,000
- 16 brains.
- 17 Q. And have you been the attending physician or
- 18 present deaths?
- 19 A. Yes, I have witnessed and attended to hundreds of
- 20 deaths of people dying, from new born child who is several
- 21 hours old to the 99-year-old grandma and grandpa, and I've
- 22 satisfied 1,000's of deaths.
- 23 Q. Have you previously given testimony in your
- 24 forensic pathology?

Page 14

- 1 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As professor of physiology
- 2 University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, visited
- 3 professor of University of West Virginia University,
- 4 associate professor of pathology at University of California
- 5 at Davis. I became a full professor in to 2012, stepped down
- 6 after one year because the work was getting too much for me.
 - I published extensively in the medical
- 8 literature. I published two books and I published several
- 9 books chapters medical experts. I've been invited twice to
- 10 advise the United States congressional judicial committee on
- 11 matters relating to traumatic brain injury.
- 12 O. Thank you. And you stated at present, you also
- 13 have private business in modern pathology?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And who do you consult with?
- 16 A. I consult with government agencies, a variety of
- 17 state, numerous counties across the country, nongovernmental
- 18 agencies and nonprofit organizations, corporations, attorneys
- 19 working for families, working for the state, for different
- 20 counties.
- I have also consulted with the United States
- 22 Government of matters relating to death, causation of death,
- 23 mechanisms of death, matters relating to injuries.
- 24 Q. And have you consulted with prosecutors or law

- 1 A. Yes. I have retained as an expert witness and
- 2 testified in court and in depositions over 600 times. I
- 3 testify on the average about 60 times a year.
- 4 Q. Are there specific jurisdictions that you testify
- 5 in or numerous?
- 6 A. I testify across the United States from Olympia
- 7 in Washington State to Buffalo, New York to Florida, all
- 8 across the United States.
- 9 Q. And in those cases, you have been certified as an
- 10 expert in the field of forensic pathology?
- 11 A. Forensic pathology, neuropathology, all my
- 12 specialties, yes.
- 13 Q. Have you testified both as a prosecution and a
- 14 defense witness?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And have you testified as well in civil matters?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Has any of your testimony involved atypical
- 19 suicide?
- 20 A. Yes. I have performed over 100 autopsies in
- 21 about 15 years I've been doing this in cases relating to what
- 22 we call an atypical suicide.
- 23 Q. What is forensic pathology?
- 24 A. Forensic pathology is a subspecialty of medicine

Page 20

- that deals with the study of injuries, how do human beings
- sustain injuries and how could injuries result in death or 2
- result in any type of impairment of the human function. 3
- Forensic pathology also deals with the phenomenon of death, 4
- why do people die and how do people die, what causes death.
- O. And in studying -- testifying concerning forensic
- pathology as it relates to criminal cases, what do --
- 8 criminal cases where there's a criminal charge, what would
- you be testifying concerning?
- A. Could you repeat the question again. 10
- Q. I'm sorry, for example, criminal cases when
- you're doing autopsies?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Or preparing to testify, what are you looking for 14 Q.
- 15 in those situations?
- 16 A. When I perform an autopsy on any case, I come in
- as independent participant, and I apply established and 17
- generally accepted methods of medicine and science to 18
- generate evidence, medical evidence upon which I base my 19
- 20 opinions or conclusions on.
- When I say emphasize independent participant in 21
- the investigation of death, my opinions and conclusions 22
- should not be based on what law enforcement thinks or what 23
- any other party thinks. I need to perform a scientific 24

- additional scientific analysis to generate more evidence to
- help me develop scientific opinion. For example, I would
- take microscopic sections of the tissues and organs and 3
- 4 examine them microscopically. I would also take samples of
- the body fluids and perform toxicology analysis. 5
- 6 When all of the results come back, I would put 7
 - them together, analyze them and then derive -- make a
- diagnosis, derive a cause of death with a reasonable degree 8
- of medical certainty. What does that mean? If you apply all 9
- of the scientific matters and you still cannot determine a 10
- 11 cause of death with a reasonable degree of medical certainty
- and that means greater than 90 percent certainty, I would 12 make the cause and manner on the time. 13
- Cause of death simply means the disease or trauma 14
- that resulted in death. Manner of death would comprise five 15
- 16 categories of death in relation to the cause of death. Those
- five categories are natural death, accidental death, suicide, 17
- homicide or undetermined, and this classification will be 18
- based on the evidence no matter what any other party or law 19
- enforcement or the family or defendant will think. My 20
- opinion will be limited to the science, not to any other 21 22
 - proposition or assumption.
- 23 Q. And in forensic science or forensic pathology,
- does that involve both true sciences and applied sciences?

Page 18

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 O. Could you explain the difference between those
- 3 two?
- 4 A. There are two types of science. There's the
- absolute science, and there's the applied science. The
- absolute sciences are like mathematics and physics. They are 6
- absolutes. What does that mean? One plus one is always two 7
- no matter what. If you don't agree with it, you can only be
- wrong. It is either white or black. Two times two is four.
- Even if you don't agree with it, there's something wrong with 10
- 11 you.

17

- Physics is like that too. Physics, if you have 12
 - light, light is light. If you're traveling at a speed of 13
- 70 miles an hour, there is only one speed of 70 miles an 14
- hour. There is no other speed that is not 70 miles an hour. 15
- They are absolutes. 16

But when you're dealing with the applied

- sciences, like mets and like forensic sciences, they are not 18
- absolutes. We all are human beings, but we are not all of 19
- the same height. We are not all the same color, but it does 20
- 21 not stop us from being all human beings.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. So the applied science, it's you can make
- absolute assumptions. You can provide an opinion based on

- method of autopsy on tissue analysis to generate scientific
- evidence and build on the scientific evidence, I would make
- my conclusions and provide my opinions.
- O. If -- also as a forensic pathologist in looking,
- do you determine cause of death?
- Yes.
- 7 Q. And do you determine manner of death?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. In looking at manner of death, what then would
- you look at? 10
- 11 A. In looking at manner of death, you would
- establish the forensic scenario, forensic scenario, 12
- **1**3 modalities of death over the centuries, scientists that can
- be found established that human beings die within specific 14
- circumstances. So that investigation report usually
- 15 generated by the medical examiner or the coroner's office 16
- would summarize a circumstances surrounding the death. 17
- Then based on the circumstances, I would then 18
- come determine the type of autopsy to perform because there 19 are different types of autopsies. When I'm performing the 20 autopsy, I keep a clear mind, and objective non-bias mind. I
- don't have any presumptions. 22
- At the end of the autopsy, I have my preliminary 23 findings. Then I perform additional tissue analysis,

Page 24

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Page 21

one piece of evidence. We as scientists recognize in 1

medicine which is an applied science. You must always 2

concede the weakness of the applied science. If the evidence 3

is inadequate or insufficient, you do not make a conclusion.

In the field of science gives us that

opportunity, category of manner of death that is called 6

anatomic. Meaning that given the weaknesses of forensic 7

science, given the weaknesses of medical science, you can do 8

everything you can do, and yet there is inadequate evidence. 9

You must respect that, and conclude that your case is 10

undetermined. You do not ignore that because of what you 11

feel or believe and go against the science. 12

O. Thank you. Do you currently teach pathology at 13

UC Davis? 14

A. Yes, ma'am.

O. And do you include in that curriculum subject of

atypical suicides? 17

18 A. Yes, it's very important when I teach other

doctors, medical students forensic pathology. 19

O. Could you explain what atypical suicide is? 20

21 A. Atypical suicide is a suicide that looks

irregular. Frequently a suicide that would resemble a 22

homicide. A suicide is an irrational act that could only be 23

explained by the irrational mind. We as normal people can 24

with a rifle and in the head and set the house on fire. At the end of the autopsy, we confirmed that it was a suicide, 2

3 atypical suicide and not a homicide.

4 And then another very interesting case I had was

a young man about 27 years old. He was in his boat, and he

6 hung a big slab of concrete around his neck and fell into the

river and got submerged. At the scene, everybody assumed it

was a homicide. There was no way he could have done that and

9 submerged himself. At the end of the autopsy, it was a suicide. 10

So this case is suicide, atypical that resembles

homicide and the medical literature that the cases of 12

13 atypical suicide were erroneously classified as homicides and

prosecuted. 14

11

O. So it's also important then for law enforcement 15

to be aware of atypical suicide?

Yes, ma'am, most definitely. 17

18 Q. Why is it important to know about?

A. It's important -- like I had said, I testified

across the country. I have actually testified in cases that 20

were ruled homicides and later changed to suicides. Even 21

just yesterday when the District Attorney in San Joaquin 22

County, there was a case of a baby that was ruled a homicide.

I reviewed it and just yesterday about 9:00 a.m. in the

Page 22

morning, I did analysis and I said to the D.A. we cannot move

ahead. There is not great evidence to make this a homicide.

In fact, tissue analysis reveals that it was an accident.

4 There was another case in September of last year,

a retired fire serviceman in my county was found dead in a

6 park. At the scene, it was assumed it was a homicide because

the gun was not close to him, that somebody must have shot

him. At the end, I came to the scene. It turned out that he 8 shot himself but somebody stole the gun because it was a park

visited by drug addicts. So it's important to know about 10

atypical suicide so that you don't make erroneous conclusions

or misinterpret a case as a homicide when actually it is an 12

13 atypical suicide.

14 O. In dealing with suicides, is the use of a rifle

in a suicide, does that automatically rule it out as suicide? 15

A. No, that is another assumption what we make that 16

people cannot use rifles to kill themselves, that is 17

inaccurate. It is erroneous. If you read the literature, 18

19 from my case, I published a case of suicide. I looked at

20 suicides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania over ten years. People

frequently commit suicide with rifles, and sometimes they 21

commit suicide in very complex mechanisms that you and I as 22

rational people would never understand, but you must 23

recognize that it's a category of suicides called atypical

never explain the irrationality of suicide. So there are certain types of suicide that would

resemble a homicide and if you're not well trained and

experienced, you can erroneously interpret it to be a 4 suicide. You can erroneously interpret atypical suicide to 5

be a homicide, and I can give you for the most strangest 6

cases that I've had in my experience.

There was a case of an elderly man. At autopsy, 8 I found three bullets inside his head and everybody around 9 me, I remember, oh, it must be a homicide. A man cannot 10

shoot himself three times in the head but no, that was an 11 atypical suicide. He actually shot himself three times in 12

13 the head.

1

2

3

7

O. Could you give us other examples of atypical 14

15

A. There was another atypical suicide, a woman that 17 shot herself in the chest with her 22 caliber gun on the

dining table. She left the gun on the dining table and 18

walked to the living room and sat in the sofa and died, and 19

at the scene everybody said this must be a homicide. Nobody 20 could shoot herself in the chest and walk almost 20 yards. 21

At the end of the autopsy, based on the science, it was a 22 suicide and not a homicide.

I have had another case of a man who shot himself

23

Page 25

- suicide that would resemble homicide and frequently
- 2 misinterpreted as homicides.
- 3 Q. And you previously talked about an individual
- 4 that shot himself three times in the head so more than one
- shot does not necessarily rule out suicide?
- 6 A. No. In spite of what we hear on TV, when
- somebody is shot, he dies immediately. Death, as an expert
- 8 of death, death almost never a cause instantaneously. Even
- 9 when you shoot yourself in the head, it takes you minutes to
- 10 die. People who shoot themselves in the chest or even if
- 11 you're shot in the chest, you don't die immediately because
- 12 the mechanism of death is bleeding. You need time to bleed
- out, and the human brain has a reserve of about five to
- 14 45 minutes.

15

- I have personally seen a case where an individual
- 16 was shot by cops. This was in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and
- 17 he was able to run down a flight of two stairs and run for
- 18 about 50 more yards before he fell, and the bullet passed
- 18 about 30 more yards before he fell, and the bunct pa
- 19 through his heart.
- There's a famous case, again, in our forensic
- 21 textbook of a man that was shot in his heart in a rural area.
- 22 He was able to run out to the road and run again for one mile
- before he finally dropped and died.
- So people frequently when they are shot in the

- 1 releases no adrenaline that almost puts you into a zombie,
- 2 and you can assume superhuman ability. You can be shot and
- 3 assuming you wanted to get to your door to alert people, you
- 4 will get to the door and alert people. Assuming you're hell
- 5 bent, suicide is an irrational act, a person is hell bent in
- 6 killing himself. Even if you put handcuffs on his hand and
- 7 hold him, he could bring up all superhuman ways to take that
- 8 gun and to shoot himself with his handcuffed behind him.
- 9 Q. Can assumptions made early on in an investigation
- of a suspicious death affect the investigation?
- 11 A. Not for me because of my broad experience and
- 12 training but when I've been called upon by different counties
- 13 to review cases, I have noticed a pattern whereby a
- 14 pathologist walks with law enforcement. We are not law
- 15 enforcement, but I've noticed a pattern where pathologists
- 16 corroborate with law enforcement. And law enforcement makes
- an assumption at the scene, convey their assumption to the
- 18 pathologist, even before the autopsy is done, it influences
- 19 the pathologist to look for findings. Remember, medicine is
- 20 not an absolute science.
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. To support what law enforcement told him. So,
- 23 yes, an assumption made before the autopsy by law enforcement
- 24 should not be conveyed to the pathologist because, remember,

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- chest or even in the head can live longer for three to five
- 2 minutes sometimes. There have been a documented case of a
- 3 15-year-old girl who fell into a swimming pool. It was a
- 4 cold swimming pool. She was pulled out 45 minutes later and
- 5 she survived.
- 6 Q. And even in a case where there are two shots
- 7 fired and possibly like a rifle -- the rifle is left cocked,
- 8 would that necessarily rule out suicide?
- 9 A. Could you repeat that again, sorry.
- 10 O. In a case involving a rifle where there's two
- shots and at the end the rifle is left with the hammer back
- or cocked, would that necessarily rule out suicide?
- 13 A. No, ma'am, it doesn't rule out a suicide. All it
- 14 simply means is that a rifle was fired twice and cocked. It
- has no direct relationship to whether this was suicide or
- 16 not.
- 17 Q. And does adrenaline play any role in the
- 18 activities that take place once somebody has received a fatal
- 19 injury?
- 20 A. Yes, not just adrenaline. When somebody is shot,
- 21 whenever you go as a human being, you identify any impending
- danger, there's a part of your brain called the locus
- 23 coeruleus, 1-o-c-u-s c-o-e-r-u-l-e-u-s. It's a part of your
- brain. It is in the lower part of the brain stem that

- 1 the pathologist should be independent, and law enforcement
- 2 should not be present while the autopsy is being done because
- 3 that destroys the independence of a pathologist who is
- 4 performing the autopsy. That should be independent of what
- 5 law enforcement believes.
- 6 O. And were you asked to review materials in State
- 7 versus Tatiana Leibel?
- 8 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q. And did that include the autopsy, toxicology
- 10 reports, crime lab reports and police reports?
- 11 A. Yes, ma'am, autopsy pictures and scene pictures,
- 12 yes, ma'am.
- 13 Q. And I'm showing you now what's been admitted as
- 14 Exhibit 1. Are you familiar with that photograph?
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q. And is this the photograph of Mr. Leibel at the
- 17 scene?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. You're aware there were various reports made at
- 20 the scene by paramedics concerning Mr. Leibel's condition; is
- 21 that correct?
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 23 O. Some of those opinions included his complexion
- 24 and he was pale, ash and gray, blue light to jaundice. Are

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- familiar with those?
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- O. In those type of opinions from paramedics, would
- that lead to any conclusion on your part?
- A. No. If I'm doing a case like I had said earlier,
- I should not and would not base my opinion on what someone
- else said. There's a rule in -- we as doctors, we have
- standards of factors set by the government and the agents 8
- that monitor what we do. 9

As a rule of forensic pathology that when you are investigating a death as a forensic pathologist, you are responsible for that case. Even if it goes wrong, you're responsible and because you are responsible, you should not

- be basing your opinion on some of the party, like a 14
- paramedic. Yes, you need to be aware of what they said in 15
- the medical reports or what that doctor said but at the end 16
- of the day, the autopsy is the gold standard, and this is the 17
- established standard of medicine all over the world. So I
- 18
- would only rely or base my opinion on what the paramedics 19
- said, no. 20

10

11

12

13

- O. And the paramedics described what they thought 21
- appeared to be rigor mortis in his left hand. Are you 22
- familiar with that? 23
- 24 A. Yes, ma'am.

- and the actin myosin will bind together. Once they bind
- together, the muscle becomes rigid so it becomes typically on
- the small joints of the fingers and toes, and many times it
- begins on one side. It begins on one side, even the TMJ,
- 5 temporomandibular joint, because it's a small joint.

6 A good example, if you have a marathon runner who is running, his body is active under the sun, and then he suffers a hear attacks and dies before paramedics will get to

him, he is in rigor. Why, because he was physically active 9 and depleting his ATP. 10

11 So in a case like after I started this case, it was not unusual based on the over 8,000 cases I have done for 12

- 13 a paramedic to describe that when he got to the scene, he or she got to the scene, there was rigor mortis in the small
- joints of the fingers and hand and maybe the wrist because
- the wrist is made up of many small joints, okay, on one side. 16
- And on the side, he said -- he or she said there was rigor 17
- 18 mortis, but the side Mr. Leibel had the gunshot wound.
- What effect would a gunshot wound have?
- That gunshot wound was a close -- loose contact 20
- 21 or close gunshot -- close range gunshot wound. So the fire
- ball behind the bullet must have touched the hand, and that 22
- 23 temperature sometimes is about 100 degrees of Farenheit that
- would warm up the hand, and the heat of the fire would

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- 1 O. Could you describe what rigor mortis is?
- Rigor mortis is a first modern event. It is 2 A.
- changes of the body following death. If I may explain the 3
- science?

14

15

- Q. Yes, please. 5
- A. There are two parts in the human muscle called
- actin myosin, a-c-t-i-n m-y-o-s-i-n. Actin Myosin are like a
- man and woman that are in love. They can't keep away from 8
- each other. So what the human body does, there is another
- protein called ATP for adenosine triphosphate. ATP is like 10
- the policeman of the body. It has so much energy. So the 11
- ATP comes in-between them and keeps them apart. ATP is 12
- generated from the food we eat. 13

So when you die, your body has a reserve of ATP

that will keep the actin myosin apart. Depending on the

activity of your muscles and depending on the temperature of 16

other factors, you could suffer immediate depletion of your 17

ATP beginning the moment you die to about 12 hours later for 18

most human beings. After 12 hours of death, you would have 19

rigor mortis all over your body. But soon after your death, 20

the small joints and muscles of the extremities immediately 21

after death lose ATP sooner. 22

So from the moment of death to about 12 hours 23

later, you will begin to have rigor mortis, depletion of ATP 24

deplete the ATP, and there would be immediate onset, so it

- was not unusual when I read the reports that when the
- paramedics got to the scene minutes after death that there
- was rigor mortis only on the small joints of the fingers and
- the hand and in the hand that received a loose contact wound.
- Q. And you said rigor can start almost immediately?
- Yes, it could start almost immediately. In some
- literature, it is called cadaveric spasm.
- Q. And what is cadaveric spasm?
- Its terminology some exotic doctor decades ago 10
- just to get some recognition for himself, he named rigor 11
- mortis that starts immediately after death. He says rigor 12
- mortis immediately after death, and typically it's in the 13
- small joints of the fingers, could be on one side. Even with
- 14
- rigor mortis, one is fully formed. It's not symmetrical. 15
- 16 It's not equal on both sides. It's usually greater on one
- side, and these are some of the things we still don't know in 17
- medicine. There's so many things we don't know in medicine, 18
- but we respect it and take it as fact.
- O. The paramedics also described lack of electrical 20
- activity in the heart after measuring by EKG. If a person is 21
- dead, would you expect to see electrical activity in the 22
- 23 heart?
- 24 A. No, no. When a person is dead, there is no

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electrical activity in the brain or in the heart. A good
example, I've done hundreds of person who died. My father

3 died on May 5th, last year, and in the hospital when did we

4 know he was dead? You're watching the EKG, then suddenly it

goes flat. He was dead, and that is flat. He's dead.

But if you suffer a cardiac arrest, like a heart attack, a heart attack you fall down on the ground because actually while you fall down on the ground from a heart

9 attack is the brain notices blood is not coming to it, so it

makes you fall. So you lie flat on the ground so gravity
pulls blood to the brain. So although you're on the ground,

not responsive, but you're not dead.

If we monitor the EKG, you have an irregular EKG, which is called an arrythmia, so you could have that for minutes, sometimes up to hours, that is why you need defibrillator to shock that person and shock the person again so that is not death.

Once you die, the definition of death is complete cessation of all bodily functions. So it is not medically physical -- it is not possible for somebody to die and still have electrical activity, that is a no no.

22 Q. And so lack of electrical activity is actually

23 indicative of death?

24 A. It's the definition of death. A lack of

1 that.

2 Q. I think one of the paramedics described the blood

3 as being gel like?

4 A. Yes, thank you so much. Viscid it means gel

5 like. It's part of the injury process. Blood has moved into

6 the tissues. The proteins in the blood are not reacting with

7 the proteins in tissues and are becoming more viscid, and

8 there's a reason for that. Assuming you cut your skin, if we

odon't have that process, you continue to bleed. So the gelling actually controls when you apply pressure, it

11 actually stimulates and encourages the protein interaction.

12 O. And blood begins this process as soon as it hits

13 the air; is that correct?

14 A. As soon as it extricates, you know, this is

15 science, some of this is very exotic, but we're dealing with

16 sub cell analysis. The moment it leaves the vessels, it

17 begins within seconds, within seconds, one second divided

18 into 1,000 times.

19 O. And once if blood is outside the body, does

20 temperature affect the rate at which it would -- its

21 appearance would change?

22 A. Yes, yes. The warmer the room, the weaker and

23 then if, you know, you have some drugs in your system,

24 including alcohol, you're take something medications, if

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electrical activity of the brain and the heart.

2 O. And if you have some electrical activity in the

heart, you should be doing something to try to revive thisperson?

5 A. Yes.

15

19

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6 Q. Paramedics also gave a description that the blood

7 appeared to be coagulated around the chest wound and pooling

around the injury?

9 A. No, no, I wouldn't use the word coagulate.

10 Remember, the human blood contains thousands of proteins, and

11 the human blood is meant to stay within the blood vessels,

and there's a reason for that. Once the human blood comes

outside the blood vessel, maybe from trauma, the proteins in

the blood react with the proteins in the tissues.

A good example is what we call tissue, thrombin

16 blaster. So what happens, once you have injury, blood goes

into the tissue within minutes. The proteins, like the

thrombin, t-h-r-o-m-b-i-n will react with the tissue to blast

and make the blood more viscid. I wouldn't use the words

20 coagulate. It is all part of the injury process.

Again, once you have blood excrete into the

22 tissues, you could try it at home, wait a minute, it starts

23 looking like it's caked or scabbing. When you use the word

coagulate, it's more specific for clotting. I wouldn't use

you're suffering from certain diseases, like Mr. Leibel had

2 liver disease, it will all affect the weight of all changes.

3 It's more factorial. That is why you cannot be absolute just

4 because you see one thing, you make assumption from that, no,

5 no.

6 Q. Okay. And if these observations were made, even

7 in this group, would that -- would you -- would that lead you

8 to any conclusion that Mr. Leibel had been deceased at any

9 period of time prior to the paramedics arriving?

10 A. No, no, no, the presence of what you just told

11 me, the rigor on one side and the small and blood, viscid

12 blood outside, actually, maybe the parts of -- some part of

13 the body may still be warm, that actually indicates somebody

14 who has just died. It doesn't exclude a wrong person of --

and autopsy was done in this case, the autopsy indicated --

16 it does not indicate Mr. Leibel had been dead for a long time

17 before he was taken to the refrigerator, no, we don't have

18 evidence of that.

19 O. And there's reporting that Mr. Leibel was on the

20 couch or when he passed away and then was pulled from the

21 couch by Ms. Leibel at the instructions of paramedics or at

22 the instruction of 911. Would that movement affect any

23 anything within this interpretation?

24 A. Yes. Like I had said earlier, Mr. Leibel, before

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- anyone else got to the scene was moved, like he should have.
- To resuscitate people, you need to lie them on the floor. 2
- Now what that does is once the body has been moved for 3
- whatever reason, you need to be extremely careful about the
- interpretations because the body is no longer as it was when 5
- the injury was sustained. So assuming you find blood or 6
- other fluids, based on the fact that you cannot make any
- assumption, why, because the body has been moved. 8
- Q. Okay. Have you had a chance to recall -- review 9
- the autopsy protocol in this case?
- Yes, ma'am. 11 A.
- Q. And you've had a chance to review the 12
- photographs? 13
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 15 O. And the x-rays?
- Yes, ma'am. 16 A.
- 17.0. What is an autopsy?
- A. An autopsy is systematic examination of the human
- 20 Q. And are there specific protocols that are
- followed? 21
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am, different types of autopsies, and
- there are so many other analysis you can perform depending on 23
- 24 what type of cases it is.

- 1 A. At the end, afterwards, after the toxicology is
- back, the microscope is back, we reviewed the folders of the
 - medical records at the end.
 - O. And about going into the autopsy, you don't want
 - these type of details concerning what police officers think
 - 6 happened?
- A. No, and it's a matter of protocol and my office,
- we do not request for police reports before we do an autopsy.
- O. And could a pathologist change their position or
- their method of doing an autopsy if they had a belief that 10
- law enforcement thought this was a specific type of case, 11
- like a homicide? 12
- 13 A. Yes. Like I said earlier, if law enforcement
- comes a pathologist, and I've seen this many times in my 14
- experience, that would be labeled as a homicide. Especially,
- this is a doctor hired by the same county who has hired, who 16
- is paid, you don't want to bite the finger, unless it is a 17
- prominent pathologist who has his confidence. 18
- My experience from cases I've reviewed and 19
- advised counties, it influences that pathologist no matter 20
- how much you want to deny it and also if the police is 21
- 22 present with the pathologist, watching him do it and telling
- him, there's no way no matter how we want to deny it, we are 23
- human beings, it will influence your opinion. In fact, it

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- 1 O. And you said when you -- you perform an autopsy,
- you don't look at facts of the case. You look at what is in
- front of you; is that correct? 3
- A. You look at circumstances surrounding the death
- and what does that mean. Where was this individual found.
- It was found at home. What was -- if he was witnessed to 6
- shot himself, somebody was present, that is all we need. 7
- Now, once we start going, okay, law enforcement 8
- believes that one of the instances, he jumped down and hit
- his head and then ran out again and shot him again, then 10
- you're moving away from your area of expertise. 11
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. That is outside the autopsy.
- Q. And would be -- if you were being provided that 14
- type of information through seeing photographs or information 15
- from officers, could that affect your view of the autopsy? 16
- A. No. After the autopsy, like now, assuming I did 17
- an autopsy and a law enforcement come and ask me questions, 18
- your autopsy findings, are they consistent with this 19
- proposition? I'll say yes or no. What we believe is a 20
- homicide, does the autopsy support a homicide? I'll say yes 21
- or no. If your autopsy does not support the homicide, end of 22
- story, let's go home. 23
- Q. Okay. But this would be a review afterwards?

- will influence your autopsy and may make you do things 1
- subconsciously that you should not do or subconsciously avoid
- to do things you should do to prove law enforcement wrong.
- Q. And in reviewing the photographs and information
- in Mr. Leibel's autopsy, were you able to make any
- determinations concerning your opinion of the distances of
- the shots were fired at?
- A. Yes, I have opinions. The autopsy said
- Mr. Leibel died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. I
- strongly disagree with that. Mr. Leibel, Harry died as a
- result of a single gunshot wound. And this is an example of 11
- the bias I have told you earlier, stating that Harry died as 12
- a result of multiple gunshot wounds subconsciously is to 13
- support the allegation as a homicide.
- O. Okay. So your opinion then is that the chest
- injury was the fatal shot? 16
- A. The chest injury was the single and only fatal 17
- shot. It was only one, so the cause of death is not multiple 18
- gunshot wounds. The cause of death is a gunshot wound of the 19
- chest. 20
- 21 O. Okay. And this injury to the hand and wrist that
- subsequently caused an injury to the shoulder with shotgun --22
- a shotgun pellet, this would be not involved in a cause of 23
- 24 death?

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- 1 A. That's a nonfatal wound. It's a survivable
- 2 wound. Not every injury would kill you. So that should not
- 3 be considered in the cause of death. That was not what
- 4 killed him, no.
- 5 O. Okay. And in this injury, it basically started
- 6 at the back of the hand or at the base of the wrist, were you
- 7 able to make any determination as to the distance that wound
- 8 was made at?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And what was that?
- 11 A. It was a loose contact to close range and by
- 12 close range, I'm looking at maybe one or two inches to the
- 13 muzzle actually touching the skin because there are large
- 14 amounts of soot accentrical, and there are born artifacts,
- 15 the ball of fire behind a bullet. So this muzzle was -- the
- 16 hand was in intimate contact with the muzzle, and the wound
- on the chest too was a contact wound.
- But you if you notice in the autopsy, it says it
- 19 was not a contact wound, that there was no soot but if you
- 20 look at the pictures of the autopsy, there is soot.
- 21 O. Okay. I want to start with the wrist injury. A
- 22 previous witness circled, showing on this, I guess, it's the
- 23 wadding from the shotgun shell. This is the wound you're
- 24 talking about?

- 1 fashion on close range of about half an inch, one inch to two
- 2 inches at most.
- 3 Q. Do you want to stay up here because we're going
- 4 to look at these other.
- 5 THE COURT: Mr. Brown, what I've asked Mr. Seddon
- 6 to do is get a Sharpie of a different color than blue.
 - MS. BROWN: Okay.
- 8 THE COURT: So there is a permanent record of
- 9 what this witness is testifying to. What you've just
- 10 displayed the jury can see, now it's been taken off, and they
- 11 won't have that to take back to the jury room with them, so
- 12 I'm going to ask the witness to actually use -- there's some
- 13 writing on this exhibit with the blue that was done by
- 14 another witness. And so, Seddon will be back in just a
- 15 moment with a different color marker, and we'll have him
- 16 repeat this so that there's a permanent record of his
- 17 testimony.
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, we do have a green
- 19 Sharpie.
- THE COURT: Green will do. Thank you.
- 21 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Just on the actual photo itself,
- 22 you can explain what you were saying?
- 23 A. This is the circumference of the eccentric soot
- and this is an accentuation of the soot giving you the

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- punctate soot stippling and then the margins of the wound you
- 2 have the born artifacts of the wound, and you notice it's all
- 3 eccentric. So you have the soot. The soot is stippling and
- 4 the bond so this is what you want to see -- what you see in
- 5 the loose contact or very close range muzzle. The hand was
- 6 in intimate in tactical association with the muzzle of the
- 7 rifle.
- 8 THE COURT: Ms. Brown, put that back up there.
- 9 The record will reflect that the first example
- 10 that the doctor gave was the outer green circle and when you
- 11 mentioned his second example was the green circle that's in
- 12 about the middle and in his final example was a green outline
- of the wound itself. Is that accurate, doctor?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: Thank you. Now the record is clear
- 16 as to what --
- MS. BROWN: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: -- we're talking about.
- Do you agree with that, Mr. Gregory?
 - MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 22 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) I'm now putting up Exhibit 41,
- 23 which would be the 45 wound to the chest area. And then
- 4 Exhibit Number 42 would be a close-up of that same injury?

ago 42

1 THE COURT: Would you identify that exhibit for

2 the record, please.

- 3 MS. BROWN: I'm sorry, Your Honor.
- 4 Q. This would be Exhibit Number 51. Exhibit Number
- 5 51, that circled injury, is that the injury you saw soot and
- 6 other items on?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am. If you can lower -- dim the light, I
- 8 will show you the soot.
- 9 Q. If you would. I don't believe we have a pointer.
- THE WITNESS: Could I use this?
- 11 THE COURT: I don't think you can actually draw
- 12 on that one, but you can walk up to where Ms. Brown is, and I
- 13 think that you can display up there, can't he?
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Ms. Henry can assist us in audio visual.
- 16 THE COURT: Sir, you may.
- 17 THE WITNESS: So where I have circled the
- 18 circumference of the soot deposits and if you notice, it is
- 19 eccentric, telling you the muzzle was closer to one side and
- 20 if you notice around the emergence of the wound here are born
- 21 artifacts, the ball of fire that were in the bullet. Even
- here, you can see the accentuation of the soot in a pinpoint
- fashion. So this is a typical pattern of wound you would see in a muzzle of the gun that is touching the skin in a loose

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1 A. That's a close-up, Your Honor. Can I come down

THE COURT: You may, sir. 3

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

THE COURT: This witness will only use a green 5

Sharpie if he makes any marks on this. 6

THE WITNESS: So, again, this is an entrance

wound which was describing the autopsy report of not having 8

soot, but you can see a gate, an eccentric marginal soot and 9 10

then an artifact of the wound margins.

And in this one, you will actually see splaying of the wound margin, indicating the bowl of gas coming behind the bullet. So, actually, this one, I examined the autopsy

report, Harry was wearing a thick winter housecoat, winter 14

15 housecoat and a t-shirt.

> So if you have the muzzle contacting his body, that will be about one, two or three inches of clothing

between the between the muzzle and the skin. So although it 18

is a contact wound on the clothing, you will see eccentric 19 soot because the clothing will take some of the soot from the 20

skin but remember, the autopsy said there was no soot. 21

O. Go ahead and have a seat. 22

THE COURT: Now, before he goes any further, I 23 want you to identify each of the marks he made on this 24

margins. 1

> 2 THE COURT: The splaying of the margins of the

3 wounds.

4 Would you agree with me that's what he's marked,

5 Mr. Gregory?

MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor. 6

THE COURT: Would you agree, Ms. Brown? 7

MS. BROWN: Yes. Your Honor. 8

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. 9

10 O. (BY MS. BROWN:) Since Mr. Leibel was wearing

11 clothing, how would the soot get in through the clothing?

A. You know, when we see this suit I'm wearing, with 12

our naked eye, the resolution, it looks smooth and clean.

But if you -- if you place it under a microscope, you see big holes in it because it's fabric that is knitted together.

15 All of our clothes, including leather, they have big holes in 16

17

18 Now, soot from the muzzle of a gun is particular 19 matter. It's very fine. It's like fine sand, even finer

than fine sand. There are still particles. The particles of 20

21 soot are smaller than the holes in the clothing. Soot is probably about 1,200 feet per second and it is hot. So soot, 22

23 if it's closer to the clothing than one foot and it's fired

from a muzzle of a gun can pass through layers of clothing in

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MS. BROWN: I'm going to, Your Honor. 2

THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. 3

Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) The first circle you made was

concerning the soot; is that correct?

6 A. Yes.

example.

7 Q. And the second?

THE COURT: Wait. Wait. That doesn't identify

it because the record will have no identify what the first

circle he made was. So what you just marked is a circle that 10

is towards the bottom part of the picture. It comes off of 11

another circle that is around the wound. Would you agree 12 with that? 13

14

THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. So that -- that circle 15

identifies somewhat you've identified as soot. Then there's 16 a circle that goes -- there's a partial circle because it's 17

not a closed circle that goes around the wound.

THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor. 19

THE COURT: And then you made some marks that are 20

21 lines.

18

23

THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor. 22

THE COURT: And those were to identify what?

24 THE WITNESS: The splaying, the splaying of the

which the skin. 1

O. But in your opinion based on the injury you're

seeing, you're seeing a not skin to barrel contact but a

contact with clothing over the skin; is that correct?

A. Yes, the muzzle was contacting his body but

because he had clothing on his body, the muzzle was touching 6

7 the clothing, so this will qualify also as a contact wound,

loose contact because mets is not absolute science. If you

ask me. I can stretch it back maybe half an inch, one inch

but the half an inch one, inch to two inches will account for

the thickness of the clothing. So essentially, it is a 11

contact wound. 12

O. And in a case involving a contact wound, if a 13

person is awake and conscious, would they be aware at some

point there's something closer in contact with them?

A. You mean if he was placed himself or someone else placed him?

17 Q. Someone else placing it? 18

A. Okay. The human brain has the ability to respond

to stimulus in one over 10,000 of a second. That is why if 20

21 somebody touches you, the moment that person touches you, you

know he touched you. So the muzzle of a gun, if an 22

individual nudges you with the muzzle of a gun, you don't 23

even have to think. You will respond, and the response is to

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- knock it out. It's primitive relief we, as human beings,
- have. Something, not just response to hit it out to look. 2
- So if somebody had nudged him with a muzzle of a gun, he
- would have responded in a matter of milliseconds. 4
- 5 O. I'm going to show you what been marked or
- admitted as Exhibit 49. Do you recognize that?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. And what is that?
- 9 A. This is Harry's left arm, inner surface, showing
- the gunshot wound of exit and showing contusions of the inner 10
- aspect of the left arm.
- 12 Q. And could you put a circle around contusion.
- 13 A. This is the focal contusion and the outer part to
- laceration or exit wound. 14
- 15 O. So this area within the large circle is what
- you're calling a contusion?
- 17 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 18 O. And the arrow points to basically the --
- 19 A. Exit, yes.
- 20 O. Thank you. Would this -- the chest injury that
- you viewed both the photographs and the autopsy or the x-rays 21
- concerning, would that be immediately fatal or would it take
- time to pass from that?
- 24 A. No. The gunshot wound of his trunk will not --

- MS. BROWN: I was going to go to him, Your Honor. 1
- THE COURT: All right. Have a seat, sir. She'll 2
- 3 bring it to you.
- THE WITNESS: This is a fracture of the acromio 4
- clavicle joint. 5
- 6 Q. And so that green circle is --
- 7 A. Is a fracture, and such a pattern of trauma, you
- would see if his arm received such a kinetic energy with it.
- factually extended close to the body, like in this position 9
- I'm placing it. His hand was not fully extended because the 10
- force of the bullet pushed away the arm and fractured the 11
- 12 acromio clavicle joint.
- 13 So given the pattern I just see here, I can tell
- you reasonably that his hand was not fully extended when he 14
- was shot. His hand was flexed, slightly extended, like 15
- somebody manipulating something. His hand was in this way. 16
- 17 So when the bullet -- the force of the bullet, the bullet
- 18 traveled at about 1,200 feet per second. It had a force. So
- he moved the hand within millisecond and caused a fracture. 19
- Q. Again, this bullet or this Exhibit Number 140,
- this is a break in which it's the circled in green, that's a 21
- 22 break in?
- 23 A. Joint, the acromio, a-c-r-o-m-i-o clavicle joint,
- meaning the joint between the clavicle and scapula.

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- 1 Q. And showing you now what's been marked as or
- admitted as Exhibit 45.
- THE COURT: Ms. Brown? 3
- MS. BROWN: Yes. 4
- THE COURT: How much longer are you going to go
 - with this witness? 6
- MS. BROWN: It's going to be a little while 7
- 8 longer.
- THE COURT: We're going to take our break right 9
- 10
- MS. BROWN: Thank you. 11
- THE COURT: We've been in session for an hour and 12
- a half, and I'm going to give the court reporter a break. 13
- She doesn't feel very well, and we're going to take a 14
- 15 15-minute break.
- (Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the 16
- jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone 17
- until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.) 18
- THE COURT: We'll be in recess until a quarter 19
- 20 'til. Thank you very much.
- Doctor, during the recess, you're admonished not 21
- to talk to anyone associated with this case except the three 22
- 23 attorneys.
 - THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.

will not be immediately fatal. He could have survived that

- wound for up to five to ten minutes, and he would have been 2
- able to engage in activities. 3
- Remember, the famous Ronald Regan was shot in the 4
- 5 chest. He did not even know he was shot until they were
- driving him back to the White House. He began to cough out 6
- blood, that was when he changed over to go to the naval 7
- hospital. So he was shot in the chest and was not even aware 8 and was engaged in activities, that is a very good example. 9
- O. And I'm showing you now Exhibit 134. Do you 10
- recognize that photograph? 11
- A. Yes, ma'am. 12
- O. And what is that? 13
- A. This is the X-ray of Harry after death, and it 14
- shows splintered fragments of a metal projectile, rarely 15
- projectiles inside the chest and extending into the left 16
- shoulder and the left inner, this is important, inner aspect 17
- of the left arm.
- 19 O. And showing you now Exhibit Number 140.
- 20 A. This is, again, an X-ray of the left arm on the
- left shoulder. You could actually see a fracture of the left 21
- shoulder joint. You see the space up above the space between 22
- the scapula and the clavicle. 23
- THE COURT: Why don't you identify that for us. 24

- THE COURT: Thank you, sir. 1
- (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.) 2
- THE COURT: We're back in session in State of 3
- Nevada versus Tatiana Leibel. Mr. Gregory is present for the 4
- State. Ms. Brown, Ms. Henry are both here. Ms. Leibel is 5
- here, as is the interpreter, one of our interpreters. 6
- Doctor, you're still on the stand. You're still 7
- under oath, sir. Let's bring the jury in. 8
- Thank you, folks. Have a seat, please. 9
- Attorneys stipulate to the presence of the jury? 10
- MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor. 11
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor. 12
- THE COURT: Ms. Brown, would you continue. 13
- MS. BROWN: Thank you, Your Honor. 14
- O. Going back to Exhibit Number 140, where you 15
- identified a broken bone in the shoulder by that green 16
- circle, would that break in the shoulder affect flexibility 17
- in the arm after it was inflicted? 18
- A. The fracture dislocation of a joint would in a 19
- big motion but if you try to move, you may hear what we call 20
- crepitus, c-r-e-p-i-t-u-s, and I've actually done cases 21
- whereby at the scene, law enforcement interpreted a fractured 22
- shoulder to be rigor mortis because you try to move the 23
- 24 shoulder, the fracture in the base, the motion, soon after,

- could kill you suddenly. Many people who suffer it do not
- know they suffer from it until they do a liver enzyme panel.
- 3 Common causes of it, alcohol, drugs of all types and
- sometimes even drugs of abuse. It depends on your genetic
- makeup. Even drugs as common as marijuana can cause
- hepatitis. Some people, it's something you may be able to --
- 7 it's a very very ubiquitous disease.
- 8 In this case, what you should do if you don't
- believe it, it is to take microscopic section and look at it
- in the microscope. You will see the large globals of fat in 10
- the liver. What is the significance of this? The liver is 11
- 12 the organ, it's the largest organ in the body only second to
- the skin. Why is it a large organ? It supplies -- it's the
- only organ that has three independent sources of blood 14
- because it's a big organ that plays a very important function 15
- in the human body. 16
- 17 It is the organ that detoxifies your blood. It
- removes toxins and chemicals from your blood to clean it up. 18
- Why does it do that? The human brain is a very sensitive 19
- organ. The brain does not do well if specific chemicals in 20
- the body are elevated, specifically ammonia, and your body 21
- 22 turns out large amounts of ammonia, that is why you have
- large amounts of ammonia in the urine. That is actually what 23
- gives urine the smell. So the liver takes it out and it

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- death, fracture, spasm. If you've ever had a fracture, spasm 1 of the muscle, it's pain. So the muscle is spastic. If you 2
- die, the spasm of the muscles with time will relate slowly. 3
- So this is such a fracture could simulate rigor mortis and
- misinterpreted as rigor mortis, and I've actually seen it in 5
- several cases of mine. 6
- O. Showing you what's been marked Exhibit 45 for 7
- identification, do you recognize this?
- Yes. A. 9
- 10 O. What is that?
- Can you lower the light? There's a reflection. 11 A.
- THE COURT: It actually I think it's the light 12
- from the projector. You may be able to adjust one of those 13
- side lights that may help you. 14
- THE WITNESS: Wonderful, wonderful. Thank you so 15
- much. This is a picture of the liver. The human liver and 16
- the liver of all mammals has a red, brown color-like muscle. 17
- But if you notice, this liver is yellow. It's yellowish, and 18
- it's diffusely yellowish. This is a specific disease we call 19 steato, s-t-e-a-t-o, steato, hepatitis.
- 20
- What this simply means is a group of diseases 21
- 22 where you start having accumulation of fat in the liver and a specific type of fat is what we call a triglyceride fat. 23
- There are so many things that could cause hepatitis. It 24

- becomes excreted in the urine.
- 2 When you have a disease, if you see, this is
- diffuse. There is impairment of detoxification of the liver. 3
- Ammonia levels will be high. If I did this autopsy myself, I
- would have performed all of the analysis. What is the 5
- significance? When ammonia levels are high in the blood, it
- causes a specific disease. We'll call hepatic
- encephalopathy. Hepatic encephalopathy will make it to
- manifest episodes of irrationality. 9
- Q: Irrationality? 10
- A. Yes. Sometimes you could have a liver episodes
- 12 of irrationality, where you act out of character and some
 - people that even engage in activities that are simply
- 13
- irrational that you and I as rational beings would never 14
- 15 understand why.
- And in doing my review, having this, I look at 16
- 17 the toxicology which, again, showed us a very significant
- finding that further confirms that this case is not a 18
- homicide. 19
- 20 Q. And in -- you said earlier that you needed what
- would need slides of the tissue to make further diagnosis? 21
- A. If you have doubt, assuming if I'm training, you
- know, younger doctors, medical students, I would tell them to
- take a historical section, you should in a homicide like

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- this. An alleged homicide case, you should and must
- 2 according to the standard.
- 3 O. And as to the brain, should tissue be take from
- 4 the brain?
- 5 A. Tissue from the brain and from every organ from
- 6 the body.
- 7 Q. And to your knowledge, were any tissue samples
- 8 taken in this case?
- 9 A. I was surprised. I requested tissues. I was
- 10 told there was none taken. And the brain, you should see if
- 11 you take microscopic sections of the brain, you should see a
- 12 specific change in the brain cells that would explain the
- 13 irrationality. It affects a specific type of self in the
- 14 human brain, we will call astrocytes. They will become
- 15 balloon because of ammonia toxicity and it affects the
- 16 functioning of your different regions of your brain that
- 17 would manifest with irrationality.
- 18 Q. Okay. And you mentioned also in the toxicology
- 19 report that there was -- it was shown that cannabis was used?
- 20 A. Yes. In the toxicology report, it showed that
- 21 Harry used marijuana less than two hours before he died. Why
- 22 do I know it's less than two hours, because of the types of
- 23 cannabinoid found in his blood and the levels.
- 24 If you smoke marijuana, your Delta-9 THC which is

- 1 autopsy that you were shown?
- 2 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q. And Exhibit 149, do you recognize that?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 O. And is this also one of the photographs you were
- 6 shown?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. These photographs then have been since used to
- 9 show Harry's reach as to whether or not he could use the
- o weapon. Would this be a correct way to determine that?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 O. And why not?
- 13 A. Actually, the measurement, the way they measure
- it from the axilla to the tip of the finger is inaccurate.
- 15 If you want to measure range, you start from the neck to the
- 16 tip of the finger, not from the axilla. Why, because if I'm
- 17 manipulating a gun or any object, I'm using my whole body. I
- 18 can put my body in different concoctions and different
- 19 convolutions. I can -- I can do things that when I'm
- 20 standing stationery, someone watching me will assume I cannot
- 21 do.
- So, again, this is one of the patterns of
- 23 erroneous assumption of things in this case. Measuring the
- 24 ridge from the axilla is wrong. If you want to measure the

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- 1 ridge, you start from the neck, actually from the midline of
- 2 the body and then meaning that somebody cannot perform a
- 3 specific act because of the length of the upper extremity is
- 4 erroneous, it's wrong, it's a wrong determination because
- 5 human beings can concoct your body and twist your body in
- 6 unimaginable ways. Even some of us who have the talent can
- 7 roll your body into a ball. So this is totally wrong, and so
- B assumptions remaining in this based on such an erroneous
- 9 scientific methodology.
- 10 Q. And have we discussed possible scenarios or
- 11 examples in which we could possibly demonstrate if Mr. Leibel
- shot himself, that could be done with that 24-inch arm and
- 13 sofa?

18

- 14 A. Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am.
- MS. BROWN: And, Your Honor, may the record
- 16 reflect that Dr. Kubiczek did measure my arm when he was
- testifying it was between 24 and 25 in length.
 - THE COURT: He did measure it, and I don't recall
- 19 exactly. The jury will recall what the measurement was and
- 20 it's their memory that counts.
- 21 MS. BROWN: Okay.
- THE COURT: Mr. Gregory, if you want to stipulate
- 23 to what you believe the evidence was, you can do that or
- leave it up to the jury.

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- the active component of marijuana Delta-9 THC after two hours should drop less than two micrograms, but Harry's THC level
- 2 should drop less than two micrograms, but harry's The leve
- 3 was 20. So it tells you will he used marijuana within two
- 4 hours of his death. Unfortunately, marijuana is a
- 5 psychodelic drug. It's a hallucinogen. So if you're 6 suffering from a disease like hat hepatic encephalopathy and
- 7 then you smoke marijuana, you are at the much greater risk of
- 8 engaging in irrational behavior, including suicidal behavior.
- 9 Q. And you're one of leading brain experts in the or
- 10 experts in brain disease; is that correct?
- 11 A. Could you repeat.
- 12 Q. You're one of the leading experts in brain
- 13 disease?
- 14 A. I wouldn't say myself, but I have I have been
- 15 recognized as one of the leading experts. That was why the
- 16 U.S. Congress invited me on two occasions to advise them in
- matters related to brain disease, yes, ma'am.
- 18 Q. In fact, that's a matter of a lot of your
- 19 publications; is that correct?
- 20 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 21 O. Showing you what's been marked Exhibit 140 for
- 22 identification, do you recognize that?
- 23 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 24 O. Is this one of the photos that was taken at the

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- 1 MR. GREGORY: I would leave it up to the jury.
- 2 MS. BROWN: And Exhibit Number 119 is the dummy
- 3 gun?
- 4 THE COURT: I'm sorry, I couldn't hear you.
- 5 MS. BROWN: That's okay. I was just asking if
- 6 Exhibit 119 was the dummy gun.
- 7 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.
- B THE WITNESS: There's no bullet in it, right?
- 9 MS. BROWN: Excuse me?
- THE WITNESS: There's no bullet in it?
- 11 MS. BROWN: There's no bullet. Actually, the
- 12 firing pin has been removed. We're safe.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 14 THE COURT: Good question though, doctor.
- MS. BROWN: And I'm going to be sitting on
- 16 Exhibit 120, the couch.
- 17 THE COURT: Any of you in the jury are welcome to
- 18 stand if you want to see.
- 19 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) Could you step down, doctor.
- 20 A. Your Honor, may I?
- 21 THE COURT: You may, yes.
- 22 O. (BY MS. BROWN:) We talked about arm position in
- 23 this example, so with the same length?
- 24 A. This will give you -- this was -- move this arm.

- 1 A. Okay. Bring in your hand, okay, and erroneously
- 2 and that will cause exactly that. And wait, wait, wait, you
- 3 see, it goes to here.
- 4 Q. Uh-huh.
- 5 A. Raises the shoulder. This illustration shows
- 6 that atypical suicide was actually what happened here.
- 7 Q. Okay. But I'm not trying to shoot myself in the
- 8 shoulder and wrist, correct?
- 9 A. No, the second shot, he was trying to position
- 10 it. Remember, he is beginning to bleed inside.
- 11 O. Uh-huh.
- 12 A. He's becoming a bit confused because he is
- 13 bleeding, and he's trying to shoot himself again, trying to
- 14 manipulate and he is confused and, I mean, he fell backwards.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 Q. Okay. Thank you. And, again, these are possible
- 18 scenarios?
- 19 A. Yes. That will tie everything together. The
- 20 evidence of hepatic encephalopathy combined with the
- 21 psychodelic hallucinogenic effect of the marijuana, the
- 22 cannabinoids, there is no reasonable degree of certainty to
- 23 rule this a homicide. This is a suicide. The most you can
- 24 stretch it is atypical suicide.

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- 1 O. Okay.
- 2 A. So your hand -- that's to be -- okay.
- з Q. Okay.
- 4 A. To the side more.
- 5 O. Okay.
- 6 A. This will give you, yes, hold that.
- 7 O. Okay.
- 8 A. That will give you classic pattern. Depending on
- 9 your height and that but if you were his height, this will be
- on a higher level, and you could and it could give you
- 11 exactly what we have there.
- 12 Q. That's what we're talking about with this?
- 13 A. Which is taller height.
- 14 Q. Yes.
- 15 A. He could higher and this would go shoo.
- 16 Q. Okay. And then as to the second shot?
- 17 A. He shoots himself in the chest. He's not yet
- 18 dead and just like some very famous people, they try cyanide,
- 19 they are not yet dead. They are waiting for minutes and then
- 20 they use secondary mechanism.
- 21 Q. I accidentally shot myself.
- 22 A. Exactly, you're trying to hold this right as
- 23 you're moving around.
- 24 Q. Uh-huh.

- 1 Q. And so your opinion in this matter based on a
- 2 reasonable degree of medical certainty is?
- 3 A. That Tatiana did not shoot Harry. Harry is a
- 4 65-year-old white male, died as a result of a single gunshot
- 5 wound of his chest. The manner of death is suicide. What
- 6 type of suicide, an atypical suicide.
- 7 MS. BROWN: Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 8 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 9 MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 12 Q. Doctor, you are a pathologist, correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. Much like Dr. Kubiczek?
- 15 A. Yes, Dr. Kubiczek is a very good friend of mine.
- 16 Q. Yeah, and you actually work with Dr. Kubiczek
- 17 sometimes, don't you?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. As well, as the Washoe County Medical Examiner's
- 20 Office?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. There's cases you actually work together,
- 22 correct?
- 24 A. Yes, I examine brains for the Washoe County

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- Medical Examiner's Office.
- 2 Q. All right. You're not a certified gun expert,
- 3 are you?
- 4 A. No. sir.
- 5 Q. And you're not a physicist, are you?
- 6 A. No, sir.
- 7 Q. Okay. You are not a toxicologist, are you?
- 8 A. I am. I'm board certified in clinical pathology.
- 9 Toxicology is part of clinical pathology.
- 10 O. Oh, okay.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Are you a reconstruction expert?
- 13 A. No, sir.
- 14 Q. Are you crime scene expert?
- 15 A. I'm a crime scene expert in relation to the
- 16 medical aspect of a crime scene.
- 17 Q. Do you go out to the crime scenes?
- 18 A. Yes. In fact, the standard of forensic pathology
- is that for every suspicious case or homicide, the
- 20 pathologist must, must go out to the scene.
- 21 Q. You understand there's a certification for crime
- 22 scene experts?
- 23 A. Yes. Part of our board certification includes
- crime scene examination but the medical aspect of a crime

- 1 Q. Okay. Do you know that there were over 600
- 2 photographs taken in this case?
- 3 A. I don't know. Photographs were sent to me. I've
- 4 seen photographs sent to me.
- 5 Q. Okay. Did you review 600 and some photographs?
- 6 A. I don't recall. I didn't count them. I could
- 7 check in my laptop. I have it here with me, but all of the
- 8 same pictures sent to me, I reviewed.
- 9 Q. Did you review all of the laboratory reports in
- 10 this case?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. So you reviewed the DNA report, correct?
- 13 A. Yes, I reviewed in November.
- 14 Q. Okay. You reviewed the fingerprint analysis,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. Sorry?
- 17 Q. The fingerprint analysis, you reviewed that?
- 18 A. Yeah, I reviewed that in November when the case
- 19 was sent to me. In preparing for testimony the other day, I
- 20 don't typically review such reports because I don't testify
- 21 to them.
- 22 Q. And as I understand, at the time you prepared
- 23 your report, you did not have the measurements of the crime
- 24 scene that were taken by the Washoe County Crime Lab,

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- scene examination, we don't go to take trace evidence at the
- 2 scene, no, but we will go to examine the body in relation to
- 3 the scene to see the relationship of the body with the scene
- and also to advise law enforcement so that they don't make
- 5 erroneous assumptions like we have in this case.
- 6 Q. I want to talk a little bit about what things you
- 7 considered in rendering your opinion in this case?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. You indicated you saw some photographs. We know
- 10 you saw the x-rays, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. Did you see all of the autopsy photographs?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did you see all of the photographs of the scene
- taken by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office?
- 16 A. I don't know if it's all, but I've seen
- 17 photographs sent to me, and I saw all of the same photographs
- 18 sent to me.
- 19 O. So you were provided with reports or photographs
- 20 by the defense, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. You have no idea if those were all of the
- 23 photographs in the case?
- 24 A. I don't know, sir.

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. I don't know. I don't recall, but there are the
- 3 measurements that were sent to me, and I've reviewed them,
- 4 and I do not agree with majority of your assumptions. Based
- 5 on the measurement, there were a pattern of --
- 6 Q. Doctor, my question was, at the time you wrote
- your report, did you have those measurements?
- 8 A. I had measurements of the crime scene that were
- 10 O. Okay. Who provided those to you?
- 11 A. The defense attorney.

provided to me, yes.

- 12 Q. And how is it they provided those to you before I
- 13 even had them?
- 14 A. I don't know. I don't know because I'm not
- involved in the case that -- my team forwarded it to me.
- 16 What I reviewed in November, I saw pictures of the scene. I
- 17 saw some cartoon demonstrations. Then about last week or two
- 18 weeks ago, there was another formal report, a crime scene
- 19 report.
- 20 MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I would ask you to
- 21 direct to the witness to answer the question.
- 22 THE COURT: He is answering it. You asked him
- 23 how he got them before you did. He's telling you when he got
- 24 them.

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- MR. GREGORY: Okav. 1
- THE WITNESS: There was another report, a more 2
- comprehensive report with pictures, diagrams that were sent
- to me weeks a couple of weeks ago.
- 5 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Did you review all of the
- police reports in this case?
- 7 A. Yes, in November, when I got the case, yes.
- 8 Q. About how many reports did you review?
- A. There were PDF files, I would say about seven or
- eight PDF files. 10
- 11 Q. Okay. You did not review the 58 reports that
- were done in this case? 12
- 13 A. I don't know if the 58 were part of the several
- PDF's but if 58 police reports, remember what I told you, I
- don't base my opinion on police reports. Since there are 58 15
- police reports, you don't expect me to give 58 opinions of 16
- the 58 police reports. 17
- 18 Q. Well, if you don't consider police reports, why
- did you look at any of them?
- 20 A. I look at them because as an expert witness, if I
- did not look at them, you will criticize me that I did not 21
- 22 look at them.
- 23 O. So you choose to look at some of them but not all
- of them?

- 1 O. But so you reviewed Tatiana's statements,
- correct?
- 3 A. Yes, and there's reason why I did that as a
- physician. I want to know if her story changed. You know,
- remember, I do this so many times. What is one of the things
- you want to change? You want to find out is the defendant.
- the person been accused of shooting somebody, did her story
- change.
- Q. Okay. So you listened to her statements, 9
- correct?
- 11 A. Sorry?
- 12 O. You listened to her statements, correct?
- 13 A. To her interview by the police.
- 14 Q. You didn't listen to any other interviews from
- any other witnesses?
- 16 A. No. no. Remember -- remember --
- 17 O. It's a yes or no question.
- 18 A. I said no.
- 19 Q. Thank you. Thank you. Did you discuss the case
- with any of the witnesses at all?
- 21 A. No. Remember, I'm not a witness expert. I'm not
- here to testify.
- 23 Q. Sir, it's a yes or no question.
- 24 A. Could you repeat it?

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1 O. Did you discuss the case with any of the

- witnesses?
- 3 A. No. sir.
- 4 Q. Did you discuss the case with any of the police
- officers?
- A. No. sir.
- Q. Did you discuss the case with Dr. Kubiczek?
- A. Yes, sir.
- 9 O. Did you discuss the case with Tatiana?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. But you listened to her statements?
- 13 Q. Since you listen to all of her statements, you
- are familiar with some of the discrepancies in those
- statements, correct? 15
- 16 A. Essentially, I wouldn't categorize them as
- discrepancies because like today if you bring me back 17
- tomorrow to ask me the same questions, I wouldn't testify to
- 19 them exactly the same but essential call, the essence of her
- testimony of what transpired that this was a suicide did not 20
- change. 21
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. Now, minutia, we're human beings. Nobody has 100
- percent recall memory that might not -- which I would dismiss

obtained from the cell phones in this case?

- 5 A. No, no.
- 6 Q. Did you listen to the tape recorded interviews of

1 A. I looked at all of the police reports that were

3 O. Okay. Did you review the evidence that was

- all of the witnesses in this case?
- 8 A. Yes, yes.
- O. All of the witnesses?

forwarded to me.

- 10 A. It was quite long. There were two of them.
- 11 O. Oh, just two?
- 12 A. Two videotapes.
- 13 O. Okay.
- 14 A. That took me almost one night. I woke up at,
- like, 2:00 o'clock. By noon, I was still looking at them.
- They were very long. 16
- 17 Q. There were some 60 witnesses listed on the board
- when we started this trial. You reviewed two of those
- 19 witness statements?
- 20 A. No. of Tatiana.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 A. In a case like this, I don't need to review all
- of the material. Remember my expertise, I'm not law
- enforcement expert.

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- as insignificant.
- 2 Q. Is the number of shots insignificant?
- 3 A. Yes, because if you notice, again, remember, the
- Ferguson case, there were like ten witnesses that saw the
- same thing. This is very well established in science. A 5
- witness' perception of an event is based on that witness' 6
- experience, state of mind and level of education. So there
- have been cases of police officers. 8
- 9 A police officer, a case I've involved in, who
- fired eight shots, in his mind said he fired four. He wasn't 10
- lying. Just that in that moment of excitement, he had only 11
- four shots, and this is within the various of human behavior. 12
- When we are in unusual circumstances, our perceptions vary 13
- broadly and widely, so I wouldn't say that take that to be 14
- something significant that would change my opinion. It is 15
- actually something that I would expect that happens quite a 16
- 17 lot even for trained officers that could fire at times but to
- tell you I thought I fired four times. 18
- O. Okay. So in one statement, she indicated she was 19
- in the kitchen when the gunshot occurred, the first gunshot 20
- 21 occurred. And in the next statement, she indicated she was
- outside when she heard two shots. Is that a consideration? 22
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would object to that 23 characterization. That comes from witness in the courtroom, 24

- 1 no, I'm not wrong. The science is right and today, 20 years
- later, guess what, I was proven right. So you shouldn't as a
- scientific expert listen on what witnesses said or what other
- doctors said, I apply my own science. I testify. You judge
- my credibility. You believe me or you don't believe me, but
- I can't giver you an opinion based on what a paramedic
- witness said or what other witnesses said.
- 8 O. You don't think much of the paramedics in this
- case, do vou?
- A. It is not about thinking much. If you go to see
- 11 your doctor, would you want your physician to treat you based
- 12 on what a paramedic told him? It is simply the hierarchy of
- 13 medicine. As doctors, you are at the top. And, yes, you
- listen to what a paramedic said, then you do your own 14
- 15 analysis. You examine your patient.
- If what you say to the patient is not consistent 16
- 17 with what paramedic is saying, I don't think you would
- believe what the physician saw yourself and go by what the 18
- 19 paramedic said. It is not that I don't respect paramedics.
- 20 I respect paramedics with every being in me. They are very
- important. They have actually helped me too. It's not a 21
- 22 question of disrespecting. It's a question of the hierarchy
- 23 of finite industry.
- 24 Q. So I'm taking it from your answer, that you

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- not from the taped interviews. He's mischaracterizing what's 1
- in the taped interviews. The taped interviews --2
- THE COURT: The taped interviews are not in 3
- evidence and so, you know, if you're going to keep 4
- questioning him about those, they may very well come in. 5
- MR. GREGORY: I'm talking about what has happened 6
- right here in this courtroom is what I'm talking about. 7
- THE COURT: Well, then you can ask him about what 8
- witnesses have characterized.
- O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Chris Lucas testified that he 10
- heard Tatiana say she was outside when she heard two 11
- gunshots. Did you listen to that? 12
- 13 A. Who is Chris Lucas?
- Q. He's a paramedic. Did you not look at his 14
- 15
- 16 A. No, no. A witness statement analysis, they both
- red signal. You should take witness statements as it is. I 17
- cannot ask a physician, make -- provide an opinion based on 18
- one witness said which is the problem we have in this case. 19
- Police officers coming in and manner of death but guiding an 20
- autopsy. 21
- Even -- and this has happened, like example why I 22
- discovered the disease in football players, every doctor in 23
- the world said I was wrong, but I knew the science and said,

- disregarded inconsistencies in Tatiana's statement?
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would object. 2
- THE COURT: What is the objection? 3
- 4 MS. BROWN: His characterization that he
- 5 disregarded them because some of these inconsistencies are
- 6 coming from reports he may not have received or he's not
- 7 recalling or is testimony in court.
- 8 THE COURT: Well, the objection is overruled.
- The question can be rephrased to make it clearer as to what 9
- 10 he has regarded and what he has not regarded.
- Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Sir, should we disregard the
- 12 inconsistencies in her statements?
- 13 A. No, I did not disregard it. Remember, I
- explained how I analyzed it. That I said even when you're 14
- listening to a patient, when you're treating a patient, 15
- 16 there's no patient that wouldn't have inconsistencies,
- there's no human being. So what you do is you listen to the 17
- 18 patient. You listen to whomever, and then that is when
- 19 you're expert, your education comes in. You sift through
- 20 what you have been told, and you make a need to conclusion or
- diagnosis as the expert. 21 And like a patient, I would never tell a patient 22
- 23 that you're wrong. You don't know. What you're telling me
 - is inconsistent, no, no. You write down everything he or she

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Tatiana Leibel. aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062

- says, that you will review it. Review the other evidence
- because all we have here is not just witness statements. 2
- 3 The good example is the Ferguson, remember, he
- 4
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I didn't ask for an 5
- example. I would ask for the witness to respond to the 6
- 7
- THE COURT: All right. Well, I think he's given 8
- you a response. Why don't you ask your next question.
- 10 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Sir, did you examine this
- couch before you rendered your opinion? 11
- 12 A. Yes, pictures of the couch.
- O. Pictures of the couch. Did you actually come and 13
- observe the couch?
- 15 A. No, I did not think it was necessary for me.
- 16 Q. Okay. Did you go to the house and inspect the
- house? 17
- 18 A. No, sir, it wasn't necessary for me.
- Q. Did you inspect the gun?
- 20 A. No, sir, I'm not a gun expert.
- 21 O. Okay. And yet you've testified today about
- 22 distances and whatnot with sooting.
- 23 A. Yeah, that's what we call the medical aspects of
- ballistics, so medical aspects of ballistics. I don't need

- 1 Q. Okay. And in that report, you didn't cite any
- kind of authority for your -- the science that you're talking
- about here today, right?
- A. No, no, it depends. Remember, I've done this so
- many many times, many times, depending on the jurisdiction
- and some states is different. As an expert, they don't want
- you to cite other authorities because you're coming as an
- authority yourself. 8
- Now, if a Court would ask me to provide the basis
- to provide published literature, I would provide that. But
- as I'm sitting here today, nobody has asked me to provide 11
- such literature. 12
- O. Okay. How long did it take you to prepare that
- two-page report?
- A. It took me weeks. It took me several weeks. I
- didn't just -- I reviewed the case first. I spent time with
- it. I thought about it. I did some reading. One day I woke 17
- up early. It took me about four or five hours to write it. 18
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the term cut and 19
- paste as it refers to word processing? 20
- A. Yes, I know cut and paste and somebody like me
- who does -- I write over 100, 200 reports every year. 22
- 23 Sometimes some power in the report, things like definition of
- a forensic pathologist.

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- to examine a gun. 1
- 2 O. Okav.
- 3 A. All I need to do is skeletal examinations. Like
- today, I saw the gun earlier today. When I came this
- morning, I examined the gun and the replica of the gun, and I 5
- saw it. They could not have shipped it to me in California, 6
- and I did my medical analysis. I'm not a ballistics expert 7
- but as a forensic pathologist, I'm expert in the medical 8
- aspect of ballistics, that is why I know the type of bullet.
- That is why I know the distance. 10
- 11 Q. So you didn't shoot the gun?
- 12 A. Oh, no, I've never shot a gun in my life, really,
- 13
- 14 O. All right, interesting. Your report in this case
- was two pages long; is that right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- O. And you would agree with me that it's a very
- conclusory report. You gave conclusions, but you don't state 18
- how you arrived at those conclusions? 19
- A. When I was asked to write a report, I was given 20
- the guidelines because each state has its own guideline, that
- my report should be a summary of my conclusions.
- 23 Q. So your two-page report was a summary, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- The College of American Pathologist, such things
- are copied and pasted on general terminology, general
- concepts.
- Q. So you might cut and past some general
- principles, but you don't cut and paste things that are
- specific to a case, do you?
- A. No, I don't.
- Q. Did you cut and paste when you prepared the
- report in this case? 10
- 11 A. Yes. This case, I described the College of
- American pathologists. I defined what forensic pathology
- was. I described the general concepts of reasonable degree 13
- of medical certainty. So such general concepts, I don't 14
- doubt. I actually have a templet. I'll go and pick it out 15
- of my template and put it on there. 16
- Q. But the opinion in this case, you wouldn't
- certainly have cut and pasted?
- A. No, the opinion, I wouldn't copy and paste
- because it's unique to the case.
- Q. So one of your opinions in this case was, quote, 21
- the experts are scientifically invalid and are grossly
- outside the established and generally accepted guidelines and principles of forensic pathology. Is that one of the quotes

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- 1 from your report?
- 2 A. I don't know if you're reading it, yes.
- 3 Q. Would you like to see your report?
- 4 A. If you don't mind.
- 5 THE COURT: Are you refreshing his recollection?
- 6 MR. GREGORY: I'm refreshing his recollection.
- 7 At page two, you'll see an asterisk.
- 8 THE COURT: Why don't you have it marked so the
- 9 record is clear.
- 10 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- 11 O. I'm handing you State's Exhibit or excuse me,
- 12 Exhibit 148. Would you take a look at that and review it?
- 13 A. Thank you.
- 14 O. And then let me know if it refreshes your
- 15 recollection.
- 16 A. Yes, yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. So you would agree that one of your
- 18 conclusions is that that Douglas County Sheriff's Office and
- 19 experts --
- 20 A. What page, sorry?
- 21 O. Page two.
- 22 A. Page two, what paragraph?
- 23 Q. Scientifically invalid and are grossly outside
- 24 the established and generally accepted guidelines and

- 1 phraseology. It is how I speak. If you watch me in another
- 2 case testify, you will hear me using the same terminology as
- 3 I do here. This is my style. There's nothing wrong with it,
- 4 the same language, and I may not have copied it. This is
- 5 just what I write. So if you review on my reports, you see
- 6 some commonalities which is not unusual.
- 7 O. Okay. Have you ever had your testimony deemed to
- B be unreliable?
- 9 A. I would not say I was deemed unreliable. This
- 10 was a case eight years ago, a case in Pennsylvania, a man had
- 11 Hodgkin lymphoma from walking with --
- 12 O. It's a yes or no question.
- 13 A. Yes, yes. I'm trying to explain what happened.
- 14 Q. No.
- 15 A. The outcome of that case --
- 16 Q. Sir, listen.
- 17 THE COURT: Doctor, doctor, give him the answer
- and then if he wants an explanation, he'll ask for it.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- THE COURT: If Ms. Brown wants an explanation,
- 21 she'll ask for it, but just answer his question, please.
- 22 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) So the question is have you
- 23 ever been found -- has a Court ever found your testimony to
- 24 be unreliable?

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- 1 principles of forensic pathology?
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. In the materials that you submitted regarding
- 4 your expertise, you referred to a case Scanlon versus Life
- 5 Insurance Company of America. Do you remember working on
- ь that case?
- 7 A. You lost me. I don't understand the question.
- 8 THE COURT: Well, repeat it and listen carefully.
- 9 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Okay. In your materials you
- 10 gave us and you listed all of cases you've been involved
- 11 with.
- 12 A. In my CV.
- 13 O. Your CV.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. And in one of the cases you indicated you were
- 16 involved in was a case called Scanlon versus Life Insurance
- 17 Company of America. Do you remember that case?
- 18 A. That was in a U.S. -- United States Court in
- 19 Seattle. The summary judgment was rendered in that case, and
- 20 the federal judge actually referenced me numerous times in
- 21 his summary judgment.
- 22 Q. Okay. Would it surprise you in the report you
- authored in that case, you put the exact same conclusion?
- 24 A. It would not surprise me. These are not my

- 1 A. Yes, once, once eight years ago, and I'm trying
- 2 to explain the basis for that, which in my opinion looking
- 3 back now --
- THE COURT: Sir, we didn't ask you for the basis.
- 5 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You're aware of the Court's
- 6 findings in that case?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you're familiar then that the Court concluded
- 9 and I quote, this Court has carefully considered the parties
- 10 respective positions and based on the present record, finds
- 11 that the methodology used by Dr. Omalu in reaching his
- opinions in this case is not reliable and even if it was
- 13 found to be reliable, his opinions are too speculative to,
- 14 quote, fit the facts of this case. End of quote. Do you
- 15 recall that?
- 16 A. Yes in fact --
- 17 O. Do you recall that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. Okay.
- 20 A. The mistake --
- 21 Q. Sir?
- THE COURT: Sir, he didn't ask you a question.
- 23 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Did the Court also quote his
 - opinions are also not grounded in science, end of quote?

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- 1 A. Now you're reading, that was almost a five page
- ruling. You're reading a paragraph. If you read farther, ż
- you'll see where the judge said Dr. Omalu is highly 3
- qualified. He is fully trained. He can give the opinion but 4
- in this case, some mistakes were made, and I agree with the
- judge because in that case, the outcome on the case --6
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I'm asking --7
- THE COURT: You answered the question. 8
- MR. GREGORY: Thank you. 9
- Q. In that case, the judge criticized you for citing 10
- opinions without giving any authority; is that correct? 11
- 12 A. That is inaccurate. You see, which is not fair.
- In that case, what happened --13
- 14 Q. Sir, there's no question in front of you.
- 15 A. The judge --
- THE COURT: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Now 16
- he is answering you. 17
- MR. GREGORY: Okay. 18
- THE COURT: Go ahead. 19
- THE WITNESS: The outcome of that case lied to me 20
- that there were no medical records, okay. This is how it all 21
- started. I was not aware there were medical records. It was 22
- only in a deposition that the medical records were shown to 23
- me. I did not review any medical records because the 24

- 1 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Sir, how much were you paid to
- generate your two-page report?
- 3 A. I was not paid to generate. I'm paid a fee for
- the time I spend on a case. I'm not paid to do anything
- specifically as illegal. They pay me to give a report, to
- testify. When I work for public defenders, the public
- defender tells me what he will pay me.
- So in this case, they sent me to my office to 8
- review to see if it was something I could help out. When I
- reviewed it, I felt strongly about the case. I told them 10
- okay. I can review the case for you. They told me all they
- have to pay me is \$3,000, even if I work for 1,000 hours.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- A. So I said it is going -- I don't do this for the
- money. Send me whatever you have. It's taxpayers money. I
- will work on this to establish the truth because the truth 16
- will set you free.
- O. So how much are you getting paid then?
- 19 A. \$3,000.
- 20 Q. \$3,000 and earlier you testified that that
- creates a conflict of interest when you're getting paid by
- the person that you're rendering an opinion for?
- 23 A. No, it doesn't create conflict. It's like saying
- the county paying you creates a conflict of interest. I need

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to feed my seven-year-old daughter and my five-year-old son.

- I'm a professional. I need to be paid for innocent work I 2
- do --3
- Q. When Ms. Brown was asking you questions though,
- you were critical of the Washoe County Medical Examiner's
- Office and --
- 7 THE COURT: Are you okay?
- THE COURT REPORTER: I need a drink of water. .8
- THE COURT: Hang on. We need a break. 9
- THE COURT REPORTER: Can you repeat your question 10
- too, Mr. Gregory? 11
- MR. GREGORY: Yes. 12
- 13 THE COURT: Let's give her a moment.
- O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) On direct examination, you
- voiced that you were somewhat critical of entities like the 15
- Washoe County Medical Examiner's Office because they are 16
- county employees that work along side of police officers; is 17
- 18 that?
- That wasn't what I said. 19 A.
- Q. Okay. 20
- 21 A. What I said was that when law enforcement tells a
- pathologist what a case is, that is the homicide, and you're 22
- working with this law enforcement, if you continue going
- against what they want, case after case, you're jeopardizing

attorney in the case told me there were no medical records. 1

- THE COURT: Okay. You've answered the question. 2
- 3 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) And the Court also said,
- quote, you failed to properly consider all of the relevant
- material, end of quote. 5
- 6 A. Exactly, and I completely agree with that judge.
- After the single case eight years ago --
- THE COURT: Sir? 8
- (BY MR. GREGORY:) And lastly, the Court --9
- THE COURT: Listen to the question. 10
- 11 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) -- quoted, there's no record
- of the method used by Dr. Omalu in making the actual 12
- calculations referenced in his declaration, end of quote. 13
- 14 A. Yes, I agree with that judge. I agree and after
- that case, I learned my lesson after that case. I've done 15
- thousands of cases --16
- THE COURT: Sir. 17 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 18 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) The end result in that case 19
- though, the judge did not allow you to testify in front of 20
- 21 the jury?
- A. No, the case was thrown out. It was not -- it 22
- wasn't just me. The attorney was --23
- THE COURT: Sir? 24

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- your job, that's a fact.
- So, like I said, because a doctor should be 2
- independent of law enforcement, this is the guideline, when 3
- you have law enforcement concluding that a case is a homicide
- before an autopsy is even done, that's something critically
- 6 wrong.

17

- 7 O. So let me ask you, if you were going to be truly
- independent, you wouldn't have considered Ms. Leibel's
- statements, would you?
- 10 A. No. As an expert, like I said, my opinion today,
- my opinion are based on the scientific episodes, the autopsy,
- delivered medicine, my opinions are based on medicine, not 12
- based on hearsay or what someone else said. I have never 13
- said I base my opinion on what someone else said. All of the 14
- opinions are given based on science not because of the
- 15 16 protocol.
 - THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to take just a short break for the court reporter, and she's
- 18 having a difficult time. We're going to give her a break and 19
- we'll just take a ten-minute break. 20
- (Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the 21
- jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone 22 until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.)
- 23 THE COURT: We'll just take a quick ten-minute 24

- enforcement alleging that this is a homicide. Because if you
- put multiple gunshots wounds, it makes it look like this
- individual was shot multiple times, which is inaccurate.
- 4 O. Well, how many times was he shot?
- 5 A. He shot himself. He wasn't shot. He was --
- 6 Q. How many times?
- 7 A. Once, the second one in my opinion was a misfire.
- 8 Q. Ah, okay. So you think that this statement is
- correct, he did not sustain multiple gunshot wounds of his
- body, that's a correct statement?
- 11 A. Yes, absolutely correct, sir, yes, sir.
- 12 Q. All right. You talked a lot about atypical
- suicides. Are you familiar with the doctor named Warner
- 14 Spitz?
- 15 A. Warner Spitz is a pioneer of forensic science is
- now, I believe, he's almost 90 years old.
- 17 O. Pretty reputable?
- 18 A. He's old school.
- 19 Q. Anything wrong with being old school?
- 20 A. Yes, science -- because science evolves at the
- very fast pace, especially with molecule biology, molecule
- biology, even for me now, some of the interventions, two, 22
- 23 three, four years ago I defer to the newly trained doctors
- because they know it better than me.

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- break. 1 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.) 2
- THE COURT: Doctor, you're still under oath. 3
- Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Have a seat. 4
- Thank you. Will the parties stipulate the presence of the 5
- 6 jury?
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor. 7
- MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor. 8
- THE COURT: Thank you. 9
- Mr. Gregory, please go ahead, sir. 10
- 11 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Doctor, page two of your
- report, in the third paragraph, the last sentence, you 12
- indicate he did not sustain multiple gunshot wounds to his
- body as has been alleged in the autopsy report? 14
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Is that an accurate statement?
- 17 A. Yes. I mean, I did -- I have an MBA. It was
- multiple, the lowest multiple you could have an injury. It's
- two times two, four. One is single, two double, three 19
- several, from four upwards is multiple. So if he had only
- 20 one gunshot wound, possibly one here, this is a graze wound, 21
- 22 so two.
- Saying he had multiple gunshot wounds, it's my 23
- interpretation of a pattern to corroborate with the law 24

- 1 O. You have worked with Dr. Spitz, haven't you, on
- cases before?
- 3 A. I've not worked with him. I may have testified
- against him.
- 5 Q. So same case where you both were involved?
- 6 A. I don't remember, to be honest with you, because
- of something. I may have. I may not have. I don't
- remember.
- 9 Q. Are you familiar with his studies regarding
- 10 atypical suicides?
- 11 A. I'm familiar with his studies, but his studies
- are very old. Some of his papers were in the '50s and '60s. 12
- In fact, his peer, Dr. DeMayo, last year a judge stopped him 13
- from testifying on the case. I mean, there's a limit to if 14
- you're like almost 90 years old, there's a limit to what you 15
- 16 can do. We are human.
- 17 Q. Have you -- have you read about his studies
- 18 regarding atypical suicide?
- 19 A. Not just his study. I've read so many studies I
- myself have published. I've published many times on suicide 20
- 21 too.
- 22 O. Are you familiar with Dr. Spitz's opinion that
- usually in a case if it's a suicide and there's multiple 23
- shots that the shots go into the same general area typically.

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- So for instance, if a person is trying to shoot themselves in 1
- the head and it grazes and they take another shot, it's also 2
- going to be directed towards the head. Are you familiar with 3
- that part of the study?
- A. I'm very familiar with it but like I've told you, 5
- this is not a case of multiple gunshot wounds. 6
- O. And are you also familiar with his study that 7
- indicates that in most suicide cases, subjects do not shoot 8
- themselves through clothing. Are you familiar with that part
- of his statement? 10
- 11 A. I'm familiar with it. In fact, I think this case
- was to me having that as a result of multiple gunshot wounds 12
- because of what that people said to make it look more like a 13
- homicide because we don't have multiple gunshot wounds in 14
- 15 this case.
- I have refused with sides in other counties for 16
- over ten years, and I looked at over 1,000 suicides. I 17
- reviewed suicides in the state of Pennsylvania over 17 years. 18
- MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, this is unresponsive to 19 20 the question.
- THE COURT: Okay. Well, doctor, please listen to 21
- the question, and I'm going to remind you again to answer the 22
- question. 23

1

THE WITNESS: All right. 24

- 1 Q. So, doctor, it sounds to me like you choose to
- acknowledge some facts while disregarding other facts; is
 - that correct?
- 4 A. No, no. I am acknowledging facts that within a
- reasonable degree of medical certainty, like a physician
- should do, things, assumptions in this case that are not
- above the reasonable degree of medical certainty, I ignore by
- the standards, I should as a physician.
- O. I want to make sure I understand some testimony
- you gave before.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. Death never occurs instantaneously, was that your
- statement?
- A. Let me qualify. The only time death occurs
- instantaneously is when you have an explosion, when your body
- is splintered. That is the only instance that will cause 16
- instantaneously. 17
- O. So you're qualifying your statement that it never
- occurs instantaneously? 19
- A. I don't know if I said never. If that was what I
- said, I didn't mean to. What I would say, maybe I said death
- almost never. I qualify because this is not the first time 22
- I'm testifying in court. I always qualify it as death almost 23
- never, and the only time and it's very well documented in 24

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- literature is when there's an explosion, like somebody 1
- wearing an explosive vest, the moment of the explosion, his
 - body is splintered, that is when you die instantaneously.
 - O. So your opinion in this case is that Harry did
 - not die instantaneously?
 - A. No way from it. There was no way he -- the
 - gunshot wound of the chest would have killed him
 - instantaneously. It is not medically feasible.
- Q. So let me give a hypothetical and it's based on
- testimony in this case. Tatiana shoots Harry Leibel at 10
- approximately 11:03. She immediately goes to the phone and 11
- calls 911. They are on scene within minutes and within 12
- approximately 13 minutes, the paramedics pronounce him dead.
- How does that work given your opinion that he didn't die
- instantaneously? 15
- A. Instantaneously means he died within a 16
- millisecond. Immediately means he died without any other 17
- 18 factors. Immediately could mean from minutes to hours to
- days. It takes even weeks and years. It takes some people 19
- years to die. So instantaneously means he died within a 20
- millisecond of sustaining the gunshot wound, that is what 21
- instantaneous means. 22
- Q. Are we supposed to ignore the testimony of the
- paramedics that the blood was coagulating and looked to be

THE COURT: Yu have a lot of information in your

- head and you want to get it out there. 2
- THE WITNESS: Yes. 3
- THE COURT: But right now, there are specific 4
- questions being asked of you, and I want you to answer those 5
- specific questions, okay? 6
- THE WITNESS: All right. 7
- Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) So your opinion is that the
- second shot here was a misfire?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Meaning, he didn't mean to pull the trigger?
- 12 A. He was manipulating the gun while progressively
- becoming confused. He was -- possibly was confused in 13
- addition to the fact of the marijuana combined with the 14
- effect of his hepatic encephalopathy was getting into what we 15
- call acute confusional state. While he's trying to 16
- manipulate the gun and then misfired, that is why he cocked 17
- it and grazed. 18
- 19 Q. And that's why he cocked the gun for a third
- shot? 20
- 21 A. I don't know why but cocking the gun at that
- time, nobody really knows that. Because if you remember, the 22
- gun was moved at the scene, and the gun was moved at the 23
- 24 scene and somebody who shot himself in the chest, confused.

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1 drying?

- 2 A. I'm not saying you should ignore it. You should
- weigh it. Given, it's like --
- O. It's a factor, right?
- THE COURT: Wait a minute. He's not done 5
- 6 answering.

7

- THE WITNESS: Hierarchy. I'm a forensic
- pathologist, years of education, and I give an opinion, a
- paramedic has six months of medical training, advanced
- cardiac life support. You may not like what I say but 10
- objectively, you weigh, who do you believe? Do you believe 11
- me, even with all my experiences, will you believe me or what 12
- 13 he said?
- THE COURT: You answered the question. 14
- THE WITNESS: What I always say --15
- 16 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) So do you just disregard?
- A. I didn't say disregard. I said you evaluate it.
- You evaluate it, that is why you have me. You didn't stop at
- the paramedic. You brought a doctor. You evaluate it. You 19
- consider the totality, the totality. 20
- 21 O. Are we supposed to ignore that there were two
- shots fired in this case?
- 23 A. No. If there was no autopsy, the number of shots
- 24 fired will be paramount, but there was an autopsy performed

- recognized this is my professional view of expertise. Like
- you, you're an expert in the law, I'm not. So if I need
- legal advice. I'll come to somebody like you. So if law 3
- enforcement in my county needs the expert to make such
- conclusions, they will call me, so I came. I told them, no,
- no, this is why it's not a homicide. I was shot that down
- immediately. That was not done in this case.
- O. Had you had the flip be true where they thought
- it was a suicide and you thought it was a homicide?
- 10 A. No, because most times my opinion is based on the
- autopsy findings and assuming the case we went to yesterday 11
- in my county, sometimes I do an autopsy. I rule it on the 12
- command. I have a meeting with the D.A. The D.A. tells me 13
- 14 we really think this case is a homicide but since you voted
- on coming, we will charge for something less, maybe for blunt 15
- 16 force trauma, seriously bodily harm.
- But the science, remember, I'm a messenger of the 17
- science because of my training, not me as an individual. So 18
- if I explain the science to the best of my ability, we 19
- 20 wouldn't be arguing with the science. We respect what the
- 21 science says. If you don't agree with it and, okay, you seek
- a second opinion. 22
- 23 O. Should we ignore that there was a lack of
- gunpowder smell when the first responders went on scene?

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- that shows the only medic forensically significant and
- forensically concentration shot, was only one shot that
- 3 killed him. The second shot is what we call incidental
- 4 findings because he would have still died from the single
- gunshot wound of the chest. The one to his hand and to the
- graze wound were of no significant forensic consequence, end 6 7 of story.
- 8 O. Are we supposed to ignore the fact that this was
- a long gun that was used instead of a handgun?
- 10 A. No, you should not ignore the fact, but you
- 11 shouldn't make some assumptions that are not supported by
- science. 12
- 13 Q. Should we ignore the fact that the gun was cocked
- for a third shot?
- 15 A. You shouldn't ignore it. Can somebody shoot
- himself in the chest and still cock the gun at that time, 16
- yes, and the body, yes. 17
- 18 O. You've talked about cases where investigators
- look at a scene and think it's a homicide initially but after
- further investigation, they realize it's a suicide, correct?
- 21 A. No, they thought it was a homicide and they
- called me to the scene.
- 23 Q. And you set them straight?
- 24 A. No, I didn't set them straight, no. Everybody

- 1 A. The smell is a very subjective under scientific
- variable. Again, the smell, how can you determine that a
- case is a homicide and not a homicide based on the smell of
- gunpowder? That is almost bordering on Voodo. 4
- 5 O. Well, if the battalion chief with 20 something
- years of experience as a bomb tech says he can't smell
- gunpowder, do you take issue with that?
- 8 A. Well, as an expert, I can provide a scientific
- opinion.
- 10 O. So you do take issue with his opinion?
- 11 A. That is below the limit which the law sets.
- There has to be a reasonable degree of medical certainty, the
- threshold. 13
- 14 Q. So you do take issue with that battalion chief's
- opinion? 15
- THE COURT: Wait a minute. Would you repeat the 16 17 question, please.
- MR. GREGORY: I asked him if he takes issue with 18 the battalion chiefs opinion that he did not smell gunpowder
- 20 in the room.
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, that doesn't relate to 21
- the issue of whether it's a homicide or a suicide. It 22
- relates to an issue of reporting. 23
- THE COURT: The reason I asked him to repeat it 24

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19

- 1 because I didn't understand the question. Is the question
- 2 suggesting that the witness believes the -- believes that the
- 3 battalion chief did smell gunpowder?
- 4 MR. GREGORY: Can I ask a different question?
- 5 THE COURT: Would you, please, or rephrase that
- 6 one.
- 7 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Should this jury disregard the
- 8 battalion chief's opinion regarding gunpowder?
- 9 A. Yes, that should be disregarded because of
- 10 scientific. If you smell gunpowder -- there's a test.
- 11 There's a scientific test to confirm what you're subjective
- 12 feeling is.
- I could come as you're wearing a Cologne and I'm
- 14 used to smelling my own Cologne and I come to you and I tell
- 15 you I smell my Cologne on you, you wouldn't disregard it.
- Just, you know what, that is a scientific test. So in a
- 17 court like this, we could use personal discussion but in a
- 18 court of law, you cannot use such a subjective interpretation
- 19 of scientific evidence.
- 20 Q. Should we ignore the paramedics found pooling?
- 21 A. Again, I've said you don't ignore anything. You
- 22 put everything together and you look at the totality because
- 23 what I'm saying now, the paramedic notice pooling, pooling of
- 24 what? What significance does that have with the patterns of

- 1 Q. And did you take the blanket and inspect it and
- 2 do any kind of testing on the blanket?
- 3 A. It was not indicated.
- 4 O. Did you take the robe and do any kind of testing
- 5 with the robe?
- 6 A. It was not indicated.
- 7 Q. And you've told me that you didn't take the gun
- 8 and test fire the gun, correct?
- A. No, sir.
- 10 Q. You gave an example of rigor mortis mindset in
- 11 quicker than normal, and your example was a marathon runner?
- 12 A. That was one example I gave. That way you have
- 13 generalized onset of his whole body. In fact, within minutes
- they go into generalized vital, especially if it's hot.
- 15 Q. And so, yeah, because you added heat to that
- 16 equation, I heard that in your --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- running in the heat, right?
- 19 A. Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. Okay. And the combination of those two things,
- 21 it might bring on a quicker onset of rigor?
- 22 A. Generalized.
- 23 O. Okay. Is there any evidence in this case that
- 24 Harry Leibel was doing anything as aggressive as running a

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- injury on him at autopsy?
- 2 Q. So now you're saying we should consider
- 3 everything, right?

1

- 4 A. I said in a case like this, you look at the
- 5 entirety of the case. The first time you look at it, you
- 6 strike out the things you shouldn't evaluate. That shouldn't
- 7 be a foundation for my scientific opinion.
- 8 O. But you didn't review the entirety of the case?
- 9 A. Sorry?
- 10 Q. You didn't review the entirety of the case?
- 11 A. I reviewed the case that was pertinent to my
- 12 opinion. I've never reviewed or witnessed statements in any
- 13 case and over 8,000 cases I have done in my career, I've
- 14 never reviewed all of the witness' statements. I review
- 15 material that are pertinent to my role in this case as an
- 16 expert in forensic pathology and neuropathology. I'm not a
- 17 paramedic expert. Am I making sense?
- 18 Q. So you indicated how important it is to do
- 19 testing. Did you do any testing of the wound in the hand,
- 20 the residues?
- 21 A. I did what is called a visual analysis, visual
- 22 inspection.
- 23 O. Visual of the photo, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 marathon?
- 2 A. He was using his digits, manipulating a gun when
- 3 he was in an adrenaline state.
- 4 Q. While he's setting on the couch?
- 5 A. Committing suicide, yes. It's an adrenalin
- 6 state. People who commit suicide, it's an abnormal mental
- 7 state from start and done. It's actually a mental, like
- 8 mental agitation. That is why it's always compulsive.
- 9 Suicide is part of the compulsive behavior.
- 10 Q. You indicated that the concept of an average
- 11 spasm was created by an exotic doctor who wanted to get
- 12 attention for himself.
- 13 A. That wasn't -- some doctor -- some doctor many
- 14 years ago chose to name it cadaveric spasm. Why he gave it
- 15 that name, why cadaveric spasm, the cadaver to have spasms,
- 16 it's not a very accurate name, but it is in place. That's
- 17 why I said it's some people call it or you look at
- 18 literature, it's called cadaveric so the body is rigor
- 19 mortis
- 20 Q. Okay. You've indicated you're not a gun or
- 21 ballistics expert, right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay. And yet you given have an opinion
- 24 regarding the distance that the muzzle was to Harry Leibel's

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- body, correct? 1
- 2 A. Yes, as a forensic pathologist, we're trained in
- the medical aspect of ballistics, just like we're trained in
- the medical aspect of biomechanical body because to
- understand gunshot wounds, you need to understand the
- fundamentals of gun. Why does a gun fire? Why is a gun
- 6
- lethal? 7
- 8 O. Now, a ballistics expert is going to take that
- robe that the bullet went through and look at the gasses and
- come up with some conclusions based on science as far as how 10
- far away the gun was; is that right? 11
- 12 A. Ballistics does not do tissue. We doctors are
- the one that do that. 13
- 14 Q. I didn't talk about tissue. I mean the robe.
- 15 A. Yes, he may do that. He may do that, but we take
- the tissue to do the analysis. Photographic inspection is 16
- adequate but if you want actually to take the tissue itself 17
- and do analysis of the tissue to confirm but photographic 18
- documentation is accurate. 19
- 20 O. So what test did you perform in coming up with
- your analysis that it was one to two inches away? 21
- 22 A. This is something that I want to establish is
- common knowledge. If there's any forensic pathologist that 23
- doesn't know that, his license should be taken away from. 24

- use temperature of the body to determine when somebody died.
- We don't do that because of multiple variables involved.
- 3 Q. If a ballistics expert testified differently than
- you just did, would you defer him to because he's an expert?
- 5 A. No, because I deal with the human body. A
- ballistics expert is not an expert on the human body, the
- doctor is. So if it comes to opinion relating to findings on
- a human body, I wouldn't defer to a ballistics expert, no.
- O. Okay. You know more than they do about that?
- A. It's not about knowing more. This is my area of
- expertise and training, and it's not about one person knowing
- or not knowing. It's not about that at all. 12
- O. I've never heard the term loose contact, a loose
- contact wound. Is that a scientific term?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. Okay. What does that mean?
- A. Loose contact, have contact, what it means is 17
- 18 that the muzzle of the gun is not completely, is not tight on
- the skin. When you have the muzzle, circumference muzzling,
- 20 that is indeed the tight contact or hot contact.
- 21 O. You agree with me that the second shot, there was
- no way that Harry Leibel was holding the muzzle with his left
- 23 hand?
- 24 A. No, I didn't say that. I said he was

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- This is elementary. The range of shot of a gunshot wound,
- it's something very basic for us as forensic pathologist. I
- can tell you even when he's 18 inches, specific changes you
- can see. I can tell you when it's one foot. It is all part
- of our training.
- O. Okay. But you didn't perform any tests before
- you arrived at that conclusion?
- A. Visual inspection.
- O. You looked at the photos and you made your
- opinions from that? 10
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 O. What was the circumference of that sooting that
- we saw on the back of Harry's left hand?
- 14 A. I cannot measure it. They should have measured
- on autopsy. It was not measured.
- 16 Q. Okay. So you have no idea what the circumference
- was? 17
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Does that impact the distance?
- 20 A. No, we don't use circumference typically because
- of what is called multi variable regression analysis. There 21
- are multiple factors involved, including the size of the
- hand, so many factors, so we don't typically use second 23
- forensic of difference to make decision just like we don't

- manipulating the gun. Remember, he was lying on the sofa.
- As he's losing blood, going more into act of confusion of
- 3 state and while he was manipulate it, maybe even trying to
- 4 rest it on him to die, oh, I'm not dying yet, let me shoot
- myself again. It was a misfire.
- Q. Let me ask my question a little more directly.
- At the time of the second shot, was Harry Leibel's left hand
- in any way holding onto the muzzle?
- A. He was trying to hold onto it, yes. His hand
- was, like I said, in intimate contact or in contact with the
- muzzle and that was when there was a misfire. The hand went 11
- on the shoulder. 12
- 13 Q. My question wasn't whether he was trying to hold
- onto it. My question was whether he was holding onto it.
- A. Yes, he was trying to manipulate it, trying
- holding, the gun, the barrel. He did not mean to shoot
- himself, that is what a misfire is. 17
- 18 Q. So is it your opinion that he was holding the
- barrel of the gun?
- 20 A. He was manipulating the barrel, close to the
- muzzle, trying to locate, maybe again to shoot himself but 21
- remember, this is a rifle. So he was trying to -- this is 22
- 23 why it's atypical.
- 24 Q. You said something about the human brain that I

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- 1 just wanted to ask you about. So you said if somebody came
- up behind Harry and actually touched him with the muzzle, he
- would have known it immediately, right?
- 4 A. Yes, as primitive reflex located in the brain
- stem and it's not trying to be defensive.
- 6 O. Even if he was sleeping, would that be true?
- 7 A. Haven't you like you're sleeping and then a fly
- is on your face and you slap it?
- Q. Okay. So then you gave an example of a president
- getting shot and not even knowing he had been shot. Help me 10
- understand how that works? 11
- 12 A. Why I answered that was to explain that you can
- be shot in the chest and not die instantaneously. 13
- 14 Q. Wasn't it your testimony he didn't even know he
- had been shot?
- 16 A. Ronald Regan?
- 17 Q. Yes.
- 18 A. Yeah, he was shot. They pushed him into the car.
- He didn't know then. He even told the secret service you
- shoved me too hard. Get off me. Then suddenly he started 20
- 21 coughing. So what why I give that example was, yes, you can
- be shot in the chest and don't die immediately and still be 22
- engaged in other activities. 23
- 24 Q. And you would still have electricity in you?

- 1 Q. But what made the arm forcefully move?
- 2 A. The -- remember, the gun went through. The
- bullet was able to go through the entirety of the chest into
- the arm because it still had kinetic energy?
- So it was the force of the fragments coming up
- through his body that --
- The force of the shot.
- O. The force of the shot?
- A. Yeah, and, remember, because it's close range.
- The momentum of the shot emptied completely into his body and
- that was why the bullet passed through and through, and it 11
- was also a rifle shot. Rifle -- the bullet of rifles
- sometimes could travel up to 300 feet per second. Handguns
- is about 1,200. So the force of the shot because it was a
- rifle pushed because the shoulder joint was slightly flexed.
- 16 not fully extended, shoved the shoulder outwards and caused
- 17 fracture.
- 18 Q. Do you agree with the ballistics expert that as
- those fragments traveled through those body, they would lose
- kinetic energy?
- 21 A. Yes, they would lose energy that is why they
- 22 settled in the body. But as they continue because it's a
- rifle shot, it will continue traveling, the bullet if it goes 23
- through the entirety. By the time it entered the arm, it

- still had energy. And, remember, it still had energy to
- cause the contusion so this is a high velocity wound because
- it's a rifle? 3
- Q. So understanding your opinion in that first shot,
- your opinion is that Harry Leibel's arm -- left arm was down,
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. No, I thought his left upper extremity was
- manipulating the rifle, and it wasn't extended. It wasn't
- like ---
- 10 Q. Where was it?
- 11 A. Sorry?
- 12 Q. Where was it?
- 13 A. It was close to his body and reaching out close,
- trying to control the reaching out of the barrel of the gun 14
- to support it to shoot himself, and he's a taller guy. The 15
- 16 attorney who made the demonstration is shorter, so his trunk
- 17 would be higher than the attorney's.
- 18 Q. Okay. So his arm is like this when he shot?
- 19 A. His arm -- all I could say, they were not there
- when it happened. All I can say is his hand was not extended
- 21 out.
- 22 Q. Okay. And what is your opinion as to how all
- 23 that shrapnel traveled down his arm and exited right here,
- how did that happen?

- 1 A. In your heart?
- Yes. 2 Q.
- 3 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. I wanted to make sure I understood your testimony
- regarding the first shot, and what was the path it traveled
- of the projectile?
- 7 A. The projectile was upward, backward and leftward.
- 8 Q. Okay. What type of ammunition was used?
- A. It used a type of ammunition I saw was the type I
- would splinter upon entrance of soft tissue. Again, this is 10
- now you're going into ballistics. I'm not an expert in that, 11
- yeah. 12
- 13 Q. Okay, great. If I understood correctly, you're
- saying when his body takes that shot, it dislocated or
- fractured his clavicle? 15
- 16 A. No.
- 17 O. Okay. Tell me.
- 18 A. His hand was not extended because if the hand is
- extended, the force of the impact wouldn't dislocate the 19
- clavicle. So when it's such a pattern, not because of this, 20
- this is what we study. When it's such a pattern of clavicle 21
- 22 acromial fracture dislocation, like you saw in the X-ray, 23 that was not mentioned in the autopsy report. What it shows
- the arm was forcefully moved while it was still flexed.

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- 1 A. That happens when it's -- if you notice, you're
- axilla when you slightly flex comes down, okay? Why it
- happens, you have blood vessels and nerves going to your 3
- upper extremities, so you need some lactic. Otherwise, you 4
- 5 tear your blood vessels. So whenever you move your arm
- slightly, it could travel through the chest, through the 6
- axilla without exiting the skin into the arm.
- Q. Okay. So how did those fragments -- what causes
- fragments to turn?
- 10 A. The fragment, remember, when we take x-rays, we
- take it anatomic position. So when you set down anatomic 11
- position, you think the fragment is turned downwards, am I 12
- 13 making sense?
- 14 Q. I don't know.
- 15 A. The picture was taken with his hands by his side.
- When you see like it looks like he's turned downward, he 16
- didn't. If you raise your hand slightly above, it's actually 17
- a leaning trajectory and that was what Dr. Kubiczek in his 18
- 19 report did not say it went leftward, backwards and upwards
- and then downward. He didn't say that. He actually agrees 20
- with me that it was backwards, leftward and upward. 21
- 22 O. Dr. Kubiczek testified that the arm was up like
- this at the time of the shot?
- 24 A. Dr. Kubiczek did not mention the fracture.

- in front of the jury?
- 2 A. Why she said that was because she said that where
- he measured was similar to -- what he measured was similar to
- Harry's upper arm length.
- 5 Q. The way they measured Ms. Brown's arm was similar
- to the way it was measured by Dr. Kubiczek when he looked at
- Harry Leibel.
- 8 A. Yes. When he brought up the measurement of the
- expert is because of legal issues.
- So the measurements of her arm was inaccurate
- 11 also?
- 12 A. It's not scientifically valid. It's not to
- measure reach because that is why you're measuring your
- extremity. To measure somebody's reach, you need to start 14
- 15 from the midline of the body. If you don't want to start
- 16 from the midline, you start from the neck and then go, and
- 17 you don't go inwards because you're measuring reach. Reach,
- you go outwards, outwards to the tip but if you notice in 18
- 19 that case, it's not inward. From the axilla inward.
- 20 Q. So this demonstration was inaccurate because
- Ms. Brown's arm wasn't measured? 21
- 22 A. The demonstration was not about the length of her
- arm. The demonstration was just to show that assuming this
- case was a homicide was inaccurate.

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- 1 Q. Are we supposed to disregard then the length of
- Mr. Leibel's are?
- 3 A. Sorry?
- 4 Q. Should we disregard the length of Mr. Leibel's
- 5
- 6 A. Again, we shouldn't disregard it. We put
- totality of the story. You look at the methodology. It was 7
- 8 inadequate. They measured it wrongly. So you can see that
- 9 you give it weight, like the evidentiary weight. The weight
- 10 I will give it would be low because of the methodology that
- is inadequate. So I'll give it a low score, push it down. 11
- This process is called differential diagnosis, so I'll score 12
- 13 it low, not that I would disregard it, no.
- 14 Q. In the demonstration for the first shot, the gun
- 15 -- the butt of the gun was on the floor; is that right?
- 16 A. I don't know where it was. Nobody can tell you
- exactly where it was. 17
- 18 Q. No, I'm asking in the demonstration, the butt of
- the gun was on the floor; is that correct?
- 20 A. It could have been on the floor or we want to
- demonstrate that it is probable that a man like Harry could 21 kill himself with a rifle. 22
- 23 THE COURT: Sir, what I'm asking you to do is to
- listen to his question. The question was during the

Dr. Kubiczek said it was multiple gunshot wounds.

- Dr. Kubiczek did not describe the soot that was around the
- wound. So there was so many things wrong with his report.
- He did not take any section of the liver, any sections of the
- brain. He did not even describe the fatty liver. So, yes, 5
- he is a very good friend of mine. I respect him but in this 6
- case, there was things wrong with this. I discussed it with 7
- him personally before I came here.
- O. You talked about the measurements of the arm
- being done incorrectly, right?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. Do you dispute that the tape measure or the
- accuracy of the tape measure that was depicted in that
- photograph? 14
- 15 A. No. Remember, the -- yes, I dispute it.
- Remember, the --
- 17 O. You dispute the accuracy of the tape measurement?
- A. Yes, I dispute it. Remember, the judge's opinion 18
- you read, that if your methodology is lacking or wanting, 19
- your results are inaccurate. So methodology is insufficient, 20
- is inadequate, is wrong. And so the outcome of that 21
- methodology, scientific issue would be dismissed. 22 23 Q. A few minutes ago you did a demonstration with
- Ms. Brown and she told you that Dr. Kubiczek measured her arm

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- 1 demonstration, was the butt of the gun on the floor. He
- 2 didn't ask you during the shooting.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- THE COURT: He asked you about the demonstration.
- 5 That's the only question you're asked right now. There may
- 6 be other questions later but during the demonstration, was
- 7 the butt of the gun on the floor, that's yes or no.
- B THE WITNESS: I don't recall if it was on the
- 9 floor.
- 10 THE COURT: He doesn't recall.
- 11 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You don't know?
- 12 A. I wasn't paying attention because that wasn't
- 13 what the demonstration was for.
- 14 Q. Since you're not a ballistics expert, you
- 15 couldn't tell us what the kick of the gun would do if it was
- 16 against the floor, can you?
- 17 A. What?
- 18 Q. What the kick of the gun would do?
- 19 A. We don't call it kick, backfire.
- 20 O. Backfire?
- 21 A. It recoil, the recoil. Could you repeat the
- 22 question?
- 23 O. Yeah. You're not a ballistics expert so you
- 24 can't testify what would happen if you put the butt of the

- 1 back reclined on the couch, correct?
- 2 A. Yes, because the human body, when you're shot,
- 3 you're bleeding, you're going to fall back.
- 4 Q. And it's your testimony, again, I just want to
- 5 make sure I understand, when that second shot was fired.
- 6 Harry was manipulating the barrel of the gun with his left
- 7 hand?
- a A. With both hands.
- 9 Q. Both hands?
- 10 A. He was manipulating the gun.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. It was a misfire.
- 13 Q. How do you know it was a misfire?
- 14 A. Because of my education and training, cases I've
- 15 seen, experience. Misfires happen a lot. In fact, sometimes
- 16 you actually see the misfire before the fatal shot or
- 17 sometimes they actually do it intentionally. We call it
- 18 hesitation, hesitation wounds. They test the gun first on
- 19 themselves and actually shoot your hand sometimes before they
- 20 now give the fatal shot.
- 21 Q. You were talking about rigor mortis. You talked
- 22 about heat from a bullet can cause rigor?
- 23 A. No. In this case, on the side of the gunshot
- 24 wound, and I was saying in addition to the rigor starting in

- gun on the floor and shot it, what would happen to the gun?
- 2 A. Every gun has a recoil capability, every gun so
- 3 there would be recoil.
- 4 Q. Did you test the trigger pull of the gun?
- 5 A. No, that is ballistics, that is above my pay
- 6 grad.
- 7 THE COURT REPORTER: That is what?
- 8 THE WITNESS: Above my pay grade. Above my pay
- 9 grade.
- 10 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You didn't weigh the gun?
- 11 A. No, that is true.
- 12 Q. And when you did the demonstration for shot
- 13 number one, Ms. Brown had both of her hands on that gun,
- 14 didn't she?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. And the muzzle of the gun was touching her
- 17 torso, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And she was seated at the front, the very front
- 20 edge of the couch; is that right?
- 21 A. Possibly, yes.
- 22 Q. Right here?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Okay. And then for shot number two, now she's

- the small extremities, the heat of the gun could also
- 2 contribute why it was only a one side.
- 3 Q. So the same thing would be said of this wound
- 4 then, wouldn't the heat cause rigor mortis over on this side
- 5 of his body?
- 6 A. Rigor mortis is over joint. Side of the body,
- 7 the chest, abdomen, heart. Soft tissue does not activate
- 8 rigor mortis. Rigor mortis is inability to move a joint
- 9 because of the rigidity of the muscles.
- 10 Q. So, doctor, you disagree with the opinions of the
- 11 paramedics in this case?
- 12 A. I wouldn't -- I don't disagree with people
- because that is not my role. I can't play God. All I'm
- 14 saying is the evidence in this case --
- 15 O. You disagree --
- 16 A. -- does not support the allegation that this is a
- 17 homicide. The paramedics has the constitutional right and
- the professional right to say whatever he wants to say. I'm
- 19 not here to agree or disagree with anybody. I'm simply here
- 20 with my training, expertise and experience. I looked at
- 21 scientific evidence, and I'm telling you this is not a
- 22 homicide. Tatiana did not kill Harry. This is suicide.
- 23 Q. You don't give much weight to what the paramedics
- 24 said?

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- 1 A. I think I said this before.
- THE COURT: Well, wait a minute. If you're going 2
- 3 to make that statement, ask him about a particular statement
- that one or more paramedics would have said. The question is
- too vague for him to even pose an answer to it. 5
- O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Well, the paramedics indicated
- that they thought it didn't look like the shooting had just
- occurred. 8
- 9 A. I said what you just said, the paramedics talked.
- You're free to think whatever you want to think, but you're 10
- not to try to interpret evidence of how to interpret it. The 11
- paramedics is free to think whatever he wants and support his
- right to do that, but he does not have the right to interpret
- the scientific evidence anyway he wants, that is a point I'm
- 15 making.
- 16 O. And the police officers in this case, you
- disregard what they have stated? 17
- 18 A. The police officers are going to --
- MS. BROWN: Again, that's too general. 19
- THE COURT: Sustained. You're welcome to ask him 20
- those questions but you have to be more specific about what 21
- 22 he disagrees with.
- 23 O. (BY MR. GREGORY:) In concluding or coming to
- your conclusion, did you give any weight to statements made

- MR. GREGORY: It is the law. 1
- THE COURT: Sustained. 2
- 3 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) So you disregard
- Dr. Kubiczek's opinion?
- 5 A. Sorry.
- 6 Q. You disregard Dr. Kubiczek's opinions?
- 7 A. I don't --
- MS. BROWN: Objection, Your Honor. Again, he's 8
- asking for opinions, if he disagrees with one. 9
- THE COURT: Overruled. Well, again, though, you 10
- do need to be fairly specific so remember that, sir. So I 11
- understand the question, but it's almost like a compound 12
- 13 question and so it's -- unless you want a narrative answer,
- then you need to ask about specific opinion, sir.
- 15 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) You read Matt Noedel's report
- in this case?
- 17 A. Sorry?
- 18 O. You read Matt Noedel's report; is that correct?
- 19 A. Who is Matt Noedel, I'm sorry?
- 20 Q. Maybe you didn't read his report. He's the
- 21 ballistics expert.
- 22 A. I perused through it. I did not read it because
- 23 I was not coming in here as a ballistics expert.
- 24 Q. Okay. You would know if you read his report that

Page 122

1 he gave conclusions regarding the distances of the shots that

Page 124

- were fired?
- 3 A. The distance I think that I remember vividly but
- 4 I think he may have said that the wound on the chest was
- about two or three inches, am I correct? Help me out,
- 6 please.
- 7 Q. I'm just asking if you read the report?
- 8 A. Yes, I perused through it. I didn't spend time
- on the report as I spent with the autopsy report.
- 10 O. Because you are not an expert in that area, you
- would defer to his opinions in that regard?
- 12 A. Not in matters relating to medical determination
- of cause and manner of death, no.
- 14 O. What about distance of shots fired?
- 15 A. Shot on the body, no.
- 16 Q. All right. Thank you. I have nothing further.
- THE COURT: Ms. Brown? 17
- 18 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: Ms. Jackson, are you ok?
- THE COURT REPORTER: Yes. 20
- 21 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- BY MS. BROWN: 22
- 23 Q. I'm showing you what has been marked as
- 24 Exhibit 54. If we are looking for the measurement from just

by police officers?

- 2 A. The weight, like I have said in my differential
- diagnosis process, in this case, my methodology, the weight
- of what a police officer said in terms of the cause of death 4
- is down. The weight -- my foundational purpose of that is 5
- weighed down. The police is free to assume and say whatever б they want to say. They have that right. 7
- But in a case like this, the cause of death is 8
- scientific and medical, and I completely and totally disagree 9
- with the interpretation of medical evidence. 10
- 11 Q. Okay. So what about Dr. Kubiczek's opinion, do
- you disregard his opinion?
- 13 A. His opinion, like I have said, he said multiple
- gunshot wounds. I told you personally this is not the case 14
- of multiple gunshot wounds. Dr. Kubiczek was not the one who 15
- determined this to be a homicide. In fact, in the report, it 16
- says the manner of death would be determined by the Douglas 17
- County Sheriff's Coroner. Why did do that, I don't know. He's pretty much deferring a medical duty to a police 19
- 20 officer.
- 21 Q. Are you aware that that's the law in the State of
- 22
- MS. BROWN: I would object, Your Honor. That's 23
- 24 not the law.

- 1 the general measurement from the armpit to the end of the
- 2 fingers, this would be an accurate way to measure that?
- з A. Yes.
- 4 Q. But it's not an accurate way to measure reach?
- 5 A. Reach, yes, it's not.
- 6 Q. Okay. And when you're talking about the marathon
- 7 runner and you said that can lead to basically set an onset
- 8 of generalized rigor mortis if they die in the sun?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 O. And generalized would be more all over the body
- 11 as opposed to an isolated?
- 12 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 13 O. Okay. You did not have access to Mr. Leibel to
- do any testing on him; is that correct?
- 15 A. Could you repeat that?
- 16 Q. You didn't have access to the body of Mr. Leibel
- 17 to do any testing at all on him; is that correct?
- 18 A. No, ma'am, I did not.
- 19 Q. And the one thing that you were specifically
- 20 looking at, the liver and the brain, you requested
- 21 microscopic slides on those tissues; is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 23 Q. And those weren't available?
- 24 A. Yes, ma'am.

- 1 copy of our discovery statute and the requirement of the
- 2 brief summary I needed for purposes of listing you as an
- 3 expert in our notice of experts; is that correct?
- 4 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 5 Q. And so that request from me for a brief statement
- 6 regarding the subject matter of which the expert testimony is
- 7 expected to testify was what you responded to with the report
- 8 that Mr. Gregory was referring to?
- 9 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 10 Q. And showing you what's been admitted as
- 11 Exhibit 73, you recognize this scene as the one you were
- shown? Do you recognize this scene?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q. And what is that?
- 15 A. The scene of the house with the sofa and Harry
- 16 lying on the couch.
- 17 Q. And in this photograph, there's several places
- where there's blood, including smeared on the couch; is that
- 19 correct?
- 20 THE COURT: Do you want to display it so that
- 21 people can see what you're talking about?
- Doctor, you can see it up there. You can see it
- 23 right in front of you also I believe.
- THE WITNESS: Essentially, smears of blood

- indicating where he was moved from the sofa.
- 2 O. (BY MS. BROWN:) Let me just ask, there's
- 3 different areas of blood, including there's Mr. Leibel in the
- 4 foreground, there's smears of blood on the couch and pools of
- 5 blood on the couch?
- 6 A. It's a small amount. Well, yes, yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And they are different consistencies and
- 8 thickness?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. In listening to the taped interviews of
- 11 Ms. Leibel, you could tell she had a heavy Russian accent; is
- 12 that correct?
- 13 A. Yes, I remember I called you to ask you what her
- 14 ethnicity was. I have an accent. You know, she has an
- 15 accent. You told me she was Russian.
- 16 Q. And Mr. Gregory was questioning you about a case
- 17 called Pritchard v. Dow?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q. When did that judgment he was reading from occur?
- 20 A. That was about -- this is 2015, about eight years
- 21 ago.
- 22 Q. And what was the issue that came up in Pritchard
- 23 V. Dow?
- 24 A. The issue was Mr. Pritchard had Hodgkin lymphoma.

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1 O. Showing you what's been marked as Exhibit 149 for

- 2 identification, can you go ahead and read through that.
- 3 A. Yes, I remember that e-mail.
- 4 Q. What is that e-mail?
- 5 A. It was an e-mail you sent me instructing me on
- 6 how to write my report that the law states.
- 7 THE COURT: Don't -- sir, don't say what it says.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 9 THE COURT: It's not in evidence. Lay a
- 10 foundation
- 11 O. (BY MS. BROWN:) So do you -- you recognize this
- 12 e-mail?
- 13 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q. And it was one I sent to you back in November?
- 15 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 16 O. And is it a fair and accurate copy of that e-mail
- 17 I sent to you?
- 18 A. Yes, ma'am.
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would offer Exhibit
- 20 141.
- THE COURT: Objection, Mr. Gregory?
- MR. GREGORY: No objection.
- THE COURT: Then it's admitted.
 24 Q. (BY MS. BROWN:) And this e-mail I sent you a

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- 1 He had walked for Dow Chemicals, a big corporation for 25
- years where he was exposed to some chemicals. He was also
- 3 adding onto that after the fact he was an alcoholic, that was
- 4 not revealed to me. So they wanted me to do a medical legal
- 5 report, what we call a causation report. It's not a criminal
- 6 case. It's a civil case. So that Dow Chemicals would pay
- 7 Mr. Pritchard compensation for his cancer.
- So Dow Chemicals being a corporation hired a very
- 9 big law firm, and their strategy was to exclude me because if
- 10 they exclude me, the case was closed. So I was deposed. It
- 11 was during the deposition, I realized there was some
- 12 information that the attorney, Mr. Pritchard's attorney kept
- 13 from me but by then, it was already too late.
- And the judge requested for papers to support my
- 15 opinion. I provided papers. The judge arbitrarily decided
- 16 that she needed a paper to show technical terminology, we
- 17 call odds ratio.
- 18 THE COURT: Would you spell that, please.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Odds, o-d-d-s, odds ratio.
- 20 THE COURT: Odds ratio.
- 21 THE WITNESS: If you're odds ratio is greater
- 22 than one, even if it's 1.1, your ratio cause the disease, but
- 23 the judge said in her court, we have to use an odd ratio of
- 24 two. Of course, there was no paper of mine that had an odds

- 1 shoulder, and I checked and the autopsy pictures to see if
- 2 Dr. Kubiczek dissected it to expose it, he did not.
- 3 Q. You can't tell from that photograph or that X-ray
- 4 whether that's a post mortem wound or pre?
- 5 A. It's pre mortem because the x-rays were taken
- 6 before the autopsy.
- 7 Q. Well, he's dead at the time of the autopsy,
- 8 right?

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- 9 A. Yes, dead or a fracture after -- before you die,
- .0 the fracture will remain the same. The acromio clavicle
- 11 joint is one of the smaller --
 - MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would object because
- we're going way beyond the scope of my questioning.
- 14 THE COURT: That's sustained.
 - MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, I may recall him then.
- 16 Then we'll go to a different subject and that is rigor
- 17 mortis.
- 18 O. You testified about --
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, again, we're going beyond
- 20 the scope, if it's about the marathon runner.
- 21 THE COURT: Go ahead.
 - MR. GREGORY: I was going --
- THE COURT: The objection was withdrawn.
- 24 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Where was the rigor mortis in

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- ratio of two, so she ruled I was very qualified but mymethodology was flawed.
- 3 And looking back now, I agree with her, but she
- said I was highly qualified though, but a good thing is I
- 5 learned from that mistake. I've done over 8,000 -- thousands
- 6 of cases. I have not repeated such a mistake, and I think
- 7 the mistake I made in the previous case is making an
- 8 assumption is the case we're making in this case.
- 9 Q. Thank you. I have nothing further.
- 10 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory?
- 11 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 12 BY MR. GREGORY:
- 13 Q. Harry's left shoulder, the X-ray you talked
- 14 about, there was two different things you said. You called
- it a fracture, and I think you called it something different.
- 16 How do you characterize that?
- 17 A. The one on the skin is a graze wound from the
- 18 wound, the shot trajectory grazed the shoulder. This is on
- 19 the skin. But inside the body in the skeleton, that was a
- 20 fracture dislocation of a specific if joint. The acromial
- 21 clavicle joint collecting the scapula to the clavicle.
- 22 O. The autopsy is done at a time when the person is
- 23 in full rigor, does the pathologist have to break anything?
- 24 A. No, not the shoulder. Yu break the ribs, not the

- 1 Harry's arm?
- 2 A. The rigor mortis, to the best of my
- 3 understanding, in the small joints of the upper extremity,
- 4 the fingers, the hand, the wrist joint. I don't remember
- 5 exactly, maybe in the elbow. I don't remember exactly.
- 6 Q. So if the arm is on the floor in the upward
- 7 position, would that indicate rigor in the elbow?
- 8 A. Not exactly.
- 9 Q. Okay. What would it indicate?
- 10 A. It indicates so many things. It could indicate
- 11 what we call a subluxation. It could indicate a post mortem,
- what is it called, hyperactivity state. It could mean so
- 13 many things, and that is why you don't have to make
- 14 assumptions on anything because there are so many things that
- 15 could cause one single thing. You can't make an assumption
- 16 just based on one thing.
- 17 Q. Thank you. I have nothing further.
 - THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
- Doctor, thank you for being here. You may step down.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.
- THE COURT: You may be subject to being recalled
- 23 so I don't want you to leave the building. Don't leave the
- 24 building.

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- 1 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 2 THE COURT: Because of that, do not discuss your
- 3 testimony with anyone other than these three attorneys.
- 4 THE WITNESS: All right.
- 5 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.
- 6 (Witness excused.)
- 7 THE COURT: Ms. Brown?
- 8 MS. BROWN: Is he going to be recalled right
- 9 away?
- THE COURT: I don't know. I'm not trying this
- 11 case.
- So do you have another witness, ma'am?
- MS. BROWN: No, Your Honor, that would be the
- 14 defense's case. We would rest.
 - THE COURT: So the defense rests?
- 16 Mr. Gregory. Do you have rebuttal, sir?
- MR. GREGORY: I do have a rebuttal witness, Your
- 18 Honor. I would excuse Dr. Omalu. I'm not going to recall
- 19 him.

15

- THE COURT: You're not going to recall him?
- MR. GREGORY: I'm not going to recall him.
- THE COURT: Could we let the doctor know he's
- 23 free to leave, please, the doctor who just left. He's free
- 24 to go.

1

- 1 excuse yourself, that's fine.
 - 2 MS. HENRY: Thank you.
 - 3 THE COURT: Ms. Henry, would you approach.
 - MS. BROWN: He's going to ask you about the legal
 - 5 discussion.
 - 6 THE COURT: The jury is now out of the room.
 - 7 It's 4:45.
 - 8 Ms. Leibel, the defense has indicated that they
 - 9 are going to rest their case, and they have determined not to
 - 10 call you as a witness, do you understand that?
 - 11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
 - THE COURT: Do you understand that you have a
 - 13 right to testify if you choose to do so?
 - 14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, this is my --
 - THE COURT: You're by no means compelled to
 - 16 testify.

12

15

- 17 THE INTERPRETER: This is my desire.
- THE COURT: And I'm not by any means attempting
- 19 to convince you to testify. I simply want to make certain
- 20 that you understand that you have a right to take the stand
- 21 and testify if you choose to do so.
- The decision as to whether you testify is yours
- 23 and yours alone but should be made after consultation with
- 4 your attorneys and after listening to their advice. I'm not

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- And who would you like to call, sir?
- 2 MR. GREGORY: Your Honor, may we approach?
- 3 THE COURT: Uh-huh.
- 4 MR. GREGORY: Do we need to canvass the defendant
- 5 if they are going to rest.
- 6 THE COURT: I'm not going to canvass her in front
- 7 of the jury. I might send them out. Yeah, I'll canvass her,
- 8 that's right, but who are you going to call?
- 9 MR. GREGORY: I have one witness who is a
- 10 neighbor.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Ladies and
- 12 gentlemen of the jury, I'm going to excuse you for just about
- 13 five minutes. And during this recess, however short it is,
- 14 you're still admonished not to -- I apologize.
- 15 (Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the
- 16 jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone
- 17 until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.)
- THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to just go to
- the jury room. Don't go out anywhere. This will just be a
- 20 moment.
- MS. BROWN: Your Honor, Ms. Henry needs to leave
- 22 to take Dr. Omalu to the airport. Is that okay if she's
- 23 absent from the courtroom?
- 24 THE COURT: Absolutely. Ms. Henry, you can

- asking you what you attorney's advice was. I'm not
- 2 attempting to interfere with that relationship. I just want
- 3 the record to be clear that you understand that you have
- 4 right to testify. And if you want to do so, you must do so
- 5 now before the case proceeds any further.
- 6 THE INTERPRETER: I understand what Your Honor
- 7 has said, but this is my decision because I feel that I'm
- s innocent from the very beginning of this case.
- 9 THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am.
- 10 Are you satisfied with that canvass?
- 11 MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Are you satisfied with that canvass?
- 13 MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: You may have a seat. Let's bring the
- 15 jury back in.
- How do you all feel about settling instructions
- 17 tomorrow at 8:30?
- 18 MS. BROWN: That's fine.
- 19 MR. GREGORY: Yes.
- THE COURT: I appreciate it, I really do. If you
- 21 want to do it tonight, I'll stay and do it.
- MS. BROWN: Tomorrow morning early is fine.
 - THE COURT: 8:30?
- 24 MS. BROWN: 8:30.

23

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- THE COURT: Thank you. We'll bring the jury back 1
- 2 at 10:00.
- Thank you, folks. Have a seat, please. I 3
- appreciate it. Will counsel stipulate the presence of the 4
- 5 jury?
- MR. GREGORY: Yes, Your Honor. 6
- MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor. 7
- THE COURT: Thank you. 8
- Mr. Gregory your witness, please. 9
- MR. GREGORY: Lawrence Kearney. 10
- MS. BROWN: Okay if I move over by Ms. Leibel? 11
- THE COURT: Sure, sure. The whole table is 12
- 13 yours.
- Come on in, sir. Come up just near the clerks, 14
- pause right there, right where you are. Raise your right 15
- hand. Face the clerk. 16
- 17
- LAWRENCE KEARNEY, 18
- called as a witness on behalf of the 19
- State having been first duly sworn, 20
- was examined and testified as follows: 21
- 22

2

- THE COURT: Thank you. Would you come up here 23
- and have a seat, please, sir. If you would like, there's 24

- '07. I heard -- I heard arguing, you know, every now and
- then. I can't recall entirely, that's too far back for me to
- remember, right, but I did hear arguing and sometimes, you
- know, you're actively listening too, but sometimes it's kind
- of in the background but when there are things that are
- elevated ---6
- THE COURT: The question was when did you hear
- it, so thank you for your answer. 8
- 9 The next question.
- 10 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) Let's go a little more recent.
- If we can go back from February 23rd, 2014, when prior to 11
- that had you heard any arguing?
- 13 A. I probably heard a couple of arguments in-between
- July and October.
- 15 O. Any argument that stood out?
- 16 A. One argument was the most spirited argument.
- 17 Q. What do you mean by most spirited?
- 18 A. Loud, I could hear Harry.
- 19 O. Was it loud -- was it loud enough you could hear
- what he was saying?
- 21 A. I could hear some things he was saying for sure.
- It just seemed like one of those arguments that came to where
- you're battling it out, and you kind of hit certain buttons
- or you come to an impasse, and I could hear Harry saying,

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- well --1
 - MS. BROWN: Objection, hearsay. 2
 - THE COURT: Sustained. 3
 - MR. GREGORY: It goes to Harry's state of mind,
 - as well as Tatiana's state of mind. 5
 - MS. BROWN: In July and October, their state of 6
 - mind isn't an issue. 7
 - THE COURT: It's sustained. 8
 - 9 Q. (BY MR. GREGORY:) So you said that one stuck out
 - in your mind because it was spirited?
 - 11 A. Yes. Well, then you're actively listening to it
 - 12 because it's loud, and I was working at my computer and when
 - I'm working at my computer, I'm on the side where I'm the 13
 - closest to the Leibel residence. 14
 - 15 O. Thank you. I have nothing further.
 - 16 THE COURT: Questions?
 - MS. BROWN: No questions, Your Honor. 17
 - THE COURT: You are excused, sir. Thank you for 18
 - 19 being here.
 - THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you. 20
 - (Witness excused.) 21
 - THE COURT: Any other witnesses? 22
 - MR. GREGORY: No, Your Honor. 23
 - THE COURT: Thank you. So the State finally 24

some water for you. I think there's an old cup, but we'll throw that away. You can get it.

- DIRECT EXAMINATION 3
- BY MR. GREGORY:
- 5 Q. Please state your name and spell your last name.
- 6 A. Lawrence Kearney, K-e-a-r-n-e-y.
- 7 O. And, sir, are you familiar with Harry and Tatiana
- Leibel?
- 9 A. Familiar with my neighbors, yes.
- 10 O. Okay. So you live close to them?
- 11 A. Very close.
- 12 Q. Where was your residence in relationship to their
- residence back in February of 2014?
- 14 A. Well, my house is about 20 yards from the front
- of their house, my kitchen window and my dinette room.
- 16 O. Okay. From your residence, were you ever able to
- hear things that were going on inside the Leibel residence? 17 18 A. Only when windows were open and that's typically
- between May and the fall.
- 20 O. Okay. Did you ever hear any arguing?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. When did you hear that? What kind of frequency
- 23 did you hear that?
- 24 A. When I first moved there, which was in May of

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rests? 1 MR. GREGORY: Yes. 2 3

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Ladies and gentlemen, at this time, we're almost at 5:00 o'clock. 4

Mostly because I'm not feeling so spunky, I've asked the attorneys to meet me early tomorrow to go over the

instructions instead of doing it tonight, as I told you I 7 would. 8

We're going to meet at 8:30 in the morning. I'm going to ask you to be here at 10:00, okay?

(Whereupon, the admonishment was given to the jury by the Court not to talk about the case with anyone until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberation.)

THE COURT: And I want to remind you, as I did just the other day, I think that's there's a natural temptation to go home and say to yourselves, well, I've heard it all. I can start to decide what happened. You haven't heard my instructions on the law and you haven't heard the attorneys argue their cases to you.

So I will remind you, you're not to form or express any opinion on any subject connected with the trial until the case is finally submitted to you. I appreciate your attention, and you're released until tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Thank you very much.

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MS. BROWN: So you're just saying they are 1 2 reading the instructions and each instruction to Ms. Leibel, they aren't following what your voice says but they 3 eventually will all be read?

THE COURT: Yeah, I would give the interpreter a 5 6 copy. She could read them maybe before we being the process

because I think we're going to have plenty of time between 8:30 and 10:00. I think if we meet at 8:30, we'll resolve 8

the instructions. We'll probably have to retype a couple of 9 them and once we get the final set, I would be happy to give 10

them to the interpreter. They are not voluminous, as you 11 know. You've read them.

MS. BROWN: Uh-huh. 13

THE COURT: So they could read them to her at the 14 interpreter's pace. 15

MS. BROWN: That's fine. 16

THE COURT: Without having to try to keep up with 17 me as I read them to the jury. Now, if you want me to do it that way, I'll just read them a lot slower, and I'm happy to 19 20 do that.

MS. BROWN: That's fine for them to read them at 21 a different time prior to us being in court. 22

THE COURT: And then I'll ask you to advise me as 23 to whether you believe that the set of instructions I've 24

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given you to be read to Ms. Leibel is the same as the set of

instructions that I read. MS. BROWN: Okay. 3

THE COURT: Okay. And I'm also going to ask are 4 either of you requiring the court reporter to report the

6 instructions as I read them as you know the set of

instructions in the file in the record of this case? And it 7

seems to me that it's not necessary to have the court 8

reporter write them down as I go through it unless one of you

has an objection and says, you know, Instruction Number 11

said X and Your Honor said B. So would you agree to have the 11 court reporter not have to sit and report them as I read the 12

instructions? 13

MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor. 14

MR. GREGORY: Yes. 15

THE COURT: Okay. That will be the process that 16 we adopt. I appreciate your courtesy in agreeing to meet me 17 tomorrow morning, and I will see you at 8:30. 18

THE INTERPRETER: And, Your Honor, what time 19 20 would you like the interpreter to come, as well?

THE COURT: Ma'am, Ms. Leibel does not need to be here for the settling of instructions. She'll be here for all of the critical phases of this trial, but that's a very informal process. Typically, we would do it if my office or

minute and let me talk to you for a minute. 2 (Jury excused for the evening.) 3 THE COURT: You can have a seat. Thank you. 4 Just very briefly I wanted to talk to you. I have read your 5

I'm going to ask the attorneys to stay for just a

proposed instructions and all, and I really don't believe 6 it's going to take us that long to settle instructions 7

tomorrow. We'll get through it. 8

Ms. Leibel has asked for a copy of the

instructions, particularly the interpreter has asked for a copy of the instructions so I think probably so that she can read through them and it makes it easier. If you've ever interpreted anything, if had a chance to read it first, it

13 makes it easier. 14

As I read the instructions, it will be hard to interpret it as we go along, and I wonder if there's any appetite on the part of the defense to simply have a copy of the instructions and not have to have the interpreter read along with me as I read them to the jury.

If you -- if you want them to be interpreted as we go through it, I'm happy to do that, and I'll order that, but I would be happy to give you a copy early and have them translated at a slower pace, if you would be satisfied with that methodology. If you're not, you just let me know.

21

22

23

	Page 145	l	Page 147
1	I could come down and sit with the attorneys down here. I	1	STATE OF NEVADA,
_	don't want to get either of them sick, and I may keep some	2	CARSON CITY.)
2	distance from them.	3	
3	It's very informal. It's not reported. Once the	4	I, KATHY JACKSON, Nevada Certified Court Reporter
4		5	Number 402, do hereby certify:
5	instructions are all settled, then we'll put on the record	6-	That I was present in the District Court in Minden, in
6	exactly what the instructions are, and then everybody has had	7	and for the State of Nevada, on February 4, 2015, for the
7	an opportunity to object or to ask for other instructions,	8	purpose of reporting in verbatim stenotype notes the
8	okay?	9	within-entitled Trial;
9	I would ask that the interpreter plan on being	10	
10	here by probably about a quarter a quarter well, how		That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1
11	about 9:00? I think we'll make sure that you have time to	11	through 147, is a full, true and correct transcription of
12	then read those. Is that acceptable to you, Mr. Gregory?	12	said Trial.
13	MR. GREGORY: It is.	13	
14	THE COURT: And to you, Ms. Brown?	14	Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 15th day
15	MS. BROWN: Yes, Your Honor.	15	of June, 2015.
16	THE INTERPRETER: For the Court's information, it	16	
17	takes about three minutes to read one page, just so that you	17	Math. a Jackson
18	know.	18	1 march 1
19	THE COURT: Well, none of these are page in	19	NATHY JACKSON, CCR Nevada CCR #402
20	length.	20	
21	THE INTERPRETER: And they are very large font?	21	•
22	THE COURT: Well, they are not large font, but	22	
23	they are most of the instructions are approximately a	23	
24	paragraph, some up to three paragraphs so I don't believe	24	
		l .	
	Page 146		Page 148
		1	CAPITOL REPORTERS
1	it's going to take you that long.	1 2	CAPITOL REPORTERS 515 W. Fourth Street, Suite B
1 2	it's going to take you that long. You be here at 9:15 if you want.	1 2 3	CAPITOL REPORTERS
_	it's going to take you that long. You be here at 9:15 if you want. Is there anything else you need to raise today,	-	CAPITOL REPORTERS 515 W. Fourth Street, Suite B Carson City, Nevada 89703 775-882-5322
2	it's going to take you that long. You be here at 9:15 if you want. Is there anything else you need to raise today, Mr. Gregory?	3	CAPITOL REPORTERS 515 W. Fourth Street, Suite B Carson City, Nevada 89703
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2 3 4	it's going to take you that long. You be here at 9:15 if you want. Is there anything else you need to raise today, Mr. Gregory? MR. GREGORY: No, Your Honor. THE COURT: Thank you.	3 4 5 6	CAPITOL REPORTERS 515 W. Fourth Street, Suite B Carson City, Nevada 89703 775-882-5322 THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS STATE OF NEVADA, Case No. 14-CR-0062 Plaintiff,
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EXHIBIT 11

In The Matter Of:

State of Nevada vs Tatiana Leibel. aka Tatiana Kosyrkina - 14-CR-0062

Closing Arguments - Thursday
February 5, 2015
Rough Draft

Capitol Reporters
208 N. Curry Street

Carson City, Nevada 89703

Original File 020515closing.txt
Min-U-Script® with Word Index

Closing Arguments - Thursday

Page 1 CASE NO. 14-CR-0062 2 DEPT. NO. 1 3 IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 4 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS 5 BEFORE THE HONORABLE DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, NATHAN TOD YOUNG 6 7 THE STATE OF NEVADA, 8 Plaintiff. 9 77.0 10 TATIANA LEIBEL. 11 Defendant. 12 13 Partial TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 14 CLOSING ARGUMENTS 15 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015 16 17 APPEARANCES: 18 For the State: TOM GREGORY Chief Deputy District Attorney Minden, Nevada 19 20 For the Defendant: KRIS BROWN Attorney at Law Minden, Nevada 21 22 JAMIE HENRY Attorney at Law 23 Kathy Jackson CSR Nevada CCR #402 Reported By: 24

1 Harry controlling her. Her feelings are hurt, and she makes 2 the decision to go down a path to ultimately kill Harry. The 3 following morning at 10:00 a.m., Harry is in the living room on his couch, reclined, watching supports. Harry loved life, you heard that. Harry had 6 plans. In fact, a friend of his Chris Hetrick, you'll see in 7 the text messages was coming to visit him that day and did, 8 in fact, go to the residence only to find the police there 9 and the crime scene tape up and he text Harry one last time. 10 Harry, are you okay? 11 He had plans with the Joe Rajacic. He had plans 12 with his son, Justin Leibel, to restore old vehicles. Harry was a survivor of cancer, but he would not survive the gunshots inflicted by Tatiana Leibel. 15 So what is the evidence of murder in this case? 16 Let's talk first about the overwhelming evidence of delay and 17 what I mean by delay is the delay in time between when she shot him and the time that she called 911, which you will recall occurred at 11:03 in the morning. To give context to all of this, you need to 20 21 understand the timeline and the timeline, the cell phones,

Page 2

24

Page 4

2 MR. GREGORY: Thank you, Your Honor. May it 3 4 please the Court, counsel, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, good morning. Sheron Bardete, he warned his friend Harry 6 Leibel, not once, not twice, not three times but four times 7 that his wife was going to kill him, and that he should lock 8 her out of the house and kick her out. Unfortunately, Mr.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015, MINDEN, NEVADA

9 Bardte was correct. Harry, as you heard from the testimony 10 regarding his cell phone, had punched in that he was going to

11 call the locksmith on February 25th. Harry was two days too

12 late.

1

February 23rd, 2014, was a nice, quiet day here 13 14 in Douglas County, like most others that we enjoy here, but fire raged that morning, the head of Tatiana Leibel. The night before, you're going to hear or had heard during the course of the trial and through the text messages, she had

plans to go visit her daughter, Lana, down in Southern

California and booked a hotel room for three nights. She was going to leave on Saturday at 10:00 p.m. Only Harry told her

21 no, and you'll see in the text messages again that Lana keeps

asking Tatiana, are you coming. Are you still coming at 23 10:00? No, I'm not because Harry had gone crazy.

And so Tatiana changes her plans. She's tired of 24

1 evidence of the extractions that were done for both Tatiana's

22 cell phone and the technology and all of the information that

You heard evidence and actually got to see the

can come from those are so helpful in this case.

- 2 phone and Harry's phone. On Harry's phone, you see
- 3 communications with Chris Hetrick regarding their plans, and
- 4 you also see that final text message that Harry sent off to.
- 5 his friend, Joe Rajacic.

On Tatiana's end, you see the text messages

7 between her and Lana discussing their plans. And so on

Saturday, February 22nd, in the actual extraction reports,

9 there is more information that goes beyond what's here in

10 terms of the dates, so you'll want to refer to those actual

exhibits. It is for demonstrative purposes. 11

At 4:35 p.m., we have a text message from Harry

13 to Chris Hetrick. I'll wait to hear from you. Hope to see

guys tonight. It's been too long. I hope you're both well,

15 and 4:35 Chris text back okay.

At 4:27 p.m., this was the text message from

17 Harry to Joe Rajacic, we read the text message in its

18 entirety. He did not include it all here, but it starts out

19 with hi, pal. Hope you're both well. We're okay, and then 20 it goes on into the political cartoons and the jokes that you

21 will recall. Those two communications are Harry's last known

22 communications that have been presented to you here.

At 9:34 p.m., Lana text messages Tatiana. Are 24 you still starting to drive, 10:00? Tatiana responds a few

Page 8

1 minutes later at 9:50, not yet. Harry go crazy. I need him

- 2 to calm down. I'll contact you little bit later, kiss.
- 10:16 p.m., Lana text messages to Tatiana. Are
- you really coming or are you doing this to me and telling me
- tomorrow?
- At 11:54 p.m., Lana text messages Tatiana, can
- you please tell me what's going on. And then at 11:16 p.m.,
- s which was the last text message that evening on Tatiana's
- phone, I start little bit later. I send you message.
- Now, there's other information on those 10
- 11 extraction reports which includes web history and searches
- 12 that are conducted. You're free to look at those in the
- 13 exhibits. I'm going to turn to Sunday, the very next day.
- The first activity on Tatiana's phone that day was at 5:54 in
- 15 the morning where there's a Google search conducted on
- Tatiana's phone, and the search is for gun stores in Reno,
- 17 Nevada.
- And at 5:55, a search for the U.S. Firearms 18
- Academy. At 5:57, another Google search for gun stores in
- 20 Reno, Nevada, and then at 5:57 is the booking, the hotel
- 21 booking.
- At 7:03 that morning, there's a text message from 22
- 23 Lana to Tatiana. Actually, excuse me, Tatiana to Lana.

1 to know what it said. You'll see when you look at the phone

2 extractions, that deletions on Tatiana's phone are somewhat 3 of an anomaly. In other words, she doesn't always delete

Going further into the morning, now at 9:00 is when things start to get interesting. Lana wants to know

starts making repeated attempts to contact her mom.

10 missed call. Two minutes later at 9:15, she text messages 11 Tatiana, can you please tell me what's going on because I'm

At 9:13, Lana tries to call Tatiana. It's a

when her mom is coming, if she's coming at all, and so she

text messages right away.

12 packing all my stuff to the car.

24 Unfortunately, that text message was deleted. I would love

- 1 or those phone calls.
- The next thing we know that happens is at 11:03
- 3 in the morning, Tatiana calls 911. Douglas County Sheriff's
- Office is on scene shortly thereafter followed by the Tahoe
- Douglas Fire Protection. At 11:15 Harry is pronounced dead,
- 11 minutes after the 911 call.
- 7 11:44, Tatiana calls an unidentified person and
- finally then at 11:58, she finally calls Lana back. At
- 12:13, we have a text message on Harry's cell phone, coming
- 10 in from Chris Hetrick, I'll be at your house at 3:00. And
- then at 3:46, Chris to Harry, Harry, are you home? And then
- finally at 4:47, Harry are you okay? I saw the sheriff at
- your house. Is everything okay? Please answer.
- And then as we've already discussed on Tuesday,
- 15 February 25th, Harry has two entries on his cell phone
- calendar. One is to call the locksmith and one is to turn on
- the house alarm. That timeline is important because it shows
- what's going on first with Harry. He has plans. He has a
- friend coming over. Second with Tatiana, her daughter, Lana,
- is absolutely blowing up her phone every five minutes or so,
- 21 trying to find out what's going on, what's going on, what's
- going on until at 9:56, you have the uncomfortable situation
- text. 23
- Well, as I indicated in my opening statement 24

- 1 what's uncomfortable is that Harry is dead. What other
- 2 information do you have in that regard? Well, you have none
- Brooks? Leanne Brooks had Tatiana stay at her house the
- What did Tatiana tell her? It happened between 9:30 and
- the text message that I have an uncomfortable situation.
- What else is it consistent with, all of the testimony from

- who responded.
- What did they see when they responded shortly
- 15 after the 911 call? They find Harry on the floor. The blood
- 16 looks to be drying and coagulating. They do not smell
- gunpowder. Dr. Omalu testified, well, it's kind of like when
- you wear cologne, you get so used to it, you don't smell it.
- Okay, but it's doubtful to me that the battalion chief was
- 20 wearing a cologne that smelled like gunpowder when he went
- 21 into that residence.
- He is a bomb tech with years of experience. He
- 23 did not smell gunpowder. Nobody else smelled gunpowder. One
- 24 of the guys testified he smelled a slight odor of gunpowder.

Page 6

3 other than Tatiana's own statements. Remember, Leanne

- night of the shooting. It's a place for Tatiana to stay.
- 10:00 in the morning, her own words. That's consistent with
- the first responders. You heard from a battalion chief. You
- 11 heard from a captain. You heard from a paramedic. You heard
- from an engineer, and you heard from two sheriff's deputies
- Five minutes later, she tries calling Tatiana,
- 14 missed call. Five minutes later, she tries calling Tatiana,
- 15 missed call. 9:34, calls again, missed call. 9:41, she
- 16 tries again, missed call, and it's not until 9:56 that she
- 17 finally gets a response from Tatiana, and it's a text message
- 18 that I talked about in my opening statement. I'm still home.
- 19 I have an uncomfortable situation. I'll explain a little bit
- 20 later.

7

13

- Lana then texts her back at 10:03. I need to 21
- 22 know now what is going on. Are you coming or not because I
- 23 already told her I'm moving out. I'm here with here, and I
- 24 need to know. Tatiana did not respond to those text messages

- 1 Dr. Omalu would ask you to disregard that. I would ask you
- 2 to consider that as one of many factors. What are the other
- 3 factors? There were signs of pooling. His eyes were
- 4 dilated. There was absolutely no electrical activity in his
- 5 body when they conducted a check in four different leads and
- in four different places, no electrical activity.
- Rigor mortis, they observed the hand on the floor
- 8 like this, and when they touched the hand, it goes back,
- consistent with rigor mortis. Dr. Omalu wants to talk about
- marathon runners in heat and what can happen to them. Harry
- 11 had not run a marathon. Dr. Omalu also wanted to talk about
- 12 how there was rigor mortis in the hand, but he didn't
- 13 initially want to talk about where the rigor really was which
- was down in the elbow.
- If you remember Dr. Omalu first said, well, it 15
- 16 sets first in the hand, in the extremities. I said wait a
- minute. The hand was like this, so where would the rigor be?
- Oh, well, it traveled downwards, okay. So we're talking
- about a death. If you listen to Tatiana, death had occurred
- about 11:03 in the morning and the minute those responders
- walk in which is minutes later, his hand is like this. Now
- all of those first responders found that odd, and they found
- 23 it inconsistent with the idea that the death had just
- 24 occurred.

- 1 Maybe you wash your hands. Maybe you turn up the thermostat
- 2 to keep the body warm, okay, and you have to develop your
- 3 story to the police.
- Tatiana calls 911. You can tell when you listen
- 5 to that 911 call, she's not prepared to and does not want to
- 6 give details of what happened. She just wants to say my
- 7 husband shot himself but when the operator, the dispatcher
- 8 keeps asking her more details, you can tell she starts to
- equivocate and then starts giving some of the details.
- Those details are important because later she
- 11 gives conflicting statements. In the 911 call, she talks
- 12 about being in the kitchen, hearing a shot. She returns to
- 13 the living room and is present when the second shot occurs.
- 14 She tells 911 that he shot first his hand, and that she
- didn't know where the other shot was.
- Later that same day when she talks with Leanne 16
- 17 Brooks, one shot. It was one shot and it was somewhere here.
- 18 What did she tell Captain Lucas? Captain Lucas, she tells I
- 19 was outside when I heard two shots. And you'll recall the
- 20 defense cross-examined him. They wanted to make sure there
- 21 wasn't a language barrier problem or he didn't misunderstand.
- 22 No, I took it that she was outside when the two shots
- 23 occurred, inconsistent statements.
- All right. Let's talk a little bit about the two 24

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- I'm not asking you to take any one of those
- 2 factors and find there's delay. I'm asking you to look at
- 3 all of those factors and find that there's overwhelming
- evidence of delay, including her own statement that it
- happened at 9:30 or 10:00 in the morning.
- Why is delay important in this case? Well, it's
- 7 important because she told the police she called right away,
- that's the first reason it's important. The second reason
- it's important is if you're going to stage a murder as a
- suicide, you might need some time to do that. So you just
- killed somebody, and the story is going to be suicide. What
- are you going to do? You think you might wipe the gun?
- Might that be something you do? 13
 - Do you recall the testimony and evidence in this
- case is that gun, which had to be loaded, cocked, shot,
- cocked, shot and then cocked again had no Tatiana
- fingerprints on it and no Harry fingerprints on it. Even 17
- though the defense, you know, in the suicide theory, he had
- both hands on that barrel, no fingerprints of that barrel of
- Tatiana or Harry. 20
- DNA, okay, here's a gun that's been handled quite 21
- 22 a bit. Jennifer Wrong comes in and tells you the levels of
- 23 DNA were too low to even test. Do you think she wiped the
- 24 gun? What else might you do? Maybe you take a shower.

- 1 shots that were fired, you know, an awful lot about the gun
- 2 and those shots that were fired. You heard it from Matt
- 3 Noedel, Dr. Omalu said who is Matt Noedel? Matt Noedel, you
- 4 heard, is one of 17 people in the country who is qualified to
- 5 render opinions that he rendered in this case, that's who 6 Matt Noedel is.
- Is Matt Noedel just somebody that sits back and
- 8 looks at some photographs, like Dr. Omalu, and make opinions,
- 9 no. He considered all of the evidence in the case, went and
- 10 got the gun, examined the gun, shot the gun, conducted tests
- 11 with the gun. He got the robe out. He examined the robe.
- 12 He conducted tests on the robe. He took the blanket. He 13 examined the blanket. He conducted tests on the blanket. He
- 14 went to the house and looked at the house. He looked at the
- 15 couch, okay, and it wasn't then until he considered all of
- 16 that information that he was able to start rendering his
- 17 opinions.
- 18 He told you a lot about this gun, the way it
- 19 functions, including interestingly when he himself shot that
- gun, test fired it, he got stippling right here from the
- 21 gasses that come out of that cylinder. That's important
- 22 because. Dr. Kubiczek testified, remember, if Harry is
- 23 shooting himself, where is that cylinder going to be? Where
- 24 would he have stippling. Dr Kubiczek --

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- MS. BROWN: Objection, Your Honor. 1
- 2 THE COURT: What is your objection.
- MS. BROWN: Mischaracterization of the evidence. 3
- There's not always stippling. That's a rare circumstance. 4
- THE COURT: Overruled.
- MR. GREGORY: Well, Matt Noedel got stippling, we 6
- 7 know that. Dr. Kubiczek testified Harry did not have any
- 8 stippling here. Matt Noedel also tested the robe to see if
- there were gasses that would be consistent with those 9
- 10 cylinder gasses, and he found none. So Matt Noedel does all
- of this experiencing, looks through everything and is able to 11
- 12 render his opinions.
- He talks to you about, first, the ammunition and 13
- 14 how that first shot was called an extreme shot round,
- 15 designed to kill. It did what it was supposed to do in this
- 16 case. Enters his body and fragments and goes throughout the
- 17 body, striking multiple organs.
- He talks about the length of the gun. He talks 18
- 19 about the trigger pull, how hard it is to pull the trigger.
- 20 He talks about the measurements from the muzzle to the
- 21 trigger and the muzzle to the trigger when the gun is cocked
- and how that changes. He did all of those observations.
- And what did he find? Dr. Omalu likes one plus 23
- 24 one equals two. In this case I like one plus one plus one

- 1 where the trigger or the hammer had not been pulled. Now,
- remember, if the hammer is back, that trigger moves back even
- further. So in the photograph here, where it's uncocked, it
- shows a distance of 21 inches and that's what Mr. Noedel
- testified to. If the hammer is back though, that trigger is
- even further. It goes to 22 inches. Again, that's what
- Mr. Noedel testified to. When you plug those distances in,
- that's factor one and factor two.
- Factor three, the other distance you need is how
- 10 far away was the muzzle of the gun from the body at the time
- 11 it was shot? Now, Matt Noedel actually did some experiencing
- 12 with that. He got the robe. How did they determine how far
- 13 away it is? Well, they do look at the wound, okay, but they
- also look at the clothing, and they look at the gasses on the
- clothing and based upon that they can determine how far away
- 16 the gun was.
- 17 His determination was that gun was as far as
- 18 18 inches away, 18 inches away, pretty impossible for Harry
- to do that, but he gives a range, and the range is as closest
- 20 to, so he's got a range of two to 18 inches, okay. Most
- 21 likely though in the range of two to six inches.
- Now, when you take number one plus number two,
- 23 plus number three, which is the distance of the muzzle to the
- 24 body, it equals murder. Why, because it would have been

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- 1 equals murder, and here's what I mean by that, Exhibit Number
- 2 142, the first part of my equation, my math equation is the
- 3 photograph that's depicted on top, that's the photograph
- 4 taken of Harry's arm measurement taken at the autopsy.
 - I asked Dr. Omalu if he questioned the accuracy
- 6 of the tape measure itself. Much to my surprise, he said
- 7 yes. I was so surprised, I asked him again. Do you question
- 8 the accuracy of the tape measure itself, and he, again, said
- 9 yes. I would ask you folks to look at this tape measure.
- 10 You can decide for yourself if there's some kind of trick
- 11 tape measure or not. I'll leave that up to you.
- 12 Nonetheless, we have the tape measure up on top
- 13 and it shows the length of Harry's arm. Now, the defense
- 14 talked about, okay, well, his wrist is a little bit bent in
- 15 this picture, so they did the demonstration on Ms. Brown's
- 16 arm and the difference was three quarters of an inch. Okay,
- give them three quarters of an inch. I would ask you to
- think about Harry is holding that gun, isn't his wrist going
- 19 to be bent. It's not going to be like this, un-supportive,
- 20 so that's number one in the equation.
- Number two in the equation is the measurement of 21
- 24 distance from the end of the muzzle to the trigger in a stage
- 22 the gun and, again, you can decide for yourself if it's a 23 trick tape measure, but he demonstrated in this exhibit the

- 1 impossible, impossible for Harry to shoot himself given those distances.
- Well, could Harry have somehow stretched to make
- it happen, contort, yeah, but there's something else in this
- case that makes that a factor. Let's talk about what his
- left arm was doing at the time of that first shot. 7 Dr. Kubiczek and Mr. Noedel both opined that that arm had to
- 8 be up, not extended. Remember, Dr. Omalu was talking about
- it being extended. Nobody testified it was extended, up.
- 10 Dr. Kubiczek, remember, elbow to ear, arm was up. Matt
- 11 Noedel and Dr. Kubiczek, Dr. Kubiczek being the attending
- 12 person who actually did the autopsy. Matt Noedel being the
- 13 person that actually did some experiencing in this case.
- You saw the x-rays that show the shrapnel going 14
- 15 up through that body into the arm and an exit wound right
- 16 here. Now, when I was listening to Dr. Omalu and he was up
- 17 here, I asked him, so are you saying is your opinion the arm
- 18 was down? No, no, I didn't say down, and he kind of held his arm like this, and so we started the dialogue. 19
- 20 And I said, well, is it your opinion that the
- 21 shrappel traveled up and then took a right-hand turn and went
- 22 straight down? No, no, no, okay? And as I questioned him,
- 23 his arm started going up, okay, to the point where he gets to 24 here and he actually then leans over. He's leaning this way,

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- okay. So this was his last thing he showed. Well, that's
 pretty darn consistent with Dr. Kubiczek and Mr. Noedel. It
- 2 pretty dam consistent with Dr. Rubiczek and Wr. Wooder. It
- 3 was not Dr. Omalu's testimony that that shrapnel went up the
- 4 arm and then turned and came straight down, that was not his
- 5 testimony.
- 6 Shrapnel goes up in the arm and there's an exit
- 7 wound up there. Remember, Dr. Kubiczek testified that the
- 8 trajectory was from back to front, left to right. So as it's
- 9 traveling through the body, it's coming more closer to the
- 10 front of Harry's body. That's why we have the exit wound
- 11 here and all of the shrapnel that's on the surface right
- 12 here.
- Why is the position of the arm so important?
- 14 When you take Dr. Kubiczek or Mr. Noedel or even Dr. Omalu is
- 15 because of his hand, his arm is in position, there is no way
- 16 his hand, his left hand could have been on the gun, no way.
- 17 Impossible for his left hand to be on the gun at the time of
- 18 the shot.
- 19 If his left hand isn't being used for the shot,
- 20 then the hypothesis has to be from the defense that it was a
- 21 one handed shot from Harry. So now Harry has a rifle, not a
- 22 handgun, it's a rifle, and he's going to do a one handed shot
- 23 with, and the barrel of the gun is unsupported by a hand.
- 24 It's unsupported by the couch. How do we know that, Matt

- 1 circumference of the sooting that you observed on the back of
- 2 the hand. Amazingly, Dr. Omalu says that's not important. I
- 3 don't even know what the circumference was. It means nothing
- 4 to me. I'm not a ballistics guy, but I looked at this
- 5 photograph, and I think it was a close contact wound or he
- 6 had some different phraseology.
- 7 Matt Noedel, the ballistics expert, this is what
- 8 he does. That circumference is everything and from that, if
- 9 you recall, he told you when the gasses come out, they start
- 10 out like this and then they go out into the room. So the
- 11 distance of that is very important and it's why it rules out
- 12 that this was a contact wound. Those gasses had to escape
- 13 out, and it let Matt Noedel know what the trajectory or the
- 14 distance was. In his opinion, it was most consistent with
- 15 being three inches away from the hand.
- Go back to my equation, number one, plus number
- 17 two in this case, number three is going to be three inches.
- 18 Suicide is impossible.
- 19 And, again, what is the theory for suicide have
- 20 to be at this point, that this is a one handed shot.
- 21 Dr. Omalu equivocated on that a little bit. I asked him
- 22 several times what are you saying Harry was doing with the
- 23 muzzle of the gun at the time it was fired? Well, he was
- 24 manipulating it. Well, I'm not talking about before it was

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- Noedel tested the blanket, and said there weren't gassesconsistent with the cylinder.
- And it couldn't have been supported by the end
- 4 table. You'll see the end table. Remember, the end table is
- 5 sitting here. The end table and arm of the chair were such
- 6 that if Harry was trying to push it down, it would be
- 7 inconsistent with the trajectory. In other words, couldn't
- 8 hold it down low enough.
- 9 So you add this weapon, it was going to be
- 10 suicide, a one handed shot, a one handed shot. Dr. Omalu
- 11 doesn't take into consideration the weight of the gun or the
- 12 recoil of the gun. What happens to that gun when it's fired
- 13 can you even hold onto the darn thing after it's fired in a
- 13 Call you even hold office the dark timing after its in od his
- one handed manner, not forgetting that the shrapnel goes
- 15 through both of Harry's lungs, his liver and his pulmonary
- 16 trunk and up into his arm, that is shot number one.
- 17 Shot number two, you can't look at shot number
- 18 two all by itself. You have to look at it in context. You
- 19 have to remember that Harry had just sustained shot number
- 20 one. So here is Harry with his internal blown out, his
- 21 shoulder blown out. Now we've got shot number two. What
- 22 does Matt Noedel tell you about shot number two? Well, he
- 23 did distance testing.
- 24 What was very important to him was the

- 1 fired. I'm talking about at the time it was fired. Well, he
- was manipulating. He was showing it like this, manipulating.Well, how on earth is he shot in the back of the
- well, now our earth is he shot in the back of the
- 4 hand, right here wadding sticking out right here if he's
- 5 holding the barrel of that gun, impossible. We know from
- 6 Matt Noedel, the muzzle of that gun was three inches away
- 7 from the hand. Look at it from a common sense standpoint
- 8 when you look at the circumference of those gasses on the9 hand, three inches, makes a lot of sense.
- .o So now again, we've got this theory that it's a
- 11 one handed suicide. In context, he already shot himself here
- 12 and blown out his inside, the one handed shot, somehow was
- 13 able to keep hold of the gun, cocks it, shoots again and then
- 14 cocks it again.
 - Remember, the first demonstration of how the
- 16 first shot could have happened, he put the butt of the gun on
- 17 the floor. Again, the demonstration, two hands on the gun
- 18 wasn't like this, and they don't talk at all about what that
- 19 gun would do. What the recoil of that gun would do when the
- 20 butt end is pressed against something hard, like the floor or
- 21 the wall and push the trigger, what is going to happen to
- 22 that gun? No discussion of that, no -- didn't even think 23 about that. So I'm asking you to look at the equation. Look
- 24 at the measurements. Decide that suicide is impossible in

Page 24

Page 21

- 1 this case.
- Now, what is murder? Murder, as the judge has
- 3 instructed you, is intentionally taking someone's life. What
- 4 is the proof of intent in this case? As the instruction
- 5 said, we rarely can determine intent except by looking at the
- 6 circumstantial evidence. Usually people don't announce what
- 7 they are going to do, sometimes they do.
- 8 So what is the evidence in this case of intent?
- 9 Shot number one, it's a kill shot, extreme shock, ammunition,
- 10 fired at a range of two to 18 inches into Harry. Any
- 11 question what the intent is there? If there is any question,
- 12 you have a second shot fired at Harry, and then you've got
- 13 preparation of a third shot to Harry. All of these things
- 14 strongly indicative of an intent to kill. What other intent
- 15 could there be?
- Dr. Omalu talked about the second shot was a
- 17 misfire. Matt Noedel tested that gun and said it was working
- 18 just fine, no indications of any misfire.
- 19 First degree murder as distinguished between
- 20 second degree murder is in addition to that intent,
- 21 willfulness element, you have premeditation and deliberation,
- 22 and the judge read you a very important instruction on that.
- 23 It talks about how premeditation and deliberation. We don't
- 24 look at time, okay, whether it's a day, an hour or a minute,
- 14 100K at tillio, olay, whomas it o a day, and it of a man

- 1 THE COURT: Do you know the numbers that you
- 2 need?
- 3 MS. BROWN: Yes, I do.
- 4 THE COURT: Go ahead. We'll give you all of the
- 5 time you need.
- 6 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: Folks, as we do this, we're going to
- 8 continue working through lunch and until the attorneys are
- 9 done and the case is finally handed to you. The Court will
- 10 purchase lunch for you, give you some options of where you
- would like. You're going to have to agree on one spot, unanimous verdict on the restaurant, and we'll go out and
- 12 unaminous vertici on the restaurant, and wen go out and
- 13 we'll get lunch for you. We've got some menus. We'll pick
- 14 up lunch for you. I know we're approaching noon, and some of
- 15 you may have been thinking about that, so we're going to keep
- 16 working though.
- MS. BROWN: May it please the Court.
- 18 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.
- 19 MS. BROWN: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury,
- 20 Mr. Gregory. One of the instructions that I want to, again,
- 21 bring to your attention is presumption of innocence.
- 22 Ms. Leibel is presumed innocent until the contrary is proved
- 23 by evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. This is one of the
- 24 jury or one instruction that I called to your attention when

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- 1 instruction set, we don't look at that.
- 2 We look at did the person with design commit this
- 3 offense? What information do you have that Tatiana
- 4 premeditated and deliberated? Think of just the basic thing
- 5 she would have had to have done to commit this offense. You
- 6 have to get the gun. You have to load the gun. You have to
- 7 wait for an opportune time. You have to approach and then
- 8 commit the crime. And then what do you have to do? You have
- 9 to stage it. You have to delay, do all of the things she did
- 10 after.
- 11 She didn't call for 911 right away. She didn't
- 12 call for help right away. She didn't call friends and
- 13 family. She was delaying to put forth the falsity that Harry
- 14 had killed himself. All of these things indicate
- 15 premeditation and deliberation, and it's why when we're done
- 16 here today, I'm going to ask that you return the verdict of
- 17 murder in the first degree with the use of a deadly weapon.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 THE COURT: Thank you. We're going to give
- 20 Mr. Gregory a moment just to return any exhibits that he has
- 21 to the clerk. We'll let them her put them in order, let
- 22 Ms. Brown or Ms. Henry grab any exhibits.
- MS. BROWN: Can we do that, Your Honor? There's
- 24 going to be quite a few. I only get one chance.

- 1 we first talked both in voir dire and at the beginning of the 2 case.
- 3 And because Ms. Leibel comes in front of you, she
- 4 does not have to prove anything. It's not our burden to
- 5 prove this is suicide. It's the State's burden to come
- 6 forward with enough evidence to convince you that this is
 - or murder.
- 8 Yesterday you heard Dr. Omalu testify and even
- 9 though he concluded to a reasonable degree of medical
- 10 certainty that this was suicide, that we presented that
- 11 evidence to you, that is not our burden. It's the State's
- 12 burden to bring forward evidence to show that this is murder.
- But that statement of Dr. Omalu, if nothing else,
- 14 provides a reasonable doubt in this case. You heard his
- 15 qualifications, and you know he relied on scientific
- 16 evidence, on medical evidence that he's an expert in. He
- 17 then applies what he knows and the wounds he sees on the body
- 18 to the evidence he's familiar with and the crime scene, and
- 19 he makes that determination, and he told you that this is a
- 20 suicide.
- 21 But probably one of the most important things he
- 22 said was on cross-examination, when he's being questioned
- 23 concerning the Pritchard case, at that point, he said, yes,
- 24 on that occasion I made a mistake. I made an assumption I

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1 shouldn't have made and it was wrong of me. Since that time,

2 over eight years, his qualifications have not been held into 3 question again. One time, he said that was my mistake. I

4 made an assumption I shouldn't have made.

Now, when we say the term presumption of

6 innocence, it almost requires some kind of mental gymnastics

7 because you know that Ms. Leibel has already been arrested in

8 this case. We know that she sits there in the defendant's

9 chair. She's called the defendant, and you know she's

10 already been charged with murder, so it's kind of hard in

11 your brain to say, how has that all come about, and then she

12 sits there innocent? That's a presumption the law requires

13 you to make, and now she's asking you to go back through the

14 evidence for the reasons I explained in open court, that the

15 officers in this case in the very beginning formed an opinion

16 that this was murder. And once you form an opinion, you

don't start looking at the other options.

Once they formed an opinion, they started looking 18

19 for evidence to support that conclusion because you become

invested in your own opinion, and your profession starts

21 relying on your own opinion.

I told you at the very beginning, the hardest 22

23 thing to change in the world is your own opinion. Once those

24 officers had formed that opinion, then they looked at the

1 (Whereupon, 911 tape was played.)

MS. BROWN: This is a woman in the immediacy of

3 the moment. This is a woman who has just lost her husband of

4 ten years. This is a woman who is trying to comply with the

5 instruction given to her by 911. This is not a whom who just

6 went and took a shower. This isn't a woman who just wiped

7 her fingerprints off a gun.

And if you believe the story that the gun was

9 cocked at that time while she's wiping it clean to uncock it,

10 this is a woman who is trying to seek help for her husband,

11 and she's not just crying. She's struggling to breathe, and

12 she can't breathe, and some of the words she uses, you can

13 hear. They are not always in the right order. Sometimes she

14 uses the wrong word. At the end of that exchange is the put

15 him on his back. His right back or his left back?

16 She still struggles with the English language,

17 and she's trying to explain to operator what happened, and

she does start out with there was an argument concerning my

19 daughter, Lana, and the dispatch directed her back and trying

20 to stay more on point of what is the injuries. And at one

21 point she does say, he shoot two times. He first shoot his

22 hand, and then he shoot somewhere, I don't know. Before

23 that, she says I'm not seeing bleeding. I see one hand, one

24 hand. He shoot two times.

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1 evidence in light of that opinion. I too want to take you

2 back to February 23rd because that was a day that changed

3 Tatiana Leibel's life forever. That was the day her husband

4 died, almost in front of her eyes. That was the day she was 5 -- after her husband's death, she was excluded from her own

6 home. She couldn't be there with Harry.

At a time when she shove been grieving, she

voluntarily went to the station to talk to officers. For the

9 next eight hours, she answered their questions over and over

10 and over again. Since that time, she's continued to protest

11 her innocence. And at that time, she cooperated fully with

12 those officers. When they asked her for consent to search

13 her house, nothing -- no one had done at the scene but when

one of the investigators during the interview asked her to 15 search her house, she gave it. She gave consent to search

16 her phone because she knew there were text messages on there

17 that were important which she had been trying to tell the

18 police about the exchanges about her and Lana.

I want to talk to you about this 911 call. You

20 heard it before. I think it's an important piece of evidence

21 because it gives you a snapshot of that day. You can hear

22 Ms. Leibel's words. You can hear her emotions in a way that

23 no testimony could ever portray. It's real time. It's

24 happening then. This will be Exhibit 56.

So I don't think this is evidence she's trying to

2 report that he shot himself in the hand the first time and

3 another place a second time. I think, again, she's

4 struggling with English, struggling with her own emotions

5 trying to say I don't know. And what everybody sees when

6 they go in that house after that is this injury to the hand,

7 and so that would be the most obvious injury to her when she

8 takes her hands off her face and sees her husband dead.

Another thing you hear in that tape is and

10 remember way back at the beginning of the trial, Deputy

11 Williamson and Deputy Haley both testified there was a delay

12 in answering the door. They had to ring the bell. They had

13 to knock on the door. They had time to go around. One of

14 them went around to the side of house to look for another way

15 inside. They finally had to call 911 to get them to call her

16 back to tell her to come open the door.

What you hear on that tape, however, is the 17

18 doorbell rings once, her immediately start going that

19 direction. The only things that delays her is she has Bo,

20 the dog, who is obviously in the room with her. You can hear

21 him barking and hearing the variations from the distance that

22 he moves from the telephone, and that was the delay to put 23 the dog away.

But this report of a delay was later transmitted

1 to Investigator Garren when he arrived on the scene, and so

- 2 this suspicion that something had gone on that was not quite
- 3 right because she wasn't waiting outside because she didn't
- 4 immediately come to the door, the suspicion then followed as
- 5 this investigation continued.
- And finally, as I said, on this tape, you hear
- 7 the dog, and we talked about the dog with Dave Billau
- B concerning trace evidence. Now, if the dog had been in the
- 9 house the whole time after she shot Harry, she went to the
- 10 bathroom to take a shower. She was messing around with the
- 11 gun. She was in various parts of the house. The dog, most
- 12 likely a friendly dog, a dog that was affectionate with Harry
- 13 would have been in and around Harry, and there would have
- been tracks of blood, and that's not evidence, and it's not
- 15 logical she would put the dog outside to kill Harry and then
- 16 let him back in right when she's ready to call 911. There's
- 17 no sense in that.
- But nothing was ever done to look at Bo to see if 18
- there was some support for what she was saying to the
- 20 officers. He was kept in the room until close 'til 9:00
- 21 o'clock, and there's no indication that he was examined, and
- 22 he left the house, and there was evidence on him that went
- with him.
- I think finally the most important thing in that

1 saying could you please go and feed the fish because her mind

- 2 is going through who is going to shovel the snow. This is --
- 3 my life has changed at this point.
- Deputy Williamson also confirmed she was
- hyperventilating, panicked and that she was at times
- difficult to understand and his first contact with her, he
- 7 asked her to get him a verbal statement, and she went through
- the story. She and Mr. Leibel were arguing because she
- wanted to go down and visit her daughter in California, and
- that he told her he'll kill myself if you go.
- Ms. Leibel had planned on leaving the day before 11
- 12 but hadn't done it so she changed her plans to that morning
- 13 and that morning, Harry started carrying around a gun with
- 14 him. He sat in the living room. He sat with that gun, and
- this would just as equally justify a text to Lana, we have an
- uncomfortable situation here. I can't come right now.
- And the night before, she had texted I cannot 17
- 18 leave. Harry is very upset. I have to wait for him to cool
- 19 down. Confirming, again, with real time documentation that
- there was this argument going on. There's nothing to say
- 21 that that statement to Lana is anything besides Harry is
- acting weird. He's mad again. We have an uncomfortable
- situation. I need to get back to you. 23
- She talks about the mourning and they sat down to 24

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- 1 911 tape is a variant was when the officers have arrived and
- 2 the dispatch saying, okay, everything is okay now, and she
- 3 says together you stay with me. Then she reaches out to
- 4 somebody who represents law enforcement to say I'm alone.
- 5 I'm scared. Together you stay with me. So that person, that
- 6 law enforcement officer would stay on the phone with her
- 7 until others arrived, and she had some companionship out
- 8 there.
- And you've heard the descriptions of Tatiana at 9
- 10 the scene. Chris Lucas who is a paramedic said what he saw
- 11 was emotions that were consistent with a person whose spouse
- 12 had just committed suicide. She was upset and crying. You
- 13 also have confirmed that she had a heavy Russian accent, that
- she was difficult to understand. Again, I would point out to
- 15 her in terms of outside could very well mean out and this was
- 16 brought up, outside could mean outside the living room and
- 17 then I went inside the living room.
- There was testimony that she was overly 18
- 19 hysterical and admitted that people in difficult situations
- 20 handle things in different ways.
- Nick Robidart said she was crying, hysterical and 21
- 22 even saying unusual things. And, again, this is something
- 23 that would be typical of someone who is very hysterical. At
- 24 the time she got there, she's grieving. She's mourning and

- 1 watch TV, and things calmed down some, and then she thought
- 2 this is a good time to bring it up again. I want see my
- 3 daughter. You can go through the text, and you'll see the
- 4 text of her daughter begging, are yu going to flake on me
- this time again. I've got three kids. I'm moving out of the
- apartment. This is very important to her.
- And when she brings it up again, the argument
- 8 starts again and she gets frustrated, and she walks off into
- the kitchen, and the next thing she hears is a boom, and she
- comes running into the living room, and she sees Harry on the
- 11 couch. There's, obviously, something wrong with him, and
- 12 she's aware there's just been a gunshot, and she covers her
- 13 face, oh, Harry what have you done? And at that time there's
- 14 another boom.
- And then she says runs into the kitchen and calls 15
- 16 911, and you have Exhibit Number 59. Again, she was
- cooperating with the officers. He wanted to get a written
- statement from her. She doesn't write well in English. And 18
- so she said, you know, I can tell you and the officers 19
- 20 dictated for you but, again, she went ahead and gave them a
- 21 written statement of what occurred.
- There was also an attempt by her to give a
- 23 description to Deputy Williamson of what she saw when she
- 24 came back into the room in-between when she first saw Harry

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- 1 before she covered her eyes, she could just remember his hand 2 somehow on the gun. Everybody interpreted this to me this is
- 3 how I had the gun positioned at the time I was going to do
- 4 the second shot.
- What you're seeing are snapshots in time when she
- 6 ran in there. She saw him in a position that possibly he had
- 7 finished a shot and was repositioning for another one. And
- so with her statements of he had his hands on his lap.
- holding the gun. It's not saying this is what was going to
- happen next. It's simply saying this is what is going to
- happen or what just happened could be happening next.
- And, again, she was cooperative with the 12
- 13 officers. She didn't have to -- during the written
- 14 statement, they asked her to come down and give an interview
- and during those interviews, she had agreed to have her phone
- searched because there were texts in there and she never made
- an attempt to be secretive in any way. 17
- Another thing that led to this conclusion that 18
- there was some kind of delay in her reporting was a lot based
- on the testimony of the paramedics, and Dr. Omalu was asked
- 21 for his attitude concerning those paramedics by Mr. Gregory,
- him making some like derogatory, I think, of them, lower than
- me. You don't value their opinion.
- And Dr. Omalu wasn't trying to be arrogant or put

- Dr. Omalu was asked about rigor mortis, and he
- did -- was indicating, yes, it does start in the hands and
- 3 the smaller joints. It doesn't form everywhere in the body
- 4 all at once, unless you're a marathon runner. This is where
- 5 the marathon runner came in. Unless you're a marathon runner
- 6 running in the sun and you die suddenly, then you can have
- 7 very spontaneous full rigor, which means the whole body is
- 8 involved. And other times, it's going to appear in various
- 9 places, appear at various degrees, and it's going to -- it
- 10 can start almost immediately either the term of what's known
- 11 as rigor or what they call cadaveric or sudden onset rigor,
- 12 but it isn't an impossibility to see this happening
- 13 immediately, and especially he described it because that
- 14 wound through the arm and wrist that generates extra heat and
- that can cause that limb to develop rigor much much sooner
- 16 than anything else.
- There's also a description of the blood in the 17
- 18 room being variously thick coagulated, dry, whatever. But
- 19 remember in that room, there was a couch that had blood on
- 20 it. There was -- and blankets that had blood on them. There
- 21 was Mr. Leibel that had blood on him and what they were
- 22 talking about in many instances was he wasn't actively
- 23 bleeding, and the blood appeared to start coagulating, but
- 24 there were also statements concerning dry blood and that

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- 1 down the paramedics. He was saying this, again, is the value
- 2 of information I'm taking, and I value information of the
- 3 paramedics as to this faction and it starts stepping into the
- 4 point of making a medical diagnosis, then that stops for me
- 5 but within their job doing what they do, he doesn't disagree
- with them.
- And the paramedics described Mr. Leibel in
- 8 several ways. He was pale, ashen, blue or juandice. You
- have to remember the statements of these paramedics were
- taken on March 6th, about two weeks after this occurred, and
- they had talked again. And what happens when you talk
- together, you always start remembering things similar.
- 12
- And Ms. Rajacic had testified that she noticed 13
- that just a few months before that she had noticed Harry
- starting to look frail and thin and started to loss weight.
- You have Exhibit Number 1, which is the photograph that was
- taken of Mr. Leibel when the deputies first appeared. And
- all of the photographs you look at, this is the only one that
- shows him at 11:00 o'clock that morning. Any other photo you
- see was taken when John Barton and Investigator Garren went
- into that room -- went into the house about 4:00 o'clock that
- 22 afternoon. The same with Exhibit Number 2, this was taken at
- 11:00 o'clock. It was taken by Deputy Williamson when they
- 24 first entered the residence.

- 1 couch has dried blood on it when it was -- it was spread thin
- 2 and would have been given a dried appearance.
- Chris Lucas smelled a slight odor of gunpowder in 3
- 4 the room. The others, they didn't see anything or smell
- 5 anything. But, again, this was -- became a topic of
- 6 conversation, which they discussed with each other. And if 7 you're not consciously aware of looking for the smell of
- 8 gunpowder, then it's a possibility that it could be missed or
- 9 you can see from these photographs, Exhibit Number 1, 2, 3,
- 10 the living room isn't a closed off room from another room.
- 11 It's very open to the dining room and open to the kitchen,
- 12 very high ceilings, and you can see the venting of the heat
- 13 that comes in there.
- And if that's forced air heat, there's an intake
- 15 somewhere that is pooling that -- the air in and circulating
- 16 it. The heat is always in this so the heater is running full
- 17 blast so, again, that could be some explanation to that.
- 18 They take all of these to show, again, that there was some 19 kind of delay in making the report.
- The suspicion were raised even before that. I
- 21 mean, they thought something was wrong because there was a
- 22 rifle that was used. It was reported as a suicide, and there
- 23 were two injuries, and that's unusual, and so there must be
- 24 something weird going on here.

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And Ms. Leibel even in her statement to Deputy 1 2 Williamson was unclear on how long it took her to respond to

3 actually call. She missed another five minutes which is an

4 odd number I would call 911 five minutes later. Remember,

people are sometimes, when they see a tragic event in front

6 of their eyes, sometimes time slows way down. Sometimes time

7 speeds way up. Sometimes you lose time. So there may have

8 been a period of time where she was just in shock of what had

happened and then in her mind immediately went to call. 9

The only other evidence you have of different 10

11 reporting of the time this occurred would be the statement to

12 Leanne Brooks that the friend she went to stay with. It was

9:30 or 10:30 that morning and, again, she just -- she made 13

14 this statement after she just been interviewed for eight

15 hours by investigators. She was tired. It wasn't important.

You know, what time did it happen? Who knows, who cares is

17 basically it.

One of the most troubling things about the scene 18

19 in this room is the number of paramedics. They have been

necessary at the beginning, but some of them became

investigators of the scene which there's no need to do.

Chris Lucas testified, mostly he remained on the landing

which would have been a good supervisory position. But then 23

24 at one point, he leaned over the railing in-between the

And it's -- if they had needed to move furniture

like they did, move the coffee table to treat Mr. Leibel,

that was documented, but we have this movement of furniture,

kind of laying around that there's no documentation

5 concerning this is what we do. That becomes troubling. We

start moving into the trajectory because it does depend on

position and it does depend on lines and angles.

More troubling is the gun itself. This was a

9 photo that was taken of the gun by the officers when Deputy

Williamson was in the residence that morning, and you can see

these up-close strap is over that gun.

And this was taken by Investigator Garren when he 12

went back into the residence at 12 or 4:00 o'clock, Exhibit

Number 12, the strap is moved off, so there has been a

difference. 15

Also, in looking at Exhibit Number 2, again, that 16

17 strap covers that weapon where the cylinder would be where

you look to see the handle cocked. I'm sure Mr. Gregory will

say, well, look real close. You can see the trigger back

like it was pulled, pushed back and action. You can look at

that photograph just to see if that's correct.

But you have two deputies that come in, 22

23 Williamson and Haley, they testify they saw the gun on the

24 couch. Neither -- neither of them said that's been cocked

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1 dining room and the pony wall, in-between the dining room and

2 living room, he said it was at that time he saw a bullet hole

3 behind the couch.

And, again, if you look at photos number 1, 2, 3, 4

1, 3, 4 and 110, you're going to see above that couch is a 5

6 very large aquarium. Being able to look around that and that

7 aquarium is above the couch, being able to look around that

and see a bullet hole in the wall is rather extraordinary. 8

The other thing is other people -- other

paramedics, including and with Deputy Garren, Deputy 10

11 Williamson, Investigator Garren said we went around the right

12 hand side of the couch. But, again, you see in these photos

on the right hand side of the couch, there's a chair and a

table, and Joe Lear testified that when he went in to do the

drawings, he had to remove that table in there so he could

16 access getting behind the couch so he could get shots of the

17 bullet holes.

And then we had the testimony from Nick Robidart 18

19 where he said he -- that he saw the bullet hole when Douglas

20 County Sheriff's Office personnel moved that couch, and he

21 couldn't recall making that statement when he was testifying

on the stand, but he finally admitted after having been --

23 his memory refreshed that he made that statement back to

24 Investigator /SHERPB /SHERPB back on March 6th.

1 and, in fact, Deputy Haley said I saw the gun was secured.

2 At that time the only witness who noticed the gun was cocked

was Chris Lucas, and he said from his position overlooking

the fish tank, I saw the gun was cocked. Now, he's a

paramedic. He's used to saving people's lives, caring for

people, and he understands the dangerousness of a loaded

cocked weapon, but there's no indication that he reported

that to any deputies at the scene, that he did anything but

make a mental note of it that anything he relayed to an

investigator some two weeks later.

You're going to have the same entry log. What 11

12 this Deputy Garren testified about that, once they corridor

off the scene which they did about 1:00 o'clock, everybody

that goes into that scene has to be entered into this log and

entered, signed out of this log. And the thing is it doesn't

really keep track of who goes into the house. It's who goes

into the scene itself. 17

And we know from the testimony, several of the 18

witnesses that even though this house was sealed because they

were waiting to get in there to be able to search, that other

21 people were entering, given the walkthrough so they could see what was going on.

22 The condition of this gun became a key piece of

24 evidence in this case, but we don't know for sure whether it

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1 was touched or tampered with. We see it in one position. At

11:00 o'clock, we see the strap off of it where this -- where 3 it's covered the cylinder about five hours later.

Also, as you heard this gun -- they were going to

look at it for trace evidence. They were going to look at it

for fingerprints. They were going to look at it for DNA.

If you look at Exhibit Number 111, they were

8 moving things off the couch and they could have access of the

9 couch. It appears that gun is on the floor in front of the

10 couch. This was later going to be processed for trace 11 evidence.

After that, Joel I Lear came from the Washoe 12

13 County Crime Lab. He was one of the officers or individuals

14 that came to do the trajectory measurement and measurement of

the place, and he testified also in this -- it was his work,

his measurement that became the basis for this investigation. 16

And he told you in Exhibit Number 27, you know, this is when

we first tried to do it with the couch upright, the

trajectory rod, that this is going to the holes in the wall. 19

And he testified concerning Exhibit Number 28

21 that they did get the couch in a position and were able to

get that trajectory rod to match up and so that's where their

23 positioning and trajectory came from. But then he went on to

24 say, the way we got that trajectory rod to go into that hole

1 do the same thing or to make it line up with that hole in the 2 wall. So there's really no way to create what they got as a 3 trajectory outside of that circumstance they were in.

There's other issues with the trajectory. When

5 Mr. Noedel said he got the report, this reporting and then he

6 went ahead and visited the house, and he took pictures of or

7 he visited the house. He saw the sofa, and he saw pictures

8 that were taken of the hole in the wall of the bullet hole.

9 And, again, you have this documentation of -- you have the

10 bullet hole in the wall where it's at. A measurement of it,

that's up and is unclear.

12 When they took that piece of wood out and then

13 found pellets behind that, there's no documentation

14 concerning, and this pellet was found in a joist that's five

15 inches up and one inch over or anything like that. So to

16 match what's behind that wall that was used for trajectory

17 with an actual object that ended up behind that wall is

18 lacking.

You can also see that this hole in Exhibit Number

20 -- it's Exhibit Number 36, overlapping holes that make a

21 large space. If you put a trajectory line through that, you

22 have a lot of wiggle room at that point. So you're working

23 from a wall that at this point cannot really be recreated

24 because there's at the house, there's no -- there's a big

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1 is we had one of or sergeants sit on the couch to add some

2 weight to it to make it go into that hole.

None of that was documented. When he finally did 3

his measurement and none of that was documented in his report

5 and so there was no way to know how that trajectory was

6 reached and for something to be as subjective, as well, we

couldn't make it go into the hole. So what we did is we put

8 a person in a location on the couch that has nothing to do

with anything. We just knew this -- there was a person on

10 the couch at one time.

20

So we put this person in the middle of the couch 11

12 and, again, this trajectory rod has nothing to do with 13 anything except that shoulder shot which you would have to be

slouched down equal to that hole, yes, and that was the only

way they could get these various subjective measurements.

And, again, none of this is documented. When you 16

17 look at and you'll get to see them again, these are the notations that he created at the scene, Exhibit Number 101

and Exhibit Number 100, and they have notations of certain

distances that they used to figure this, but there's no

indication. And then to get this trajectory, we had to move

22 the couch back so many degrees, line that trajectory rod up, 23 and there's no indication that we had the weight of a body.

We don't know that person's weight on that couch to make it

1 open gap there.

And the photograph that you see of it, of the

3 portion that's taken out, there's no way to correlate that to

4 what's behind the wall back at the house. So that's your

5 trajectory. It's a large hole with a lot of wiggle room.

Next thing you're working with is a couch, and

7 that couch is movable in and of itself. It can go this way.

8 It can go that way. It can go forward and back, and we don't

9 know at the time even though they made measurements of where

10 it was when they were doing the trajectory, if there was

11 movement of that couch before they got in there and that

12 again would have affected the trajectory. And then the couch

13 itself is manipulatable because you can move it forward or

14 put it out. You can bring it back up, and there's no

15 indication of how they were able to match up those numbers.

Because of this poor documentation and, again, 16

17 part of it because of the poor preservation of evidence and

18 in the end in looking at the same reports, Dave Billau says

19 there's not enough information here to do this trajectory,

20 and we don't know where things are before.

It was part of that -- using that trajectory that 21

22 Mr. Noedel came in and gave the opinion that the evidence

23 best supports that Mr. Leibel did not kill himself. Best 24 support was the basis of the opinion complete, best supports

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to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty. Best isn'tgood enough.

3 Standard of proof in this case is beyond a

4 reasonable doubt, and it was based on that trajectory that he

5 made part of his conclusions concerning Mr. Leibel that

6 Ms. Leibel had actually killed him. In fact, he stood in the

7 sofa. This is the trajectory. This is what would have to be

s done, and that's based on my trajectory report.

9 The other thing he based it on was Exhibit Number

10 14 and exhibit -- sorry, Exhibit Number 54 and Exhibit Number

11 55. These were the measurements taken by Dr. Kubiczek at the

12 time of the autopsy.

13 And then Mr. Noedel went on to create this

14 juxtaposition of the measurements and the length of the gun,

5 and he said the implication is based on the length of that

to make the sale the implication is based on the longition and

16 reach, and this was to the trigger on that gun. There's no

17 way Mr. Leibel held that gun himself, and you're going to

18 have a chance to have that gun back there in the jury room

.9 with you, and you can see, and you saw Dr. Kubiczek measure

o my arm from the armpit to the fingers, not my reach. He

21 measured my arm and that's the argument that Dr. Omalu was

22 having with Mr. Gregory is this is not your reach. This is

23 the length of your arm from the armpit to the tip of the

24 fingers.

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And then with that length, then you can start

2 manipulating, like I showed you yesterday. It's not a

3 straight up and down pushing that gun at a distance, doing

4 something with it, bracing it in some way, using a leg,

5 whatever you can manipulate the positioning. So the length

6 of your arm does not dictate how far you can reach, whether

7 or not you can reach the trigger. You can try it and see

that this is not a possibility based on the fact that reach

- C---- C-11 1- 4-

9 comes from your full body.

And when we were doing that demonstration

11 yesterday and as was stated, this is how it happened. This

12 is possible scenarios because there are ways you can use a

13 gun that would make the ability to reach that trigger by one

14 person shooting themselves a possibility. So use that static

15 distance to say is it a possibility? Is it science?

16 You also saw during the -- when we were working

17 on the demonstrations yesterday and when I was -- had the gun

on the floor, then Dr. Omalu came up to the stand and said,

9 no, your arm has to be at least this height to follow not

20 only that track, but he also said it can't be outreached. It

20 Office that the At The also said it can't be called a

21 can't be like this. It has to be some positioning coming

22 across the body.

23 And the reason he said was because of that, the

24 X-ray that was taken at the autopsy, Exhibit Number 136, and

1 he said there's a broken bone up here in the shoulder, and
2 the way that broken bone would occur would be from the impact

3 of that first shot going through the body, and it's an

4 impact. It basically broke the bone not from any bullet or

5 anything but from the impact of the shot itself. And to

6 create that type of impact is some blocking force so that

6 create that type of impact is some blocking force so tha

7 energy is blocked. It can't be transmitted out something8 extended. It can't be transmitted something higher. There

O has to be a blocking force to bringing the arm back agrees

9 has to be a blocking force to bringing the arm back across

the body to create the force to break that bone.

The other thing we were talking about when we

12 were discussing the second shot was and when he was

13 testifying again with Mr. Gregory, he was asked if this -- he

14 said a misfire. It's not he was saying the gun was misfired.

15 What he was saying was Mr. Leibel was not trying to shoot

16 himself in the arm and then to the shoulder, that this was --

17 he was already injured. He was trying to position this gun

18 to kill himself but because of the manipulation and his weak

18 to kill minself out because of the manipulation and his wear

19 state, at some point he lost control, and that this was not a

20 misfire of the gun. It was basically not an intentional shot

21 in this location and something has gone wrong, and I'm

22 missing what I was aiming at.

23 And it could have been he was going for the face.

24 He was going for the heart and in that movement, again, lost

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1 his grip on the gun, and that's when he was shot. Again, I

2 want -- these are snapshots in time. The photographs that

3 show, you know, this track or the trajectory that, you know,

4 can or the lineup that can show this is -- this isn't

5 something I'm going to pose in this position and I'm going to

6 shoot the rifle. This is something that happened in a series

7 of movements, and we can't say exactly what happened.

B Dr. Omalu also talked to you about the first shot

9 and there being two shots and even there being Mr. Leibel is

.0 the one would cocked the gun is that at the time you're

11 injured, you're going through this, your adrenalin is going

12 up, you become almost a zombie of movement without thought.

13 If it's in Mr. Leibel's brain that I want to die and he's

14 going to continue those actions towards that direction.

Then Dr. Omalu also talked to you about

16 Mr. Leibel's liver. This is -- this shows signs of disease.

17 If there's liver disease, there's a possibility of what's

18 called hepatic encephalopathy. That is correct, that the

19 blood is not being filtered, so poisons are going to the

20 brain and it can lead to mental confusion. This progresses

21 over time and when he requested that there be -- to see the

22 microscopic slides and the different tissue.

There was an autopsy done by Mr. Kubiczek. There was an autopsy done by Mr. Kubiczek. There was not even noticed. So instead

Leibel is you're is going at thought.

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1 of doing an autopsy that looked at everything for missed 2 broken bone in the shoulder but instead of looking for, okay, 3 we have gunshot wounds, what else do we have what's wrong 4 with this person? Oh, we have a diseased liver. Maybe that 5 affects the brain. So we're going to do microscopic slides 6 so we can go on with further diagnosis. Again, that wasn't

done. I told you Ms. Leibel was arrested just a few 8 days after this happened and we were hearing about the finger prints. And, again, Mr. Gregory has said, you know, they weren't -- the reports eventually came back long after arrest. They aren't her fingerprints and they aren't

13 Mr. Leibel's fingerprints. So that must have became that the gun was wiped of any DNA. 15 But we have Dave Billau testify the ability to

16 find useful prints on a firearm is very low, and they did find one. They found it on the cylinder and that wasn't Ms.

Leibel's and that wasn't Mr. Leibel's. So there was a usable prison that was never associated with any person.

Again, with the ballistics testing, Mr. Noedel 20 21 testified what we do is a series of test patterns, and we do -- this is a two-inch shot, three, four, five, six and seven,

and then we visually compare what we can see in the 24 photographs of the injury or viewing the actual robe to look 1 aren't going to get in range where it would be a struggle 2 occur over a gun, and so that's one thing that nobody seemed

3 to want to look at in this case. And those ballistics came 4 back, it was, oh, well, those shots and move on. That's one

5 of the things Dr. Omalu looks at is total view of the case.

And then, again, you're going to get to see the 7 evidence, keep talking about these extractions. And there

8 was a lot of discussion and you'll get to go through them, a 9 lot of discussion between Lana and Ms. Leibel about coming

10 down to visit in L.A. and exchanges back and forth and Lana 11 is saying you're not going to flake on me again, are you?

12 And then there was the text from Ms. Leibel on Saturday

13 night. I can't leave now. Harry needs to calm down. The

14 text following, we have an uncomfortable situation.

And then Mr. Gregory also told you about web 15 16 pages. You're going to be able to see that. Page 21 of the 17 exhibit, what I want you to notice is in those web searches

18 they began at 152, it goes to 157. Within that short period 19 of time, she is going through various web pages. Also we

20 don't know history. We see cookies, cookies, web history.

21 We don't know what's being done. Is that just I'm going

22 through somebody's phone and looking where they have been

23 before, what they have been looking at. It's not time enough 24 to be actually going and searching those web sites for any

Page 50

1 for a match, same pattern.

And so, again, this is not scientific testing, 3 one plus one. This is something that is subjective. I'm 4 comparing this to this, and this is my best guess, and then 5 they point a range on it. But even with that, the range she 6 came up with is this shot was most consistent with two to six

7 inches, and this shot was most consistent with three inches 8 away.

Dr. Omalu testified concerning loose contact wound. That doesn't mean the barrel is on the skin itself. 11 It's saying it was within inches, the same on the side, but 12 he was seeing the medical indications that he associated with those contact wounds and that's why he can say those are

close contact wounds. What is important in that case is these are close 15 16 range shots and this is a rifle that was used and so if you're going to use a rifle to kill someone and Ms. Leibel was familiar with the handling of rifles. We know they handle both. I mean, this is a person, your husband of ten years. Are you going to get right up close and personal and 21 almost against him and shoot him and shoot you.

If it's an anger situation, whatever situation, 22 23 if you're going to shoot a rifle, you're going to stay back.

24 You're going to distance yourself from that situation. You

1 particular information.

And you heard from Investigator Garren that

3 Ms. Leibel's phone was not pass word protected. If

4 Mr. Leibel had suspicions at all concerning her or was just

5 the phone is conveniently on the kitchen table. I'm going to pick that one up and check something. He had equal access to

7 that phone, and that would be consistent with that type of

8 activity, just looking through a phone.

What would be important in that is there is a 10 view of a confirmation page. Ms. Leibel had confirmed a 11 hotel room down in Southern California. And so, again, he 12 knew she was leaving or made plans to leave. And if you go 13 back through older text messages and just a few weeks prior,

14 there's talk of a part that Ms. Leibel was actually helping 15 her daughter look for an apartment. That if he sees that,

16 maybe he thinks it is not just for a visit. She's leaving.

We also have the extractions from Mr. Leibel's 17

18 phone, and we've gone through the message to the Rajacics, 19 and that would be in the send message as opposed to the

20 other. That's hi, tat, hope you're both well. We're okay.

21 This thing has dragged on for way too long. That being said, 22 the slow moving powers should bring this process to a

23 conclusion in the very near future days. You'll hear a

24 sound --

THE COURT: Ms. Brown, I think the interpreters 1 2 can't hear you.

- THE INTERPRETER: It's just too fast. 3
- THE COURT: Thank you, ma'am. 4
- MS. BROWN: You'll hear a loud sigh like distant 5
- 6 thunder, that will be me. Now, there's an interpretation
- 7 Mr. Rajacic put on that those are Harry's words. They could
- 8 be viewed as goodbye my friend. I'm tired of what is going
- on. I'm tired of this life.
- We heard about the text messages going back and 10
- 11 forth between Mr. Leibel and Chris Hetrick. There were plans
- 12 to meet that evening and exchanges and that never occurred,
- 13 and he didn't show up and came the next day.
- The day after Harry's death, he said apostolus 14
- 15 Harry my friend you left without saying goodbye. The good
- 16 moments we had and your truce of life, people that we have in
- 17 our universe good and bad. I knew a month ago something
- 18 wasn't right. We felt you were going to be on a journey to
- 19 another world. This world wasn't right for your soul, didn't
- 20 say why, but I see. It's weird that you're gone and I've
- 21 lost a real friend. I pray for your soul, and hope we meet
- 22 again.
- Again, an indication that his friend Chris was 23
- 24 aware things were going -- he wasn't happy. Something was

- But I think also things you need to look at are
- 2 the texts, the one saying goodbye. The one from Chris, I
- 3 knew you weren't long for this world. I knew something
- wasn't right with you. You were ready to go, and maybe he
- felt some kind of mental problems coming on, and that was the
- one thing he couldn't face. He had been through the physical
- pain of cancer. He had been through this and that. And
- maybe he was afraid if Tatiana was leaving, that it's not
- just for a visit. She's going to go get an apartment because
- 10 I had a friend who keeps warning me against her, whatever.
- In the end, we sometimes we never know because as 11
- 12 Dr. Omalu told you, suicide is an irrational act, and you
- 13 can't find logic in the midst of a irrational act, and it's
- 14 seen all of the time. I mean, sometimes you look at a person
- 15 and say that person is a train wreck and any day it's going
- 16 to come. And when they kill themselves, well, we saw that
- one coming.
- But in so many occasions, it's not something that 18
- 19 is expected. It's the happy person that's smiling in the
- 20 middle of the morning has killed themselves in the afternoon
- 21 and noble knows why. They can't find the death. They can't
- 22 find the fallen relationship. They can't find any reason.
- 23 And another thing you look with what Ms. Rajacic
- 24 said was Harry's philosophy, that he talked about all

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- 1 going on in his life. The other thing we have is his contact
- 2 with Darla, his ex-wife. They hadn't spoken in about four
- 3 years, and yet he contacts her and a few weeks before his
- 4 death to talk over old times, contacts her on Facebook, gets
- 5 her number, and they reminisce about old times. Again,
- 6 reaching out to the folks in his life.
- We know very little about Tatiana and Harry's
- 8 relationship that's been presented at trial except for
- 9 Mr. Oren felt Harry's life was in danger. He couldn't give
- 10 specifics. He just said that was it. I warned him.
- The Rajacics, Joe described their relationship as 11
- 12 a very loving relationship and they had contact periodically.
- 13 They were with them over the years. And Kerry Rajacic, when
- 14 she testified, it was obvious that she loved Harry dearly.
- 15 And at one point, she began weeping, talking about how much
- 16 he used to talk philosophy, and but ever since his death, she
- 17 is still in touch with Ms. Leibel, Tatiana. Sometimes we
- 18 don't know the reason for this.
- Dr. Omalu is a forensic pathologist. He 19
- 20 explained that in addition to this encephalopathy which
- 21 couldn't affect the mind, the additional use of putting
- 22 marijuana in on top of that, he testified that Mr. Leibel
- 23 smoked marijuana within an hour or two of his death, that
- 24 that could lead to further mental confusion.

- 1 different philosophies, that he talked about even to the
- point where he was into zodiac and into the horoscopes and
- 3 fortune cookies, anything like that.
- This was a person who was raised in a very
- 5 traditional Jewish household, and it would be like a very
- traditionalist Baptist or Methodist or Christian, any
- Christian religion looking at alternative philosophies, that
- you have a religion you're raised in and you don't vary in
- that. So it may have been his search, I've been raised in
- this tradition and it's not something that is helping me.
- 11 I've lost my faith. I'm looking out there for something
- 12 else, and that may have played a part in the conclusion, but
- we don't know.
- Dr. Omalu is a forensic pathologist and he's --
- 15 what he told you about his credentials, I won't repeat
- 16 because they are very lengthy. And although Kubiczek is a
- forensic pathologist. He stated in his case, he was working
- 18 as basically a medical examiner. Dr. Omalu, who is qualified in both the medical and legal aspects of the case looked at
- all of this evidence, including things that weren't done in
- the medical world, what failures there were at the autopsy,
- what samples weren't taken at the autopsy, what wasn't recorded at the autopsy.
- Further tested needed to be done to look at

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- 1 everything, not just this is a homicide, so we'll find, track2 the bullet. What else do we have that could have contributed
- 3 to this situation?
- 4 Several questions have been raised concerning the
- 5 handling of the evidence. Again, I showed you that gun. It
- 6 looks like it's laying on the floor. Those photographs are
- 7 taken late in the afternoon. Movement of furniture, there's
- 8 lack of documentation, what was at the scene, what was moved.
- 9 That trajectory comes from the couch itself that is movable,
- 10 could have been moved. There's testimony of witnesses who
- 11 indicate they saw that couch being moved. So, again, we
- 12 don't have reliable basis for the science that follows.
- 13 The measurement of the arm, positioning something
- 14 against a static arm does not tell you reach. They use that
- 15 and call it science and then go in to make other conclusions.
- 16 The ballistics even is a subjective test, where you're doing
- 17 the testing, looking at the object, but it's your subjective
- 18 interpretation of it that makes those ranges.
- 19 I told you back on February 23rd that there was a
- 20 life changing decision made for Tatiana. It's made by
- 21 others, and now she's back with others, and you guys are
- 22 going to be asked in a few minutes to make another life
- 23 changing decision for her.
- As I said in the beginning, our job of Tatiana

- 1 things like the fact that Harry reached out to his former
- 2 wife, it might indicate that his current marriage isn't all
- 3 that great or the fact that he was going to call the
- 4 locksmith on the 25th and indicated that he was going to
- 5 divorce Tatiana.
- 6 We can speculate about those things, and we can
- 7 bring our emotions into it or we can consider the facts and
- 8 the science of the case, and that's what I'm asking you to do
- 9 here.
- 10 Even though I'm an attorney, I don't watch too
- 11 many CSI shows or even the real crime shows, but over the
- 12 weekend a case caught my attention, a show that I watched.
- 13 It was about the OJ Simpson case, and I watched it because
- 14 when I was in law school, 20 plus years ago, that case was
- 15 going on. And you recall in that case what the defense
- 16 really hammered on is that the police messed up. They
- 17 planted evidence. All of this DNA and everything they found
- 18 associated with the OJ and his possessions all police screwed
- 19 that up.
- 20 MS. BROWN: Your Honor, I would object.
- 21 MR. GREGORY: What was interesting --
- 22 MS. BROWN: Comparison with that case.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, the objection is overruled. I
- 24 don't know what the point is yet, but it's consistent with

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- 1 Leibel is not to prove that she is innocent. She's presumed
- 2 guilty. She could sit there, not come forward with any
- 3 evidence. The State has the burden of coming forward with
- 4 the evidence to prove her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 5 It's not our job to prove this is a suicide. It's the
- 6 State's job to prove this is a murder and only based on the
- 7 evidence you see and the questions that have been raised
- 8 concerning the reliability, only when you say we have enough
- 9 evidence that we trust that it convinces us beyond a
- 10 reasonable doubt that we have an abiding conviction of the
- 11 truth of these charges can you make a finding of guilty.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 THE COURT: Mr. Gregory, do you need a minute?
- MR. GREGORY: I'm ready, Your Honor.
- Have you ever had a couple that you knew that you
- 16 were friends with, you thought they had a great marriage,
- 17 ideal marriage from what you saw of them. Then you hear they
- 18 are getting a divorce. Man, I just thought they were a great
- 19 couple, and you think to yourself, it just goes to show you
- 20 you don't know what is going on behind closed doors, you
- 21 never do.
- 22 So I can sit here and speculate like Ms. Brown
- 23 did regarding Harry's status and whether he was suicidal or
- 24 not or I can speculate about the marriage. I can point to

- 1 argument that you were making.
- 2 MR. GREGORY: Here's the point --
- 3 THE COURT: I'm going to allow him to continue.
- 4 MR. GREGORY: Thank you. The point I was going
- 5 to make was what happened as a result of that OJ case is that
- 6 every case, almost every case that went to trial after that,
- 7 a component of the defense is that the police messed up and
- 8 that's what we're seeing here. It's a component of the
- 9 defense. And do police mess up? Yeah, they do. Sometimes
- 10 it's a small screw up. Sometimes it's a big one. Sometimes
- 11 it's so big the case can't go forward, but it's up to you to
- 12 evaluate their conduct in this case and really ask yourself
- 13 if the issues, the mistakes that were made were of such that
- 14 it detracts from the evidence in the case.
- 15 You had two sheriff's deputies responding in a
- 16 very timely manner to this and when they got there, they then
- 17 let the fire guys in to see if Harry could be resuscitated.
- 18 When that couldn't happen, they seized the scene. They
- 19 stopped, and they called the investigator, Ed Garren.
- Mr. Garren who was down here in the valley
- 21 traveled up there as quickly as he could. When he gets
- 22 there, he makes an initial assessment of the scene and, yeah,
- 23 he sees some things that are suspicious to him, a suicide
- 24 with a rifle, that's two shots, and you got this weird thing

1 going on with the hand.

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He made the decision to back up and to do the 2

3 right thing. Isn't that what we want our investigators to

do? He sealed the scene. He called the crime lab to come in

and they did. Everybody that -- yeah, they did a scene log.

They did that. You saw in the picture Ed Garren when he's

collecting that firearm. He's got gloves on. Everybody that

went into that scene had a purpose for being in that scene,

and they processed the scene to the best of their abilities.

Is there some things they might do different,

maybe. In every case I've tried, win or lose, we sit down

when the case is over, and we talk about things we can do

better. Are there things we can do better, sure. But are 13

those things such in this case that the police just blew it

and the paramedics just blew it, and so you folks should just 15

disregard all of the evidence in this case? 16

The judge gave you two different jury

18 instructions and I think are important. One being you get to

19 bring your common sense to the table. So when you go back in

there to deliberate, don't forget your common sense. He also

21 told you, you can accept the reasonable explanations, and you

can reject the unreasonable explanations. Again, don't 22

forget those instructions when you go back to deliberate. 23

I'm going to hit on just some points that 24

1 and police officers, you'll recall he sat down here and said

2 way down here, that's what he thinks of our local battalion

3 chief, captains, Sergeant Halsey, all of these people that

came to testify to, they are way down here.

Another person that's way down here is a

90-year-old pathologist who has studied atypical suicides but

7 to Dr. Omalu, he's just a 90-year-old guy who doesn't know

what he's talking about anymore. Well, his studies of

atypical suicides are very important. His studies, as I

discussed with Dr. Omalu indicate that in a two-shot or

multiple shot suicide case, you expect to see the shot go in

the same area.

So as I talked to Dr. Omalu, if it's a gunshot to 13

14 the head and he kind of misses, the second shot is going to

go to the head, okay? In this case, the first shot to the

torso didn't do the damage. The second shot is going to go

to the torso. That's not what you have here.

You also found in suicides it's rare for people

19 to shoot through clothing. For whatever reason, that's what

his studies show. Here, of course, we have the shot being in

the clothing but to Dr. Omalu, ah, 90-year-old guy doesn't

know what he's talking about.

I brought up Dr. Omalu's prior case not to 23

24 embarrass him but because I felt that he made the same

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1 Ms. Brown brought up. These aren't necessarily in any order.

2 During the 911 call just now, something struck me and, that

3 is that when asked by 911 is he breathing, the answer was no,

4 he's not breathing. Remember, Dr. Omalu testified death is

not instantaneous. It just kind of struck me that if he's

6 not breathing, one other piece of the puzzle as far as evidence of the delay.

Another thing that struck me when Ms. Brown was

talking is that this idea and the text messages that Lana

says to her mom, are you going to flake on me again? Doesn't 10

11 that suggest it had happened before where she has these plans to go to L.A. to see her daughter and Harry controls the

situation and tells her no was Ms. Leibel cooperative, yeah. 13

If you're going to stage a suicide, don't you cooperate with

the police? You're not going to call it suicide and then not 15

cooperate, so that's all part of the plan. 16

If you struggle with this case at all, come back 17

18 to the science and the facts, the facts about what happened

with the shooting itself. And when you do that, consider

Dr. Omalu, a huge part of the defense case. It was most of

what Ms. Brown just talked about.

Let's think about what Dr. Omalu said as he 22

23 testified up here. Basically, nobody's opinion is as

24 important as his. When asked about opinions of paramedics

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1 mistakes in that case that he made in this case. He was

criticized in that case for making conclusory statements that

were not backed up by science without any kind of testing

4 being done and without any kind of backup in studies or

whatnot. He owned that mistake, I'll give him that, and he said he quit making that mistake but you know what, he did it

6

In his two-page conclusory report, where he cites

no studies or anything, he comes up with these opinions, and

he came up with more new ones as he sat up there on the

11 stand. Every time I would ask him something, he seemed to

12 more of his responses.

I'm going to read the quote to you again that I 13

discussed with Dr. Omalu the prior case with the Court struck

his testimony. It said, the Court has carefully considered

the parties' respective positions and based on the present --

THE COURT: Sir, you're going a little bit fast 17

for the interpreter.

MR. GREGORY: I'm sorry. I will start over. The

Court has carefully considered the parties' respective

positions and based on the present record finds the

22 methodology used by Dr. Omalu in reaching his opinions in

this case is not reliable. And even if it was found to be

reliable, his opinions are too speculative to fit the facts

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Page 65

Case No. 14-CR-0062

Dept. No. 1

The defense has built its case on unreliable 3 methodology of a doctor who was flown in to look at some 4 photographs and make opinions without looking at anything,

7 here that he made back in Pennsylvania.

5 without firing the gun, without going to the home, without

6 conducting any experiments. Dr. Omalu made the same mistakes

I implore you to accept the reasonable and reject

9 the unreasonable. When you return a verdict, I'm asking it

10 to be murder in the first degree with the use of a deadly

1 of the case.

11 weapon. Thank you.

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	Closing Arguments - Thursday February 5, 2015
PITOL REPORTERS 5 W. Fourth Street rson City, Nevada 5-882-5322	
	INTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT D FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

8 TATIANA LEIBEL, Defendant. 9 AFFIRMATION

STATE OF NEVADA, Plaintiff,

11 The Undersigned does hereby affirm that the following document DOES NOT contain the social security number of any person: (List of document(s) attached below) 12

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030

13 1) Trial -- 2/5/15

14 The undersigned does hereby affirm that the document named below DOES contain the social security number of a person as required by state or federal law or for the administration of a public program or for an application for a federal or state grant: (List of document(s) attached containing social security number information below) 15 16 17

18 19 20 (Your signature) 21

Page 66 STATE OF NEVADA CARSON CITY. 3 I, KATHY JACKSON, Nevada Certified Court Reporter Number 402, do hereby certify: That I was present in the District Court in Minden, in and for the State of Nevada, on February 5, 2015, for the purpose of reporting in verbatim stenotype notes the within-entitled Trial; 10 That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1 11 through 66, is a full, true and correct transcription of said 12 Trial. 13 14 Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 15th day 15 of June, 2015. 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

(17) Pages 65 - 67

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	CASE NO. 14-CR-00 €	RECEIVED	FILED
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6	IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA		
7	COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF NEVADA		
8	THE OTHER OF MENTALS		
9	THE STATE OF NEVADA.		
10	Plaintiff,		
11	VS.		VERDICT
12	TATIANA LEIBEL,		
13	Defendant.		
14		/	
15	We, the jury in the above-entitled matter, find the defendant, Tatiana Leibel, GUILTY of		
16	the crime of SECOND DEGREE MURDER.		
17	DATED this 5 day of February, 2015.		
18			
19	Was a firearm used in the commission of the offense? (check one)		
20	Yes X	No	
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23		FORE	PERSON 1000 Mertillage
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CASE NO.

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14-CR-0062 FILED

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2015 APR 21 PM 1: 15

APR 2 1 2015

Douglas County District Court Clerk BOBBIE R. WILLIAMS CLERK

BY MS LAZBERUTY

JUDGMENT OF CONVICTION

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

vs

TATIANA LEIBEL,

Defendant,

On the 14th day of April 2014, the defendant abovenamed appeared before the Court with counsel, Kristine L.

Brown, Esq. and entered a plea of NOT GUILTY to the crime of OPEN MURDER WITH THE USE OF A FIREARM, a category A felony, in violation of NRS 200.010(1) through NRS 200.090 and NRS 193.165 committed on or about February 23, 2014.

On the 5th day of February 2015, the defendant abovenamed appeared before this Court with counsel, Kristine L.

Brown, Esq., and Jamie Henry, Esq., and was found GUILTY BY

JURY VERDICT of the crime of SECOND DEGREE MURDER, a category A

felony, in violation of NRS 200.030 and NRS 200.010(1).

Pursuant to NRS 193.165, the jury further unanimously decided that the crime was committed with the use of a firearm.

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27 28 On the 20th day of April 2015, the defendant abovenamed appeared before the Court for sentencing with counsel, Kristine L. Brown, Esq., and Jamie Henry, Esq., and the State was represented by Deputy District Attorney Brian Filter, Esq. No sufficient legal cause was shown by the defendant as to why judgment should not be pronounced against her. The Court adjudged the defendant guilty of the crime of SECOND DEGREE MURDER, a category A felony, in violation of NRS 200.030 and NRS 200.010(1).

The Court then sentenced the defendant to imprisonment with the Nevada Department of Corrections for a maximum term of twenty-five (25) years with a minimum parole eligibility of ten (10) years. The Court then enhanced the sentence for the USE OF A FIREARM, pursuant to NRS 193.165 with a consecutive term of imprisonment with the Nevada Department of Corrections for a maximum term of five (5) years with a minimum parole eligibility of two (2) years. The Court further ordered the defendant to pay the following to the District Court Clerk: one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) as a fee for obtaining and testing samples of blood and saliva to determine genetic markers pursuant to NRS 176.0915(1), three dollars (\$3.00) as an administrative assessment fee pursuant to NRS 176.0623(1) for obtaining and testing the genetic markers, and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) as an Administrative Assessment Fee.

The Court further ordered that the defendant shall

pay the Court ordered fees of (\$150.00 + \$3.00 + \$25.00) within six (6) months of today's sentencing hearing.

This judgement constitutes a lien, pursuant to NRS 176.275. If the defendant does not pay the Fines and Fees as ordered by the Court, collection efforts may be undertaken against the defendant pursuant to the laws of this State.

The defendant is given credit for four hundred nineteen (419) days pre-sentence confinement time.

Dated this 21 day of April , 2015

NATHAN TOD YOUND DISTRICT JUDGE

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Case No. 14-CR-0062

MAY 1 1 2015

NOTICE OF APPEAL

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STATE OF NEVADA

Plaintiff,

vs.

TATIANA LEIBEL

Defendant

Notice is hereby given that Tatiana Leibel, defendant above named, hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of Nevada from the Judgment of Conviction entered in this matter on April 21, 2015.

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

Dated this // day of May, 2015.

Kristine L. Brown

Bar #'3026

1190 High School Street, Suite A Gardnerville, Nevada 89410

775-783-8642

Attorney for the defendant

-1-

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

TATIANA LEIBEL. Appellant, THE STATE OF NEVADA. Respondent.

No. 68113

FILED

DEC 18 2015

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

This is an appeal from a judgment of conviction, pursuant to a jury verdict, of second-degree murder with the use of a firearm. Ninth Judicial District Court, Douglas County; Nathan Tod Young, Judge.

First, appellant contends that the prosecutor committed misconduct during closing argument when he referenced O.J. Simpson's criminal trial, pointing out that the defense in Simpson's case focused on inadequacies in the police investigation. She further argues that this misconduct was exacerbated by the prosecutor's comment that a defense expert had a low opinion of local law enforcement. The district court overruled appellant's objection to the reference to Simpson's trial. To the extent the prosecutor's comments suggested that appellant's argument regarding the allegedly sub-par performance by law enforcement in this case was a ploy used by all defendants to escape liability since the Simpson verdict, they were inappropriate. See Valdez v. State, 124 Nev. 1172, 1191, 196 P.3d 465, 478 (2008); Williams v. State, 103 Nev. 106, 110, 734 P.2d 700, 703 (1987). However, any misconduct was harmless. See Valdez, 124 Nev. at 1189, 196 P.3d at 476 (describing non-constitutional harmless error). To the extent appellant independently challenges the prosecutor's comment regarding the defense expert, she did not object, and

SUPREME COURT NEVADA

(O) 1947A CO

has not demonstrated plain error affecting her substantial rights. See id. at 1190, 196 P.3d at 477. Accordingly, we

ORDER the judgment of conviction AFFIRMED.

Saitta , J

Gibbons

Pickering , J.

cc: Hon. Nathan Tod Young, District Judge
Jamie C. Henry
Kristine L. Brown
Attorney General/Carson City
Douglas County District Attorney/Minden
Douglas County Clerk

(O) 1947A A

¹Appellant also contends that the district court erred by "allow[ing] expert testimony on causation that did not rise to a level of reasonable scientific certainty." No relief is warranted because the expert testified at trial that his conclusions were to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty.

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JAN 14 2018

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA Douglas County District Court Clerk

TATIANA LEIBEL,

Appellant,

2016 JAN 14 PM 4: 30

Supreme Court No. 68113
District Court Case No. 14-CR-0062

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Respondent.

BOSEIE R. WILLIAMS K. WILFFRY FILED

JAN 20 2016

CLERK OF SUPREME

REMITTITUR

TO: Bobbie Williams, Douglas County Clerk /

Pursuant to the rules of this court, enclosed are the following:

Certified copy of Judgment and Opinion/Order. Receipt for Remittitur.

DATE: January 12, 2016

Tracie Lindeman, Clerk of Court

By: Joan Hendricks Deputy Clerk

cc (without enclosures):

Kristine L. Brown
Jamie C. Henry
Douglas County District Attorney/Minden
Attorney General/Carson City
Hon. Nathan Tod Young, District Judge

RECEIPT FOR REMITTITUR

JAN 1 5 2016

TRACIE K. LINDEMAN CLERK OF SUPREME COURT DEPUTY CLERK District Court Clerk

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16-00916