

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE
CONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATION REPORT

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1. CASE NO. MCI-00-216	2. INVESTIGATING TROOPER TR Jill Rocky	3. I.D. NO. 696	4. TOWN OF CRIME Rochester	5. TN. CD.	6. DATE OF REPORT 11/14/2000
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On November 14, 2000 at hours Detective Eric Baker of the Maine State Police and I conducted an audiotaped interview of:

Hinton, Jeremy
DOB [REDACTED]
720 B Central Avenue
Dover, NH 03820
[REDACTED]
Portsmouth McDonalds
[REDACTED]

The interview occurred in an interview room at the Portsmouth Police Department. A transcript of the interview is attached to this report.

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INTERVIEW OF JEREMY HINTON

JR I'm Trooper Jill Rockey of the New Hampshire State Police. I am in an interview room at the Portsmouth New Hampshire Police Department. It is November 14th in the year 2000 and it's 11:21 hours in the morning. In the room with me is Detective Eric Baker of the Maine State Police and if you could just say your name and spell your last name for me.

JH Jeremy Hinton, H-I-N-T-O-N.

JR Okay Jeremy and you know you're being recorded right now.

JH Yes I do.

JR Do you mind if we record this interview?

JH Nope.

JR Okay. Jeremy we just want to go over a few things. Um this is obviously in regards to the death of Cassidy. Ah have you had any contact with anybody since her death?

JH Um I, I talked to I think everyone that was at the police station that night. Um I've been around ah we've pretty much been kinda hanging out at Bruce's house with Chad. Um he hasn't really wanted to go back to his house because of all the media and stuff. So we've been with him and his parents and sister and his brother-in-law. And Amanda I talked to Amanda. And I've talked to Jeff Marshall outside the police station that night. I haven't talked to them since.

JR Okay so you've had contact with them since that Thursday night?

JH Um hmm.

JR With, with Chad and his family.

JH Yep

JR And they're staying at Bruce Aube's house?

JH Bruce Aube's, yeah.

JR Okay.

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EB Where is that located?

JH In Rochester, New Hampshire.

EB Do you know the address?

JH No.

EB It's alright.

JH I know the phone number.

EB Okay. What's the phone number?

JH [REDACTED]

EB Okay.

JR Um what have you guys been talking about?

JH Really after the first day we haven't talked much about um the situation at all. Um, but the main conversation really is just you know should Chad and Amanda be around each other. Um that's been the main gist of the conversation. We haven't really talked a lot about the details of the case. I, I just personally just talking to parents they, they told me to you know be there and ah, you know, try not to discuss as many specifics as you can. You know cause obviously it just makes you more involved.

EB Your parents have told you to be with Chad?

JH They told me that if I choose to support him and be a friend of him just don't you know obviously don't talk as close as you can as possible, it's human nature like you said to you know it's gonna come up and things like that.

EB Um hmm.

JH As far as a lot of the details of the case we, we really haven't talked about it.

JR What would it, you were saying though that there were discussions about whether Amanda or Chad should be together?

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JH I, I just to me, I didn't, you know. Just judging from my interrogation, I assumed Chad was a suspect and you know I just I told him the same thing you know, you know the more you talk to Amanda you know that, that it just you know. Someone obviously hit this child and I just told him. you know, you don't know who it was. All you know is if you didn't do it then you know you could be talking to one or two people that did it and that's just going to make you more you know responsible.

JR Why do you think Chad didn't do it?

JH I just, I just know Chad around his kids and there's I just know what type of person he is. I. he's just, I'd definitely would know by now if he did it. I just think he would have told me whether he, if he even laid a, a finger on her, I'm, I'm pretty sure he would have confided that in me.

JR So you up, up to this point nobody's told you that he laid a finger on her.

JH Well he told me that, like I told you that night before he told me he grabbed her that one time and.

EB Grabbed her how?

JH Her chin.

EB Can you describe it more?

JH It was just like this.

EB So what you're doing is your taking your fingers and you're putting 'em up to your chin?

JH Yep.

EB And how did he do it? Did he shake her head when he did that?

JH Nope. He just said he grabbed her.

EB Did you witness this?

JH Nope, no.

JR Did he say why he grabbed her?

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JH Nope. All I asked him was if he ever hit her? Cause you know I, that's just something that I would want to know. I, I don't want to stand by a guy that did that. And he said, Jeremy I'll be honest with you, you know, and I told the police the only time I ever hit her that, he's like the only time I ever touched her was when I put my hands around her face like that.

JR Okay. Well you know we've done exhaustive interviews. Would it surprise you to learn that other people have witnessed Chad doing more than that to Cassidy?

JH Yeah, it would definitely surprise me.

JR Why?

JH I, I just don't you know the biggest thing I can think of is a lot of people know Chad you know and I probably you know a lot of people have called me, I got 5 phone calls that first morning alone.

EB From who?

JH Um just co-workers, friends. People that you know me and Chad have mutual contact with on a daily basis or a weekly basis.

EB Why don't you give me some names?

JH Um Melissa Allard, she's a long time employee of him in Rochester. Ah Stephanie Chick. who's kind of our one of our photo-copying people. Um, Chad's boss, Larry Lane, well not his boss his co-worker. He's the senior area supervisor, Chad is an area supervisor. Um, our boss Bob McDugal, we both kinda get in touch with on a regular basis. Um, you know Melissa Allard's daughter Mandy has um, she hasn't recently but when Chad was kinda going through his divorce thing she helped with childcare, the kids and stuff.

JR Okay well I'm here to tell you we have had people tell us that Chad has done more than grab her by the face.

JH Um hmm.

JR Okay and he has. We've gotten similar stories from several people. So he is lying to you. He, he has done more than just grab her in the face.

JH Who's, who's told you this?

JR. I, I can't.

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JH Yeah.

JR The investigation is still on-going but, but yeah we, we know that Chad has done more than grab her by the face one time.

EB I, I'm having a real problem here with you, okay.

JH Okay.

EB I've been doing this for a long time such as the detective here from New Hampshire, okay. And there's a real problem because you're in protecting someone that you know information about. You don't, you're not a clean person yourself. I mean we do a little bit of backgrounds, alright. You're not the cleanest people in the world. I mean you've had contact with the law before. Alright.

JH I have?

EB Sure, we're gonna and I can show you some records later on, after we get done with the interview, okay?

JH Sure.

EB All right. But what's going on is this is that you're sitting there looking at this guy is, he's, who can fire and hire you, Chad?

JH Nope,

EB Who's your boss then?

JH Chad's one of my boss's.

EB Okay but could he recommend you be fired?

JH Not anymore, he's on a leave of absence.

EB Could he have at any time...

JH Sure.

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EB ...prior to this. If, if something happens with Chad. If this goes where Chad is, is cleared of everything and he's no longer a suspect, could he turn around and reprimand you or give you a hard time over this whole incident?

JH Ah, he's my boss.

EB Okay, do you, are you in fear of Chad what so ever?

JH Not in the least bit.

EB Okay. I am really concerned that maybe you're not telling us everything because I, I'm, I get that sense, and when I start to get the sense usually I'm correct.

JH Okay.

EB Okay. You and Chad have talked and you know what's going on you've been around and seen what's going on in Chad's household. You know what's going on. Was, was Kassidy a disciplinary problem? Was that his way of disciplining Kassidy at all.

JH I've never saw Chad spank or discipline Kassidy.

JR We're not asking what, just what you just what you've seen?

JH Well I, all I, all I can talk about is what I seen. I mean he's here like making it sound like I have something to do with this and I...

JR It's not, Jeremy, we're not saying you did anything. But we're saying, we feel you have information. We, we have talked...

JH I...

JR Let me just finish.

JH Yeah.

JR We've talked to a lot of people. We know Chad didn't want to grab Kassidy by the face, we know that. And there are people that have witnessed that, that have reported it okay. I, in New Hampshire...

JH Then you should talk to them I, I haven't witnessed it, I haven't seen it, no ones talked to me about it.

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JR Let me, let me just finish please, okay? Ah somebody did call our department of children, youth and family's.

JH Yeah it was Chad's ex-wife.

JR Okay so, so you know that. So, so obviously she saw things too. Like...

JH She saw the same bruises I saw.

JR I think she saw more than just what you saw. That, that you described to us.

JH I, she, I was with her that Wednesday night when she, that's when she told me about, she had called.

JR That, that...

EB What Wednesday night were you with her?

JH The Wednesday night before it happened, I guess.

EB Before Cassidy got, the night before Cassidy died?

JH Yeah. Yeah.

EB You were with her and what did she exactly tell you?

JH We were just talking about Chad and Amanda's relationship and I had kinda told her about the bruises I saw um that two previous Tuesdays. And she said, yeah I know she's like I, I called DCYF, because you know someone's hitting that kid and it's, I know it's not Chad and I don't want to get him in trouble. And I said oh, okay. I said I'm glad you called. I, I obviously wasn't smart enough to do it.

JR She said what? She said she knew it wasn't Chad?

JH Yep

JR Okay. Um...

EB Have you ever seen Amanda, Amanda ever hit Cassidy?

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JH I've seen Amanda spank Kassidy on the butt. And I've seen Amanda kind of pick up Kassidy in a harsh way and I've seen Amanda kind a push Kassidy up the stairs to her room and I've seen Amanda lock her not lock her just shut the door she wasn't big enough to get out. Just left her in there crying for ten, fifteen minutes.

EB Okay lets get back then you've seen her shove her up the stairs, as in shove her down against the stairs?

JH No, just like, you know get going. I don't, I don't...

EB Did you see it as over abuse? Or, and then you said also about picking her up?

JH I don't think, I don't necessarily think it's abuse. I wouldn't raise my kids that way you know I wasn't ever pushed up the steps but I'm, I'm not a parent I don't you know all I know is how my parents raised me I don't have...

EB Well did your parents ever beat you like that?

JH No my dad gave me the belt and gave me a spanking.

EB Like most normal parents would do?

JH Right, that's what I...

EB But obviously there was a lot of bruising on this child that's not normal.

JH I...

EB Did you walk out of your, did you walk out of your house with bruises?

JH Nope.

EB Broken bones.

JH Nope.

EB Hemorrhaging?

JH Nope.

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EB Anything at all? All right so don't you think this is a little unusual to be going on in this household? Kassidy starts, Amanda starts dating this guy Chad?

JH Um hmm.

EB And Kassidy does not have as far as we know any signs of bruising or any, any problems. Now she's dating Chad for a little while and all the sudden Kassidy's becoming more and more bruised. Now tell me where, how am I going to figure this out. Why is all the sudden Kassidy getting more and more bruised while she's dating this guy? And then she moves in with this guy and more and more is going on to this poor young child. It's seems to me that no one around your little group gives two shits whatever happened to Kassidy. Here's a two year old girl who I go to an autopsy and I watch this child, this child has to be basically mutilated in order to get all the physical evidence that we're receiving to get out of her and we see a little bit more than of what's going on and none of you guys care. And that's what's really getting to me is that how do you not care about a two year old dying. You'd rather protect someone for, for this or would you rather be able to prove that there is something going on here and tell us what's going on. Because obviously you don't give two shits what happened to this kid.

JH All right...

EB And I can't believe this.

JH Well first I want to say, I don't appreciate you telling me I don't care.

EB Well then...

JH No, no...

EB You need to be honest.

JH ...no, no..

EB You need to be honest.

JH No, I am being honest with you. I am getting quite upset because I'm the one that's gone to bed at night knowing that I saw bruises on that kid and I didn't call someone. Okay.

EB Okay.

JH I'm living with that. And I don't need you to tell me that I'm living with that okay?

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EB Did you..you didn't do **anything**

JH I did not do anything **wrong** in this situation.

EB Well if you witnessed something and you know things...

JH I did not witness anything.

EB and you know what Chad is saying and you know what's going on. You're hangin around, you know what's going on all over the weekend. You know what's going on...

JH Chad is saying he never touched the kid. I pulled Chad off to the side and I said I need to know one thing I need to know if you ever beat that kid in a way that was not appropriate. And he said no. That's all I know about that.

EB Well then you know that he has domestic violence he has abuse against, he has abuse against Tristan, he's got, we know he's been beating on Amanda just as well. He's a control freak as much as anybody else I've seen in my life. So what are, you tell me, how am I supposed to think about this when no one in this little group is stepping forward to take responsibility to what happened to this kid?

JH It, it, it I didn't it's not my responsibility to come forward. I did not see anything I did not hear anything all I can tell you is what I know and what I see. And Chad, yes he's beaten Tristan. yes, I don't know if he's beaten Amanda. I don't know. I have no idea.

EB The, the weekend of his birthday did you go over there for his birthday?

JH I did.

EB Okay.

JH I went over there Saturday.

EB Went over there Saturday. Was Amanda or Kassidy there?

JH No they were not.

EB Do you know why they were not there?

JH Amanda like I told you on that Sunday Amanda told me that Kassidy had bruises on her and that's why she wasn't there.

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EB Did you inquire why there was bruises on Kassidy?

JH No I, I didn't.

EB Did, did, did Amanda tell you that Chad said that maybe it's a good idea for her to leave? Cause there is, he doesn't want his family to see, to see the bruises on this child?

JH No I did not, did not know that?

EB I, I mean you're a manager, you're a manager of a store.

JH Yes.

EB So I'm kinda thinking that you do have some smarts. Right, I mean you're not, you're not a stupid person at all?

JH Not at all.

EB Okay you do have common sense?

JH Sure.

EB Right?

JH Yep.

EB And I, and I, I can see that in you. I'm not saying you're a bad guy. I'm just wondering what the hell is going on with this group here when no one will, will live up to what mistakes have been made. And if someone's protecting somebody, I, I really have a hard time with people protecting people.

JH Well, no, no..

EB And that's what I'm concerned about Jeremy.

JH I have a hard time with people making accusations about someone they don't know. You know Amanda said to me Jeff hit that kid.

EB We've already, we're, we're taking, you're not the first person in this case that we're talking to.

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JH I, I understand that but you're asking me to comment on something. If Chad hit a kid that died, I would say something. I'm not a stupid guy.

EB That's what I'm saying.

JH You know what I'm saying? Okay I'm having trouble going to bed at night thinking I didn't call anyone knowing this kid was beaten. I would definitely say something if Chad was beating this kid and definitely wouldn't be over there you know standing by him and supporting him. I'm not stupid you know what I'm saying? I was raised with great values I'm a Christian I believe in life. I don't believe in abortion I wouldn't fucking be doing this if I didn't think Chad was, was clean I wouldn't I would not do it. I would say Chad I'm here if you need anything if he got in contact with me I would be a friend. But I would not be standing by him the way I am if I wasn't.

JR Jeremy I, I do believe you cared about Kassidy, I do. And I know you have...

JH I'll be honest with you I, I didn't, the only time I ever saw Kassidy, I tried playing with her a couple times, she didn't play with me she just, all she ever did was sit there on the couch.

JR Well, but let me finish. I, I, I do believe you cared about Kassidy. But I'm just telling you you're putting your faith in the wrong person. I'm telling you that. Okay and I understand it's very difficult because Chad is your friend and you want to believe him. Nobody wants to believe that one of their best friends in the world is capable of hurting a child. Nobody wants to believe that. But I'm telling you that that's what we're finding. And it's talking to you, it's talking to other people. But people are helping Chad because they do want to believe Chad. They're, they're believing him when he says I didn't do it. I only grabbed her once. People are believing him and that's not what happened. The more we talk to people the more information we are getting about what people actually saw. And more people did see things. Then they, then they've lead you to believe.

JH Well...

JR You know people in that group they have seen things you know. And we are starting to get those stories and you know ah Trooper Baker did go to see that autopsy. That girl went through a hell of a lot for the five weeks she lived in that home. And it was I mean broken bones you know things she never got treated for. Why do you think she was crying? You know in that house.

JH I, I

JR She was in pain. Physical pain and she had nobody comforting her. Nobody taking care of her. Nobody telling her they loved her. Nobody holding her and hugging her. Do you know how imperative that is for a child that age to be nurtured and loved?

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JH I understand that.

JR And nobody did that. And now, now you know people are giving us a little at a time. And there's a person walking around that killed a baby.

JH Uh huh. Nope, I...

JR Do you understand why we might be a little frustrated?

JH No I understand and if I had any information I would tell you.

JR It's not just that this kid is walking around it's that people are protecting him. And they're helping him. And they're supporting him.

JH I'm supporting him, I'm not doing the other two. I'm not protecting or helping him. I don't think I need to, to be honest with you I don't believe he did it. I haven't talked to all the people you've seen. I haven't seen the autopsy like you have. But I know Chad. And I'm, I think I'm just as good as judging character as you are. And..

EB Let me ask you this.

JH Okay.

EB You get, are you in debt at all from gambling?

JH Me? No.

EB We, we know you guys are gambling we've talked about this before.

JH Sure.

EB Okay. Do you, does Chad, do you owe him any money for gambling?

JH I don't owe Chad a dime.

EB Okay.

JH I never borrowed money from him from him.

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EB Okay excuse me for just a second. Any illegal drug activity that, have you and yourself, I'm not going to ask you where? Who? But...

JH Sure.

EB ...illegal drug activity?

JH I've never once, ever smoked marijuana. I've never done any kind of cocaine.

EB So you've never had any drugs at all?

JH I've never been around drugs in my entire life.

EB Okay so you've been clean cut graduated from high school?

JH Sure.

EB Graduated college too?

JH Never had a beer before 'til I got to college, yep.

EB Okay. Where'd you go to college at?

JH UNH.

EB UNH, okay. So, you're a four year graduate business degree?

JH Um...

EB I'm assuming.

JH ...nope sports management and a minor in business.

EB Okay. So, I mean you, you're a level headed guy.

JH Um hmm.

EB Alright. Do you see where we're coming from when we've been doing this investigation and what's going on?

JH Sure.

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EB Do you understand if we've got to start, we're puttin pieces together of the puzzle.

JH Um hmm.

EB And the puzzles are starting to really fit together. And, you know, there's some things going on that maybe you don't want to focus on or you're just trying to, it's none of your business so, you're not gonna ask the questions?

JH Yep.

EB Can, can that be true?

JH Nope I, I've racked my brains you know I've really I've maybe slept four hours most in one night since this happened.

EB Okay.

JH And most of the time I'm thinking about this.

JR Jeremy let me ask you this. We were talking coming over here about your girlfriend.

JH Um hmm.

JR And how stressful her job is.

JH Um hmm.

JR And how it really gets to her and how sometimes she took that out on you and that was wrong.

JH Yup.

JR Can you imagine how frustrating it is to sit there every day and have women and their families come in and tell her the horrible things that happened to them and you know, things aren't always done, you can't always prove a case against somebody. That, that's frustrating. That eats at you.

JH Sure. Yup.

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JR And you're just getting a taste of that now. Because you know something happened to Kassidy. Well the three of us can agree on that?

JH Oh yeah. No, I...

JR Somebody...

JH I'll even...

JR ...beat that girl and she died.

JH I'll even admit that it's one of three people. And I know all three of those people.

JR Who, who are the three people?

JH It, it, it's, the only way I can see it it had to be Chad, Amanda or Jeff. That's the...

JR Okay.

JH ...the only way. One of those three people.

JR So you know it's one of three people?

JH Sure.

JR Okay. Which one of those three people has been arrested for assault?

JH Jeff.

JR Okay.

JH I don't know about Amanda I know Jeff's had, had a couple restraining orders on him.

JR Right but did, did he ever, yes you're right. Jeff has had restraining orders.

JH Um hmm.

JR Um was Jeff ever arrested?

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JH Right. I mean they're restraining orders that the guy comes into McDonalds and I don't I'm not friends with Jeff and he would brag about them you know to me. Ah to me that doesn't sound like a guy that's playing with a full deck.

JR Well um let me ask you this? Jeff's been completely cooperative.

JH Um hmm.

JR Jeff's gone to every interview they asked.

EB Jeff's taken a poly, Jeff's taken a polygraph.

JR Jeff's taken a polygraph test.

JH Sure.

JR Who's got an attorney and won't talk to the police?

JH I, I asked Chad if he's been contacted by the police he said he hasn't.

JR That's cause he asked for an attorney and he doesn't want to talk to us.

EB That's because he walked out of his interview and said he wanted an attorney. Why would you just get up and walk out of an interview and ask for an attorney?

JH Well I mean, no offense, but if I was sitting her today and I was accused of murder in the way that you guys are saying he did it I would ask for an attorney to. That's just common sense.

JR It...

EB Is it or is it a TV thing where everybody say's oh my God I've talked to the police and need a thing..

JR Jeremy let me just say...

JH Not in this day and age.

JR ...if you're innocent, and somebody accuses you of something, you're gonna be bullshit. You are gonna be bullshit. If I walked up to you and said, Jeremy you killed Cassidy, you would be angry because you, you did care.

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JH Um hmm.

JR When you saw the bruises you talked to Chad about it, you know. You did talk to Amanda about it. It bothered you.

JH Yep.

JR And if somebody accused you something that you didn't do, you would be bullshit. You wouldn't even, an attorney wouldn't even come to your mind, because you'd be there, that's bullshit I never did that, that. You'd be angered by that. It would infuriate you.

JH Definitely.

JR Right. Is Chad angry?

JH He was pretty upset about it, yeah.

JR Upset? But he gets an attorney he didn't...

JH He didn't get an attorney he, he doesn't (A) he doesn't have an attorney.

JR Yeah he does.

JH No he doesn't, he doesn't. He call, he tried calling a few on Friday. They did not call him back and then he um he went and finally talked to one on Friday. I called him from Windham. I was meeting with our boss to talk about how we're gonna run his area when he's gone. And I con, I called Chad back from...

EB From where?

JH Windham, New Hampshire is where our...

EB Oh Windham New Hampshire?

JH Yeah.

EB Okay. There's a Windham, Maine. I was making sure.

JH Oh no, nope Windham, New Hampshire. I called, you know Bruce's, see how he was doing. They said he was talking to an attorney. I, I didn't ask him, you know, why are you talking to an

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attorney. I asked him if he retained one. He said he hadn't retained one. That's, that's all I know about an attorney.

EB So you think Chad's going to be willing to come in and talk a polygraph and talk to us again?

JH I, I, I would say he would be, yeah.

EB I mean as you as a friend would you give him that advice as say listen if you had nothing to do with this you should be...

JH Sure.

EB ...you should be going forward and talking to the police.

JH No doubt.

EB Have you given him that advice?

JH We haven't talked about it.

EB Well don't you think it's probably time it's been four days now. Don't you think it's probably time that someone sits down as smart as you are.

JH Um hmm.

EB And say Chad you know I'm here for you, you need to get this cleared up. Because I'm gonna tell you right now, until we can figure everything out, I'm, we're going to be making sure that we hound anybody for interviews and going over things and watching people and everything else.

JH Um hmm.

EB And we'll become the worse nightmare in people's lives.

JH Well I, I believe it.

JR Believe this to, Jeremy, it, it, you said it was one of three people. And I think you're right. Of the three people...

JH I honestly believe that.

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JR ...you, but you named three people off, that, that you said could do it. Jeff is going up to take a polygraph today. And, and I'm gonna guarantee you that's gonna eliminate him as a suspect.

JH You said he's taking it, you just said he's all ready taken it, I mean...

EB He's in the process. He's in the process it's today.

JR It's today. It's today.

JH Okay.

JR He, he is I, I don't know what time it was I'm not sure.

JH But I, I have a question for you guys. I don't I mean are you guys telling me the truth about you know when you say to me, I mean you just told me that he's taken a polygraph test all ready and passed.

EB He's taking it and I'm sure he's going to pass, but I didn't mention he has.

JH But I'm just telling you if you rewounded that and played that, you told me he took it and he's passed.

EB I didn't say he's passed. I said he's taking it and he's probably going to pass.

JR And we believe he's going to pass.

EB I have no problem in that. Hey the guys coming up to take the test that's a step in right direction.

JH Sure. Nope.

EB You've got to give him that okay. I can't give you the time...

JH What happens if he fails it though.

EB If he fails it we're going to deal with it in that manner. But I can tell you right now from everything that I see if he fails it I'd be very, very, very surprised.. Like I said I've done this long enough to know. Alright. And you better understand that, that, you know, you can still help out this case. I mean you're a smart man, you're in a great position you've got a bright future ahead of you. You know, to get involved in this type of case and sit back and not help to try to help it and get it taken care of could be a black mark against you later on in your career. I don't know how. I mean it

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could be, I don't know they, if you get charged for some reason because you helped, withheld information, I don't know.

JH I don't know, I, I'm not withholding...

EB I'm just telling you.

JH ...information and I, I have no doubts whatsoever that nothing's gonna, you know, besides the fact that I have to live with the fact that I did nothing,...

JR But the, but the fact is...

JH ...that's it.

JR but you did nothing before.

JH Yep.

JR You can do something now.

JH If I could do something I would do it. You know, if Chad comes to me and says, Jeremy I beat that kid, help me out. I, I would of said, okay, and I would have been out of that house in less than 5 seconds.

JR Do you, do you remember the last time we talked to you though? You said Chad was not forthcoming about Tristan and you really had to poke and prod at him. Do you remember that, you did?

JH Yeah, yep.

JR I mean you said he minimized...

JH Nope, I said he minimized it.

JR ... everything he did it.

JH Yep.

JR You know, and maybe it's the same thing with Cassidy? I, you know I don't think he's a monster in the sense that he intentionally did things to this child.

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JH Um hmm.

JR But I don't think he **realizes** the full magnitude of the things he did to this child and how they affected her body. I, I don't think Chad's a, a malicious person. I don't think he's a serial killer that goes out there with the intent to **inflict** physical pain...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...on a same child. I, I **don't** believe that. I don't.

JH Okay.

JR But I think Chad may **have** done things to her, you know, just done things to her and didn't realize the full ramifications of what he was doing. So maybe when he tells you it's something he believes. That doesn't mean that, that he didn't do things to her that, that caused her to die.

JH Um hmm. I, I don't ah **he**, he would of told me, like, he would have told me before when I. I honestly believe that...

JR But, but why would he...

JH ...you know, before, before she died...

JR I'm sorry.

JH ...that Tuesday when I asked him about the bruises, we weren't talking about murder. We were just talking about, did you hit this kid Chad? And he's says, no I do not hit her. I mean we weren't talking about murder.

JR He was so embarrassed about her bruises he told Amanda not to bring her to the house. He did not seek medical attention for her, ever.

JH Um hmm.

JR Ever. They did not take that kid to a doctor from the time that girl moved in, she did not go to the doctor once with all her **physical** ailments. Why would it embarrass him, with all those bruises on that little girl, if he **wasn't** responsible for it?

JH Probably cause he **doesn't** want to say, hey you know this girl's bringing the baby to the baby sitters, she's getting beaten, and I haven't done anything about it. I don't know. I'm not sure, I'm not sure.

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JR I'm not talking about now.

JH Yeah.

JR That she's dead.

JH Nope.

JR I'm talking about before.

JH Yep. I'm talking about his birthday weekend that's what you're talking about right?

JR Any there, there were several instances that we're learning about. What I'm saying is, yes, in that particular case I am. Why...

JH But in that, in that case Amanda's done the same thing.

JR ...why would you have your girlfriend, why would you have your girlfriend not bring your baby to a party 'cause you're embarrassed by the bruises? You are? Cause what do you thing would have happened if Kassidy had shown up at that party with all those bruises? What do you think would have happened? People would have what started questioning what was going on at home?

JH Sure. But Amanda brought her the next day, over.

EB After his family had left.

JR No his family made the, the lunch Sunday we sat there and watched football.

EB So that the family saw all these bruises as well?

JH I don't know which family members but they saw Amanda and Kassidy before. I'm pretty sure. I'm not, I mean I'm thinking back now, but I'm pretty sure that they saw her.

EB And you were there when they saw her?

JH I was, no I'm not saying that.

EB So you don't know for sure if anybody saw her?

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JH She, no she came over to Bruce's to drop off presents. And then she said, where's everyone. I said they're all still at Chad's house. And then she went over to Chad's house.

EB How do you know she went to Chad's house?

JH That's where she told me she was going. And then she came back shortly there after.

EB Did she say she had been at Chad's?

JH I don't, it's so long ago, I honestly...

JR She could of left, if she was gone for that short of time, she could of left the kid in the car. My understanding was she did not bring her in. They did not see her that day.

JH I, I, I don't know. I'm not going to comment about that.

JR No I'm just telling you that that's the information we have right now is that they didn't see her that day.

JH Ah I don't I, I don't know. She said I'm going over to Chad's. I said okay. And Chad didn't get there till probably half-time of the game.

EB Okay.

JH I'm not, he said he got a couple calls from work. Some of them were calling to give him crap, where was he? We had his, you know, we had his cake. It was on and stuff. But he didn't.

JR But let me tell you, Jeremy, people that abuse children do not share it with their friends.

JH No.

JR They don't share it with their best friends. Just like people, you know, once he gets arrested and he starts having problems his, with his wife and you press him about it,...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...he tells you things. But I guarantee you he's minimizing it.

JH Yep.

JR I guarantee it. He's minimizing what he did to his wife. And I'm sure she did too.

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JH No I, I think I have a pretty full understanding of what happened now.

JR Yeah, but it took you a while to figure it out didn't it? Was Chad forthcoming with you? Did he ever...

JH No.

JR ...sit down over a beer and say,...

JH Yep.

JR hey, by the way I hit my wife.

JH We sat down after it happened and.

JR After but I'm saying did he ever sit down with you before...

JH Before,...

JR he was arrested...

JH ...no.

JR ...and say to you, uh, you know geez?

EB Before he was in trouble?

JH No.

JR Did he ever say hey I, I knocked my wife around?

JH Nope.

JR No they don't share that.

EB But, you know, knocking a wife around you know is a, is a bad thing.

JH Yep.

EB But we always hold kids on a higher...

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JH Oh no doubt.

EB Right.

JH Sure. Yep.

EB So do you, how do you think he's gonna, do you think he's just gonna come out and tell you this?

JH I, I don't know I, I when I say I'm one of his closest friends I mean I'm one of his closest friends I just think I just think I would know. You know I don't think the guy would lie to me. We just, we, he's, he's a type of guy if you sit down and you look him directly in the eye and you ask him a question and he loves and respects your opinion...

EB Um hmm.

JH ...he's gonna answer your question.

EB Okay.

JH And I honestly believe that.

EB Okay.

JH And that's just...

JR Would he lie to the police?

JH No I, he wouldn't.

EB He's had a lot of run ins with the police though.

JH I know his, his days in high school were pretty wild. I don't know if you know, but.

JR They weren't just high school. He's had uh, run ins with the police as an adult.

JH I, the only one I know of is the Tristan one.

JR Okay so again there's another thing he hasn't been forthcoming with you about, right?

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JH Sure, uh, if there's other things. I, I mean I don't, he never told me.

JR Uh, but that's my only point, Jeremy, that's the only point I'm trying to make to you right now. When people do things that are screw ups they're not gonna share them with you. You're his friend he wants you to have respect for him.

JH Um hmm.

JR He wants you to like him. He knows you're a good guy. He knows you wouldn't put up with that crap.

JH Yep.

JR He's not going to share that stuff with you.

JH Maybe that's why he...

EB You're probably you're probably the cleanest out of the bunch of people that we're talking to.

JH Um Hmm.

EB Okay. As for smartness, as in for morals, and everything else, you're probably the cleanest out of the bunch of people that we're talking to.

JH Sure.

EB You know what I'm saying? You know I have, you know I'm just, I'm just can't fathom that no one is going out, forth in trying to help this case to go forward, okay? But you have the opportunity at this point to, to make some phone calls or talk to some people to get some people to come in and get things cleared up.

JH Um hmm.

EB Okay. And this case won't go away we will stay right on top of this for as long as it takes.

JH I hope it does. Like I, I, I don't think I'll ever have closure, you know, I, I have two people working, well one person working for me that won't have closure until this happens.

JR How do you think you could have closure from this?

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JH I, just having answers and knowing, you know, who did it. Like, just cause, you know? You know, especially like lets say, you know, and I don't believe it is, lets say it's Chad. You know what I'm saying. I would need to know that. Cause here's a person that I honestly respect a great deal, and, hey. And there's Amanda someone that I've, you know I'd say is a pretty good friend. You know, obviously I didn't know her before I met Chad but, you know, we've talked, we've hung out pretty much most of the summer and, you know. I, I

EB Did she ever confide in you?

JH Never talked like about a lot of personal stuff. Um, you know the, the only time I think of us ever having kind of a deep conversation was, you know, she ended up getting drunk one night and, you know she just talked about stuff, she worried about if Chad was the right man for her and, you know she talked a little bit about things that happened with her dad when she was younger.

EB What ever happened with her and her dad?

JH She just, she just said that he had sexually touched her in a way that wasn't appropriate. She was like I don't want to talk about it.

EB Is that her dad, step-dad or did she say?

JH Ah, I don't know, I think her parents are still married.

EB Okay. Did she ever talk about her daughter?

JH Not a lot.

EB What'd she talk about, what'd she say when she'd talk about her daughter?

JH She really talked more about Chad's kids than she'd talk about her own daughter. I don't know, I'm just thinking back about a conversation we had about her daughter maybe and...

EB What was it?

JH I honestly, I can't remember talking, she never had her daughter all summer long when she came up, whenever. I saw Cassidy, you know, a couple occasions. One I can remember was, ah I went over to Chad's and we were just playing wiffle ball and we had a cookout. But I mean she was out on the trampoline with Kyle.

EB Um hmm.

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JH And Kassidy was inside when, you know someone, oh, her brother was there.

EB Who's brother?

JH Amanda's brother. He was there watching Kassidy inside. That was really the only time this summer I can think of that I actually saw Kassidy. Ah I really didn't start seeing Kassidy a lot until probably, I, it's right around the beginning of October, when she pretty much started staying at Chad's from this point.

EB Okay. Well from the time that you started seeing, the first time you saw Kassidy, when she was inside, any difference between what Kassidy looked like? Any, any difference? Think about it.

JH Um hmm. I...

EB When you first started seeing Kassidy from the very first time that you saw Kassidy, to the last time you saw Kassidy, which was when, when was the last time you saw Kassidy?

JH The last time that I saw Kassidy was that Tuesday.

EB You saw Kassidy on Tuesday?

JH No, the two Tuesdays, the, that, when I told you I saw the bruises.

EB Okay. The ah, now think about it. Look at the time frame that you're talking about?

JH Um hmm.

EB Anything change for Kassidy's appearance?

JH Ah, I mean the time that I, you know, the first time I asked Amanda about the bruises was that weekend of Chad's birthday. Uh, you know that Saturday.

EB But did you, the, were the first weekend you saw Kassidy, when she was there...

JH Um hmm.

EB ...and the brother was taking care of her. And you saw her that weekend.

JH I don't...

EB Did you see any bruises?

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JH I don't remember seeing any bruises.

EB But, but see you, because why, because there probably wasn't any bruises at that time?

JH More than likely I would say.

EB Cause you didn't, it didn't stick out at you at that time.

JH Um hmm.

EB But obviously these bruises, what, two weeks prior to her death, stood out to you?

JH Yup.

EB Do you see what I'm saying?

JR How long

JH When did, when did she start going to Jeff's babysitting? As the babysitter?

EB I don't know the exact date on that.

JH I noticed it right, it was pretty much right around that time, right?

EB But did you see, but you see what I'm saying though?

JH Yeah. No,...

EB Okay.

JH ...I understand what you're saying.

EB I know...

JH I, I mean

EB ...what you're trying to say and you're trying to find all, all kinds of suspects.

JH No I, I'm just...

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EB I understand that.

JH ...saying I thought of the same question you did, you know what I'm saying? I sit at home at night, sleeping wondering, that day on the trampoline when Amanda was with Kyle, did I see bruises on Cassidy?

JR Right and you know what...

JH And for whatever reason, I just want to know.

JR I and I, we want to know too.

JH Um hmm.

JR We feel we do know. And, and let me ask you this, Jeff's, whether he's taken it already he's. he is consented to a polygraph and you know why? Cause he wants to be cleared of this.

JH Um hmm.

JR He doesn't want the stigma of being somebody who beat a child to death on him. He cares. I'm sure a lot of it's for himself, but he doesn't want anybody to think he did that.

JH But maybe...

JR Chad on the other hand doesn't care what people think. He just doesn't want anybody to be able to prove anything against him. He, he, he's not talking. I, I don't know what he told you, but he asked for a lawyer and he refused to talk. Since last Thursday.

JH Has anyone gone and talked to him and said, you know, do you want to come in with your lawyer for questioning?

JR Well it, it, once somebody asks for a lawyer he is the, we can't talk to him.

JH Um hmm.

JR Do you understand that? When you ask for a lawyer...

JH No I, I don't not really.

JR Yeah. No, when you ask for a lawyer, we can't go up to you and say, do you want to answer questions, again. We can't. They have to come to us.

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EB They have to come to us.

JR And is Chad coming to us to clear his name? No. Chad doesn't care about clearing his name. Chad cares about us not finding information.

JH Amanda and Chad are the two people that know everything that's going on in this case.

JH Um hmm.

EB And you know why we're here with you is because you're telling us that you're his best friend.

JH Yup.

EB But, believe it or not it you may think I'm an ass for what I've been saying to you, okay. Which is fine.

JH I, I respect that it's your job.

EB But, now, just listen to what I say, okay. But I really do think that you are an honest man.

JH Um hmm.

EB And I think you've got a lot of, deep down inside you're very morally correct to what goes on around. And that you do have good feelings and so forth for kids in making sure this goes forward. And you need to really think about talking to people, finding out what's going on, and you don't have to let them know that you've talked to us.

JH Um hmm.

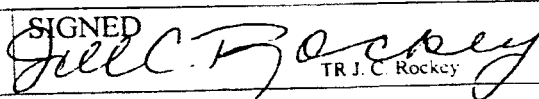
EB We're not going to go back and say, Jesus, I just got done talking to Jeremy and he said da, da, da, da. We don't go do that. Okay. I, I'm not gonna try to burn you or anything else, okay?

JR Just, just like we don't tell you where we get information from.

JH Sure.

EB Okay. But you need to understand that, that we need some help from you as well. Alright?

JH Are you saying you want me to go dig and ask questions, or? I mean I just got the idea. when I left you last time, you didn't want me talking to people. And then when I talked to my

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parents, they pretty much solidified the fact that I really shouldn't talk about the case or anything like that.

JR We don't want you people we didn't want you giving people information that you had.

JH Um hmm.

EB That's right.

JR Do you know what I'm saying. Like I didn't want you to walk up and say, well I, you know Chad showed me these bruises on her. Um, that's the kind of exchange of information we didn't want happening. Um, but if you do hear something Jeremy...

JH Ah...

JR ...or if you do...

EB It's...

JR ...if you do, you know if somebody confides in you. Um I, I agree with ah Eric I, I do think you're a stand up guy and that's why we're talking to you again today. Because I, I knew it bothered you that night.

JH Sure.

JR And it's bothered us every night since then too. These don't, these case's don't happen every day, um, thank God.

JH Yep.

JR But when they do happen and, I, I want you to think, when we're done today, about Jeffrey doing everything he can to prove he didn't do it. Everything. He has come in and talked, every time. You know? Um, he's not asking for a lawyer, cause he wants to talk to the police and he's taking a polygraph test.

JH So what happens if I go home, and I go see Chad tonight, and I ask him if he asked for a lawyer and he said, no they just let me go?

JR He's lying to you.

ER He's lying to you cause I've got it on videotape.

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JR And I watched it. He's, he's lying to you.

EB He asked for an attorney and it was time for him to go and as soon as he asked we gave him opportunities and opportunities and asked him and everything else and said you know you've asked for an attorney if that's what you want that's fine we've gone right through it we've got it on tape.

JR Did he already tell you that?

JH No, nope, no not at all. He wouldn't, to me the logical, just being in a situation, I guess maybe a lot of it is just TV, you know, as soon as you become a suspect, I'm surprised all three of them didn't go talk to an attorney. You know if I would have, you know had a conversation with Amanda that's what, what I would have told her. You know it's...

JR I'm gonna, I'm gonna tell you right now in the real world...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...unless people have something to hide they don't ask for an attorney. The most important thing in, in society is your reputation.

JH Right.

JR And people care about ah proving themselves innocent, you know. When you do look at something like this, you know, you do have a couple of suspects. Ah Jeffrey knows he didn't do anything. He has admitted to spanking her. Chad, all the instances we've gotten from different people, Chad's not fessing up to anything. Anything. Okay. Jeffrey's like, Jeffrey's a stand up guy. yeah, I did that. Yeah, I'll talk to you.

JH Chad hasn't admitted to grabbing her by the face at all?

JR I can't go into what he did or didn't say in the interview, but I'm going to tell you that all the things that we do have Chad, Chad has not admitted to, okay.

JH Okay.

JR Just, just like with Tristan and you.

JH Yep.

JR You know, he's not a stand up guy.

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EB And if, if there is anything that Chad has come forward with I can give you this much. You know how he downplayed everything about Tristan?

JH Um hmm.

EB Well let me just say he's down playing this even more. And let me tell you, through all the all the cases that I've ever done, on child abuse cases the reasons that we're getting for some these bruises, there is no way a bruise could happen that way of that magnitude. No way. It is scientifically impossible for them to happen.

JH Um hmm.

EB And that's why we know, things are not so truthful. Okay. And I've got guys that have got 25 years on, ahead of me, that are just going this is got to be unbelievable. You know what I'm saying?

JH Sure.

JR Children's, especially their skulls are, are a lot more flexible because they're not, it's not hard yet.

JH Yep.

JR It's not formed. It takes a lot more force to do damage to a child's skull and, and a child's bones...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...than it does an adult, okay. And Eric's right, the way Chad has des-, you know described some things is not consistent with the bruises and the breaks on this little girl's body at all.

JH I don't, I mean I, I don't know what, all he's told me he did was that. So, you know, I can't

JR No, no I, I understand...

EB We understand that.

JR ...that Jeremy I, I, we're just trying to explain to you where we're coming from.

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JH No I, I mean I...Guys, I understand, you know. Eh, you saw her after she was died, but I saw her before she was dead and I didn't do anything about it, you know what I'm saying?

EB We understand that. We're not blaming you for that.

JH No I, I know and, but I...

JR Let me tell Jeremy if you have any trouble sleeping right now, then you're lucky you didn't see that little girl after she was dead. Cause you wouldn't be sleeping at all.

ER Cause the both of us did.

JH Sure. But I'm just saying like I, I honestly, if Chad came to me and said something, you know, to be honest with you, I don't know if I would come right out and say, you know, walk into the police station, but I would probably talk to an attorney. I would probably talk to someone.

JR Jeremy I'm, I'm telling you right now if, if you sat if, if we thought you were a suspect, okay. everything you said, you are a stand up guy, you are a moral guy, if I sat down with you and, and started asking you about Cassidy and lets say you were Amanda's boyfriend.

JH Um hmm.

JR And I started talking to you like that. I know if you're being honest with me. You know, you may not be giving me everything that you have, but I know if, if you're being truthful in what you're telling me, okay. Um and like I said, just talking to you these two times I know that if I, if I accused of doing some of the things to Cassidy that we knew were done to her, you'd be infuriated.

EB You'd want, you'd want to throw us up against, you would get pissed.

JR You'd, you'd be bullshit.

EB You would, you would be wild and screaming at us.

JR Okay and that would tell me that you didn't do anything. You would be infuriated...

JH Okay and, and...

JR ...that I would accuse you of something that you didn't do?

JH Yeah I, I'm just curious, Chad wasn't infuriated at all when he was interviewed?

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EB We can't go into the depths of the invest, of that interview either. Okay. We can only tell you a little bit.

JH Yeah.

JR But lets just say he did not respond in the manner we expected him to.

JH I, I'd be surprised if he didn't get infuriated myself.

JR Umm.

JH I mean he just, he just would. I just know Chad.

JR Um hmm. If he were accused of something that he didn't do, right, he should be infuriated.

EB What if you, what if you accused him of doing it? What do you think he'd do? If you were to call him up on the phone and you know say, I got some strong reservations of what's going on here, you know. I remember you grabbing that kid by face, did you, you know? How did you discipline this child, I mean and just kinda give him a...

JH I think if he did more than he's telling me he would come through and, and tell me.

JR You, you think if somebody caused the death of another, that they would confess it to you?

JH I don't necessarily know if he would say, you know, exactly what his mind, he might say something like I didn't deliver the final blow or something, but I think if he did more to her than what he's told me he did to her, I, he would, like you had said, I think if he had minimized it, let's say he's minimizing it, he would bring it out.

EB Which is, which is gonna be normal 'cause people in trouble will do that.


JH Which he would bring it out in other stuff. I think.

EB I don't think he'll ever tell you. As much as you feel that you are a close friend with him.

JR And you have to understand that, that you're idea of a friend and your uh, standards in your um...

JH Are different.

JR It is.

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EB They're greatly different.

JR It's you know it is. I mean are probably a great friend to him. Great.

EB And you'd do anything in the world to help him out. As friend I mean. To...

JR But that doesn't mean that he's going to be up front and honest and have the same ah trust and respect for you. That you have for him.

JH I just...

JR You don't hit your girlfriend.

JH No, I'm just saying I just think I think he would. Like I, you know I don't build one way friendship. I have very few people in my life, I would say I,..

JR I'm...

JH ...I think he would help me out no matter what happened.

JR I think he would too. I, I think he would. I think he'd be there for you if you called him. I do. But I don't think he has the same character you do. He does not have the same morals that you do.

EB Not at all.

JR I don't think you would ever hit a women.

JH No, I mean...

JR Ever.

JH ...we were obviously raised very different from.

JR Okay. It has nothing to do with being, how you're raised. Does it to, somewhat, yes. But we're all grown-ups now.

JH Sure.

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JR You know what's right and you know what's wrong. Chad knows it's wrong to hit a kid. That's why they didn't take Amanda, excuse me why he and Amanda didn't take her to the doctor. Chad didn't want that to happen. Because he knew people would start asking questions.

EB Because they know it's...

JR What's going on with this kid?

EB ...they know it's mandatory that a doctor to report physical abuse...

JH Oh, I know...

EB ...to the police.

JH ...and...

EB And they knew that.

JR And that's Chad.

JH ...and I mean if Chad, I mean if Chad takes his, Kassidy to the doctors, and let's say here, you know I, I believe the baby-sitter is hitting my kid. What happens? He loses his kids. Is that fair enough to say?

JR Wait a minute No, it isn't.

JH Well it...wait...

JR So let's say that does happen, let's say that does happen. Chad takes Kassidy to the doctor and says, I think my baby-sitter is hitting this kid.

JH Um hmm.

JR What do you think is gonna happen?

JH They'd take Chad's.

EB What do you think the investigation is gonna be on?

JR No why would they take Chad's children away...

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EB Why would they take Chad's kids?

JR ...for the babysitter hitting Kassidy? Where is that coming from?

JH His record. Everything that he's done.

JR You're a parent. A child's being abused. And believe me there are children in this world that are taken from a family cause they're abused. And they're put into a foster family and the foster family abuses them. And then they go to daycare and they're abused there. Why, why would ah the Department of Children Youth and Families take away a kid when this guy is coming in to a pediatrician or the police and saying, I think this kid is being beaten by the ah...

EB ...the daycare.

JR That, that makes no sense at all Jeremy.

EB We've had many of cases like that and we've never, ever touched the kid in the family.

JH I'm just saying, just in my thinking, the way, you know, trying to figure out why Chad wouldn't do that, cause you know, I like to think Chad is a pretty smart guy himself. And...

JR Chad is a smart guy..

JH ...and, and I would, you know that's the only...

EB He's not a stupid man we never said that he was not smart.

JH Yeah, I know. That's the only thing that I could think of for him not bringing her, I know he loves his kids and you know.

JR Do you think if he found bruises on his kid, he wouldn't take him to the doctor?

JH I, he would take them to the doctor, yeah.

JR Immediately, correct?

EB Immediately. But why didn't he do that with Kassidy?

JH Like you guys said maybe because it's not his kid, you know?

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EB But don't you think as your, you, gees, what if your girlfriend had a child and she moved in with you? Would you not, if the bruising, something happened to that kid? That kid probably had a rash, you'd be taking that kid to the doctor.

JH Oh yeah, sure, you know.

JR If a kid walked into McDonalds with all those bruises you'd do something. It has nothing to do with whether, for us, for you, ah, ah person with rational thinking, it doesn't matter if it's you're kids or somebody else's you care enough about the well being of that child. That's you...

JH Um hmm

JR ...Jeremy. That's not Chad. You're not sleeping at night. You're worried about Kassidy and how she died and the fact that she suffered for a long time. She was in physical pain. She had bruises all over her body. She had broken bones. She bled internally. That bothers you. Chad is concerned about anything happening to him.

EB That's all Chad is concerned about.

JR He does not give a shit how much Kassidy suffered. Because if he did, the first time he saw a mark on that kid, she would have been at the doctor's office.

EB Chad is...

JR Regardless of what the consequences were for him.

JH Yep.

EB Chad is looking out for Chad. And that's all it comes down to.

JH Yeah but I mean it just and just one thing I want to say about Chad he's the type of guy that very rarely asks for help. You know always thinks that he can fix the problem himself.

JR That's right.

JH Whether it's work related, whether it's, you know, whatever, he just he thinks he can fix it himself, so.

JR And what happens when you can't fix it. Where does that anger and that rage go and that frustration?

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JH Um hmm.

JR When you don't ask for help?

JH I mean he, he told me that he talked...

EB Do you think he...

JH to Jeff that Wednesday night. You know, he called him up on his cell phone and said, hey, did you beat this kid, you know. (Side A Ends)

JH I mean in fairness to Jeff, you know, I never heard that conversation, I, that was...

EB That's just what Chad tells you.

JR Okay but let me stop you for a minute that's what Chad's telling you.

JH Um hmm.

JR You didn't hear that directly?

JH Nope, I haven't. But I talked to Jeff outside the police station and, you know and he, I said Jeff did you, did you ever hit this kid and he said no. He's like I never saw bruises on her before in my life. Until he said Thursday morning. Now I saw those bruises two weeks ago on Tuesday. If he's watching for that kid and he's changing her diaper I guarantee you, you guys saw the same bruises I saw. They were that bad. They were definitely there, today. You know. So for him to sit there and tell me he's never seen bruises on that kid before until Thursday, I know the guy's lying to me. He's flat out lying to me. Because I saw those bruises.

EB Um hmm.

JH Those bruises were there. I guarantee it were they not?

JR I, I, I believe me. I, huh, were there bruises? Yeah. There were bruises all over her.

EB There were multiple bruises all over her body.

JH Yeah, I know. I mean they were from here down to the back of her legs. And they weren't bruises they were black.

JR Um hmm.

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JH I mean they were, they were bruises on top of bruises on, and...

JR The girl, you're right that she had them all over her body. Let me, let me just suggest this to you, you said hit. Hit her. Um I think Jeffrey refers to it as spanking, not hitting her. People have different connotations. If I said I hit you...

JH Um hmm

JR ...it might mean, you know, a punch to the face or a slap across the face. And people connotate hitting sometimes differently than spanking. All I'm gonna say is that um, up until this point Jeff has been a stand up guy...

JH But...

JR ...as far as admitting to what he has done to police officers...

JH Right.

JR ...and, and been cooperative, and going to take a polygraph or has taken a polygraph. Um Jeff's been a stand up guy.

JH But all I can go on is conversations I had with Jeff. And he sat there on Thursday night and told me he's never seen bruises on that kid before Thursday. And that's just a lie. It's an absolute out and out right lie.

JR Right but, but what...

JH I mean was that...

JR ...what I'm suggesting to you, that may be a lie to you. He may be lying to you. Absolutely. Absolutely. That's why we're frustrated because it, it seems a lot of people are having selective memories. And every, every bit of information we're pulling out of people.

JH Yep.

JR A lot of people saw bruises on that little girl. A lot of people are protecting somebody. Right?

JH But I, I couldn't imagine doing it myself, but I suppose it's possible.

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JR But do you think Jeff might be protecting Chad? Until maybe Jeff got the notion in his head that he was gonna be really screwed?

EB That he may be just as well a suspect as Chad? And then he say's,...

JR And then the lightbulb...

EB ...shit I better come forward and tell everybody that, what part I've played in this.

JH Um hmm. Or did he, is he coming forward and saying, shit I'm just gonna, you know.

EB I can't, we can't tell you what he's been, what he's saying.

JH I know Chad's record and I know, you know his history with Tristan. I know all that. It is very easy for me just to, you know clean my name of all of it. I mean...

JR And blame him. That's right and that's why we're giving him a polygraph.

JH And you know the only thing that I can think of, to be honest with you guys, is more than one person's probably hit this kid. It's probably not just one person.

JR Ah, I would say that's a strong possibility, but I'm going to suggest to you this. There's, there's a difference between hitting that kid and beating her.

EB Um hmm.

JR Okay and I, I, I you're probably right. I don't know. I, I'm sure a couple of people have had access to that girl. Was it one person? Maybe not. But one person was delivering blows with enough force to kill her. Okay? One person.

EB And that takes a lot. A lot more than just maybe, falling off a couch or something like that. You don't,...

JR You don't die that way.

EB ...young kids don't, don't die that way. Not at all. They may get a bruise or a bump on head but they, that's a minor, minor thing. Compared to what was on that child.

JR Now come on Jeremy. I mean we've a lot of people trying to point us in the wrong direction. And I, I know...

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JH I'm just telling you guys everything I've thought about since then.

JR I, I, well we've done this for a while I mean we've, we've seen things happen before. Of course people are gonna try and lay the blame elsewhere. All I'm telling you is right now Jeffrey is the only one talking. Jeffrey is the only one willing to take a polygraph. Alright. Jeff's taken responsibility for what he's done. And Jeff cares enough about himself or Kassidy or both to be a stand up guy about it. And I'm not seeing that from you're friend Chad.

JH Uh, well I'm sure it's gonna be a conversation I have with him very soon.

JR And the reason we are coming to you today Jeremy and I'm sorry ah I'm sure you've felt um a little hostile earlier...

JH Sure.

JR ...and, and that's just to see what, what you knew. But you know we both felt from the beginning that you've been nothing but a stand up guy. You know, you are a Christian. You do work hard. Uh, you had a great family. And these are things that are important to you.

JH Um hmm.

JR Very important to you.

EB And important to us to know what type of person you really are.

JH Um hmm. I, I have complete confidence, if you talked to everyone I've ever come across within my life that they'll tell you that I, you know, honesty is, is me.

JR That's right.

EB That's right too.

JR But, but that's why we're talking to you now.

EB We just don't want you to have your eyes tunnel visioned on what's going on here.

JH Sure. I...

EB You need to really open your eyes up and...

JH I...

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EB ...see all around...

JH I...

EB ...the whole, you need to see the whole picture not just try to go one way or another.

JH I, I'm going to be honest with you guys, and lets something happens to Chad and he goes to jail. I'm in line for a pretty big promotion. Like I, I have stuff to gain...

EB Um, you...

JH ...very easily out of this.

EB Yep.

JH You know I, I mean...you talk to anyone that probably works at McDonalds. They say if Chad leaves it's probably my job.

EB Good.

JH But, you know. I, I don't want that. I don't want any part of it.

JR I just don't want, it's so hard, I mean if, if, if somebody came to me and said my best friend did something,...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...as a person, I would, I'd be like, bullshit, she'd never do something like that. I, I can't believe it. But as a police officer, I'd have to step back. I'm gonna tell you, anything's possible,...

JH Um hmm.

JR ...Jeremy, anything.

JH Um hmm.

JR As much as you don't want to believe Chad did this, and nobody would want to believe that their best friend did this, it, it is a possibility Jeremy.

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JH No I, I know it is. You know, and the only thing I come up with is you know I've obviously talked to many people about this. I, and, you know, I'd say when the thing with Tristan broke out people, I, I'd say it was probably 50/50. 50% of the people could say I could see Chad hitting his wife, just from the ways he's around her. I'll admit that. And I told Chad that. But the, you know maybe just because it's so more, much more heinous and so worse, you know. Of the people I've talked to, not one person has even had a reservation as Chad for a minute. Not one person. And I've talked to people that don't particularly care for Chad as a manager. Don't particularly, you know. Obviously don't like him for what he did to his wife. I, I mean it, it just boggles my mind that even his ex-wife doesn't even think and you know she'd beat him bad.

JR But, but you know Eric was saying earlier we put kids up here.

JH Yeah

JR Nobody wants to believe that anybody sexually assaults and kills a child.

JH Um hmm.

JR Nobody wants to believe that. Okay, but these things...

JH Where did the sexually assault part come from?

JR I, I'm just talking about things that happen to kids.

JH Um hmm.

JR Nobody wants to believe that any of this stuff can happen to kids. Right?

JH No, I...

JR But it, it happens every day.

JH But don't you think if there was, you know, half the people that would consider Chad would do it, and Tristan? Don't you think there'd be one person that would you know like from my...

JR No I think, I think people accept men that beat their wife's a lot more than they accept men that kill children.

JH Well, that's fair.

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JR I, I don't think that's, no that doesn't surprise me. But I'm gonna tell you right now, a lot of guys that beat their wife's do beat children.

JH Um hmm.

JR Ah, you said that Chad worshipped his two boys, that he took good care of them. Um...

EB That's all, let me let me go over some things with you okay? You talk about power and control, okay. You talked, you said that Chad tries to do everything on his own.

JH Um hmm.

EB Okay, there's a power and control, the continuum.

JH Um hmm.

EB Okay. Why do you think he does a lot of things on his own and never asks for help? Because he has the power and control over the whole situation.

JH Well I, I'm...

EB If he gives us...

JH not going to say he's not a control freak.

EB Okay that's what we're, okay lets start there. That's, that's part of the sickness that people have, okay? Now someone that abuses okay, um, people say, well gees he was drunk, he abused her. Well an abuser isn't down at the bar fighting with the next guy with him, because he's drunk in that way. Okay? The abuser goes back home and abuses because that's what he is, not because he's liquored up.

JH Um hmm.

EB Alright? So the abuse is, it's a sickness that people have that they don't (A) they're (A) they're embarrassed because society does not except it. Okay? We do not accept, especially with, I mean obviously with children. And we don't accept it with, um, our companions. You know. Years ago it was kinda, the door was kinda shut behind it, but now it's changed a lot I mean, you know what the attitude is towards it now?

JH Yeah. I mean do you think someone could, someone could go to counseling and get help and get treated for this abuse thing, or...?

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EB Some, some can, some can't. Sometimes they just can't put it behind them because they have, they have a problem. But they're not gonna come out and forewarn and tell people this.

JH Yeah but I mean you guys understand that Chad has gone through counseling since his wife thing.

EB But has it worked? We don't know.

JH I, I've seen signs in his everyday life that it's different. I mean just simply about you know the whole control freak I mean he was a bear sometimes at work and now he isn't you know.

EB But if this, an adult can speak out.

JH Um hmm.

EB Tristan obviously did.

JH Nope. No I, I understand the difference.

EB Um, a 2 year old can't speak out.

JH Nope.

JR And lets understand Chad's on probation now too.

JH Sure.

JR Okay? That Chad has a lot riding on the fact that if he acts out, he's going to jail.

JH Yeah but what I'm saying, you know, I wasn't, to be honest with you counseling, talking to someone, I never understood it, you know? And I, and today like I, I still don't necessarily, I believe someone could get better just by going to talk to another person.

JR Right?

JH You know? Especially someone that doesn't know them. They're just getting a hundred dollars an hour. But I honest to God saw, you know, emotional changes in Chad from the time he started going to counseling.

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JR And, and there may have very well emotional changes in Chad. Maybe he now has a better relationship with his ex-wife. Maybe he doesn't need to control her. But you've all ready said Chad's control freak.

JH Um hmm.

JR What's one of the hardest things in the world to control? A toddler.

JH I don't know.

JR A toddler.

JH Especially if it's crying.

JR You know?

EB My two year old, I have a two year old at home. That kid is on the move from 5 o'clock this morning. Waking me up, saying it's time to get up and go dad.

JH Um hmm.

EB 'til I get home tonight at 9, 10 o'clock, well, hopefully she'll be in bed by 7. Let's just get that straight. But, she can. She will be on the go.

JH Yep.

EB And if you tell them no, you've got to tell them 50 million times it's no. Because they're not gonna accept it. There is no way to control a two year old child.

JR And now you're up in the morning and you're trying to do things and she's in the way or she's crying. You know if you're tired and frustrated...

EB You know what it's like trying to get ready for work. I mean he's got Kyle there. It's, you're trying to get ready for work in the morning.

JH I have a nephew. I've watched him.

EB So, I mean you know what it's like. It's, you're trying to get ready for work and you've got to be at work at a certain time.

JH Um hmm.

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EB The two of you've gotta take a shower. Two adults gotta take a shower. Gotta make sure the kids are fed. Um, some people iron their clothes, you gotta get, make sure your work clothes are ready to go, you know. Some peoples schedules, you know, they may sleep in a little late. The kids are still crying and screaming and wanting things done, you know. You've got to have power and control over what's happening in that situation.

JR And we all lose it.

EB And just keep... We all lose it, we all do.

JR We do but, but maybe this is...

EB ...do we cross that line?

JR Yeah. Maybe this is the one day you can't take it anymore. And, and instead of doing the, you know, grabbing the face or doing the other things that you did before, maybe this is the one day when, where you do something worse. And a couple hours later a baby is dead.

JH I, I thought all those same things you know I, I just...

JR And again...

JH ...I don't see it.

JR ... I don't think he's a malicious person.

JH Um hmm.

JR I don't. But, I think something happened in that house that morning that he didn't want to happen but did. Because he lost control. And I don't think he'd tell you about that.

EB What was the exact I, I, breaking away just a little bit, what was the exact conversation and who was, met you at the McDonalds here on the day that Kassidy died?

JH Chad did.

EB Who else?

JH Who met me there?

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EB Yeah was there anybody else there, was this Travis kid, or something like that, there as well?

JH I'm trying to think. No, he was working but he didn't...

EB Oh Travis works there?

JH Yeah he working 'til 6 but he left at 5.

EB But did he, did you guys have a conversation with Chad and Travis or anything at all?

JH Thursdays I bowl, I try to get out at 4. Chad shows up at 3:30. It was just, he came, he, whenever he shows, he goes through things...

EB But your things, besides bowling, you have your little, your little deal that you do to go pick up your money or...

JH Yep.

EB ...whatever else on Thursdays as well, correct?

JH Yep.

EB Okay. Is Travis a part, a part of that situation as well with you guys?

JH No, no, no. Nope.

EB Now how long has Travis been living with, with Chad?

JH Like three to four weeks I believe. Two, three and a half. I'm not sure. He was, he was supposed to move in, and then he didn't move in, then he was staying there, then he was moving his stuff in, but I'd say...

EB Why is Travis living with Chad? Is Travis, doesn't have a ah place to go, he doesn't, how old, how old is Travis? I don't know anything about Travis. I just heard the name.

JH No, he's twenty I think he's my age 25, 26.

EB Okay

JH Works for us. Just his rent was a lot. He had a roommate. His roommate moved out. Chad had a big house said, hey I've got a whole downstairs you could rent.

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EB Do you know how much he's paying in rent or anything?

JH No, no idea.

EB Do you know any background on Travis himself?

JH Travis? He likes to smoke dope.

EB Okay .

JH I mean but as far as any other you know everything I've even known Travis I've worked with him now for a couple years. You know we don't have I would say a friendship outside of work but we have probably a professional relationship. The only thing I really know about him is he likes to smoke dope, he likes his women. But other than that like I, you know would never you know we had a conversation about God once, he said he doesn't really believe in it.

EB Do you go to church every Sunday? Or do you go as much as you can?

JH I go as much as I can.

EB Okay. Did you go a lot when you were growing up?

JH Yeah I went every week.

EB Okay.

JH I was raised a catholic.

EB Raised a catholic? Can I just talk to you outside for a minute?

JR Sure.

EB And ah we'll be right back with you and we'll go from there okay? We'll try to get you, get you out of here and so forth.

JR And we're gonna pause the tape. It's 12:23. Okay we paused for a short break it's now 12:31 and we are going to be getting out of here very shortly Jeremy. Um first I'd just like to thank you very much for coming down today. Um obviously we talked in the beginning, we had to find out, really what kind of person you were and prove it to ourselves and, and we feel we did that today. Um I have no question about your character Jeremy. At all. I really don't. Um and as we

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said earlier, ah this is a huge tragedy. A little girl was beaten and she did die. Um and, and it only can be compounded if, if we can't bring the person that did this to her to justice. I, I know that this is a difficult situation for you because these people are your friends. I do hope that I know you've been thinking about this.

JH Yeah.

JR But I, I hope you go home tonight and really, really think about it and, and I'm not saying that you have to come to a conclusion tonight about who did this. I don't think you will right away Jeremy and I think one of the biggest obstacles you have to draw the right conclusion is, is the fact that you're close to people that are involved in this. Um, we're on the outside looking in.

JH Um hmm.

JR But on the outside looking in I'm just going to tell you that guilty people act a certain way and innocent people act a certain way. And right now I'm very comfortable with everything Jeff has done to prove himself innocent. And I'm not really comfortable with the things that Chad has done at this point. Um again I'm on the outside looking in. But the things that you have told me about how he took responsibilities for his actions with Tristan and again I'm going to tell you I don't feel he's a malicious person. I don't think he's bad. I don't think that he ever intended to do anything. But that doesn't take away from the fact that things were done and, and a death resulted in that. And I think we all lose control. I think it's just to varying degrees. And I do think something happened that morning. I think somebody lost control. And I think a little girl died as a result of that. But things have been going on for a long period of time. And it all began when Amanda moved in with Chad.

JH Um hmm.

JR And I don't like to harp on it but let me assure you that, that little girl has, was beaten over a period of time and it was severe.

JH You don't have to show me, I saw it.

JR It looks different when they're not alive anymore and any...

JH No, I'm sure. I couldn't imagine doing you guy's job.

JR So um, I would hope that if you do hear something, um, if people do talk to you, I understand that you don't want to be involved. But people aren't talking to us. Okay people are protecting right now.

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JH Sure.

EB That's all we're asking you. We're not asking you to shut your eyes on what we're looking at either. Okay?

JH Yep.

EB Because we're trying to keep our eyes open to the whole thing.

JH Um hmm.

EB Which we are because we have to have other suspects besides one, I mean that's, we know there's more than one there. Okay? But things the pieces of the puzzle start to come, you know. It does start to go in one direction at some times.

JH Yeah.

EB Okay?

JH Definitely.

EB You need, you need to think about it. Um you know I just hope, deep down inside, that you will give us a call and let us know what's going on?

JH The card's on my mirror in my bedroom.

EB Yeah and like I said we're not going to go and tell anybody that we sat and talked to you.

JR No, not at all.

EB We wouldn't try to do that to you. Um, you've gotta work, you've got people that work for you that know Chad and so forth. We're not gonna, we're not there to do that to you. You've got a life to live as well. Okay? But you need to and I, I know you will. You're going to do what's right if something comes about.

JR For Cassidy.

JH (inaudible)

JR For Cassidy's sake.

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JH Yep.

JR Cause somebody needs to be looking out for her right now.

JH Yep I bet they would.

EB Okay.

JR Do you have any questions for us?

JH No, I mean, don't, not really.

JR Okay.

JH You know, I just...

JR Well you know you can always call...

JH Yep.

JR ...either one of us.

JH I did try to call and get a hold of someone because we had some documents in Chad's car that were needed. But my boss's finally said just to let it drop.

EB Yeah that's you're not going to see that car for a little while.

JH Even couldn't, even like an employee file out...

EB No.

JH ...or anything?

EB Not, not for a little bit it's under, it's under ah...

JH Alright.

EB ...warrant so it's going to be sitting where it's at while they're performing the warrant on it. And they'll, they'll let Chad know when it's done cause it's Chad's...

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JH Okay.

EB ...responsibility for the car.

JR And anything in there can have evidence on it. If it's just laying I don't where it is in the car but anything can have evidence on it.

EB That's right.

JR And that's, that takes, that's time consuming and tedious.

JH Just, just a question for you I guess. Why was Chad's car the only one taken? I mean, cause as far as I know ,Chad didn't drop her off that morning?

JR I...

JH I, I mean I'm just curious?

EB We don't...

JR We can't get into the investigatory part at all.

EB And we're and we're not the supervisors on what decisions were made.

JH You're just questioning people?

EB We just question people and the supervisor's decide on what they and they must of there's something they've decided that we don't know.

JH I was just curious.

EB So we don't know everything that's going on but that's we only know bits and parts. Okay so that's where we're all with all that.

JH I don't really have a wrap sheet do I? I'm like I have an un-inspected vehicle.

EB I didn't say, uh, well, that's what I was gonna tell you.

JR That's a felony in New Hampshire now.

EB I was going to tell you that your wrap sheet is motor vehicle and that's it.

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JR Yeah.

EB Yeah.

JR Well sometimes if you're when you're talking to people like you said you've been here your whole life and people are moving in and out of state. We may not know about every single thing that they have so.

JH Yeah.

JR Again we, we just trying to see if you were a stand up guy or not.

JH Sure, I understand.

JR And you and you were Jeremy.

EB Your reaction was truthful.

JR Everything.

EB Reactions aren't just what we say and talk about. Reaction is body language as well.

JH Um hmm.

EB Okay and your body language has been very good to us.

JR And how you've responded to things and looking us in the eye when you're talking to us.

EB There is, there is a technique to interviewing and you're doing very well.

JH Oh yeah. We, I was an R. A. all through college, so.

EB Yeah.

JH We got to be on the other side, not as bad as you guys do. I just had to deal with beer drinking, but.

EB Well usually that's what we're dealing with too, so, a lot of times.

JR Any other questions?

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JH That's it.

JR Okay then I'm going to end the interview it's 12:40. The same three people in the room.

END OF INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY HINTON

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