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1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND
2 FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

3 ZENAIDA GONZALEZ,

4 Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,

5 vs. CASE NO.: 08-CA-24573

6 CASEY ANTHONY,

7 Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff.

8 -----

9 The videotaped deposition of ANNIE DOWNING taken
10 pursuant to Notice on behalf of the
11 Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant on Thursday, May 21, 2009,
12 beginning at 1:03 p.m., at the law firm of Morgan &
13 Morgan, 20 North Orange Avenue, 16th Floor, Orlando,
14 Florida, before Laura J. Landerman, R.M.R., C.R.R.,
15 F.P.R., and Notary Public, State of Florida at Large.

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2 JOHN B. DILL, ESQUIRE

 KEITH R. MITNIK, ESQUIRE

3 Morgan & Morgan, P.A.

 20 North Orange Avenue -- 16th Floor

4 Orlando, Florida 32801

5 For the Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,

6 No appearance on behalf of the

 Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff,

7

 WARREN LINDSEY, ESQUIRE

8 Kirkconnell, Lindsey, Snure & Yates

 1150 Louisiana Avenue -- Suite 1

9 Winter Park, Florida 32789

10 For the Witness.

11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Lee Fouraker of Ron Fleming

 Video Productions

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8 (None marked.)

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1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good afternoon. The date
2 is May 21st, 2009. This is the deposition of Annie
3 Downing being taken in the matter of Zenaida
4 Gonzalez versus Casey Anthony. It's 1:03 p.m., and
5 we're on record.

6 Counsel, please introduce yourselves.

7 MR. DILL: John Dill along with Keith Mitnik
8 representing the plaintiff.

9 MR. LINDSEY: Warren Lindsey representing
10 Annie Downing.

11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: And if the court reporter
12 would please swear in the witness.

13 -----

14 ANNIE DOWNING

15 having been first duly sworn testified as follows:

16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. DILL:

18 Q Good afternoon.

19 A Hi.

20 Q Can you please state your name?

21 A Annie Downing.

22 Q And it's -- I think we had it spelled wrong on
23 the subpoena.

24 A D-O-W-N-I-N-G.

25 Q Okay. And you live here in Orlando?

0005

1 A Uh-huh.

2 MR. LINDSEY: You have to say "yes" or "no."

3 A Yes.

4 Q I'm going to be asking you some questions
5 today. Okay? My name's John Dill.

6 Do you know Casey Anthony?

7 A I do.

8 Q All right. And why don't you tell us when
9 you -- when you first met her.

10 A My sophomore/junior year of high school I knew
11 about her, knew of her.

12 Q What high school was that?

13 A Colonial High School.

14 Q So sophomore/junior, do we know about what
15 time frame, what year that would have been?

16 A I graduated in '03, so 2000 -- 2002.

17 Q And when you say you knew about her, she was
18 an acquaintance from high school?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Were you on any sports teams with her or
21 anything like that?

22 A No, not with her.

23 Q And were you guys friendly socially back in
24 high school?

25 A I didn't hang out with her outside of school.

0006

1 Q Did there come a time when you became a little
2 bit better friends than acquaintances?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And kind of direct me to when that was.

5 A It would have been 2006. 2005, 2006.

6 Q And you had already graduated high school?

7 A Yes. I was in college. 2006.

8 Q Where were you -- where were you going to
9 school?

10 A UCF.

11 Q And at that point in time, 2006, how was it
12 that you guys became, I guess, reacquainted and became

13 better friends?

14 A She started dating a friend of mine, and we
15 started hanging out because of that.

16 Q I see. And your friend was?

17 A Brandon Snow.

18 Q And during this time period, where were you
19 living?

20 A Sawgrass Apartments.

21 Q And I believe you were living there with
22 somebody; is that correct?

23 A My ex-boyfriend, Dante Salati.

24 Q I'm going to ask some questions about when you
25 moved in there and how long you lived there. Okay? Do
0007

1 you remember when it was you moved in with Dante at
2 Sawgrass Apartments?

3 A October, November of 2005, I do believe.

4 Q Do you remember -- I think you had had a lease
5 there or you --

6 A Yes, I did.

7 Q -- guys reupped the lease; is that right? Is
8 he the one that signed the lease or did you both sign it?

9 A We both signed the lease.

10 Q Do you remember what apartment you were in, by
11 any chance?

12 A 218.

13 Q And did Dante Salati, do you know if he

14 continued living in the Sawgrass Apartments --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- after you left?

17 A He still lives there.

18 Q He currently lives there?

19 A He currently lives there.

20 Q And when you and -- I guess you knew Brandon

21 Snow?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And did Casey and Brandon and then Dante and

24 you socialize?

25 A Yes.

0008

1 Q Did you ever socialize over at the Sawgrass

2 Apartments?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And did Casey become friends with Dante?

5 A They'd known each other since high school.

6 Q They're all --

7 A Yeah, we were all friends in high school.

8 Q Are you still in contact with Dante?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And do you know where he works?

11 A Not currently. I don't know where he works

12 now.

13 Q But you know that he still works -- I mean,

14 still lives over at the Sawgrass Apartments?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Do you know anybody else -- I'm going to start

17 now and kind of move backwards -- anybody else who

18 currently lives at the Sawgrass Apartments?

19 A Dante's girlfriend. I don't know her name,

20 though, but I know his girlfriend lives there.

21 Q Do they live together there or do you know?

22 A He's moving in with her.

23 Q I see. But they both live there at that

24 apartment?

25 A But they both live there currently in two

0009

1 different apartment.

2 Q Do you know if she knows Casey Anthony or knew

3 her?

4 A I don't think she does.

5 Q Have you ever known anybody who works at the

6 Sawgrass Apartments?

7 A No.

8 Q I asked about that currently, but let's say

9 moving back just a few years focusing, again, on

10 Sawgrass. Did you ever know anybody who else who lived
11 there at one time but no longer lives there that you're
12 friendly with?

13 A I had a friend, a family friend that lived
14 there.

15 Q Would that -- would that be somebody that was
16 friendly with Casey or do you know?

17 A No.

18 Q So Danti Salati, then, your ex-boyfriend,
19 lived there during, I guess, from '05 through today?

20 A Through current, yes, sir.

21 Q And was -- does he still live in 218; do you
22 know?

23 A I think that's the apartment number. If
24 that's the apartment number, then that's where it is.

25 Q First floor or second floor; do you remember?

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1 A Second floor.

2 Q Did Casey ever bring Caylee over to the
3 Sawgrass Apartments, to your knowledge?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And tell me about that.

6 A She'd come over to hang out with me after --
7 after I got off school. She'd come over and hang out,
8 bring Caylee all the time.

9 Q And would you guys do stuff there at the
10 apartment, play around?

11 A Just watch TV, play with Caylee, play with my
12 dog. Caylee loved my dog.

13 Q What type of dog did you have?

14 A Miniature long-haired Dauschand.

15 Q Do you know if Casey ever befriended or met
16 anybody who worked there at the Sawgrass Apartments?

17 A Not to my knowledge.

18 Q Kind of orient me as to time frame here. When
19 Casey used to bring Caylee over to Sawgrass Apartments,
20 how old was Caylee at that time?

21 A Year and a half because her second birthday
22 was -- her second birthday was 2007 because 2008 she
23 would have been three, so a year and a half.

24 Q And let me ask this. At the Sawgrass
25 Apartments, while you were living there or any time
0011

1 subsequent, did you ever know anybody who lived there
2 named Zenaida Gonzalez?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q I'm going to get to this in a moment a little
5 bit more in detail, but when was the first time you ever
6 heard the name Zenaida Gonzalez?

7 A On the news.

8 Q You never met a Zenaida Gonzalez?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q And when you and Casey became good friends,
11 did you also meet kind of her group of friends as well?

12 A Her group of friends was my group of friends.

13 Q And is it a small group or a large group or do
14 you know?

15 A It was bigger then than it is now.

16 Q And as far as your kind of social group of
17 friends back during that time period, is it fair to say
18 you all were -- everybody kind of knew each other?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And you would talk to Casey's other friends
21 even when Casey wasn't around just to kind of catch up?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Did you ever hear anybody in that group of
24 friends ever mention the name Zenaida Gonzalez?

25 A No, sir.

0012

1 Q Did you ever hear any of her friends mention
2 the name Zanny?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q All right. Have you ever met a Zanny, a
5 person named Zanny that has been described as a ten that
6 was friends, long-time friends with Casey?

7 A No, sir.

8 Q Do you believe that person even exists?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Now, I'm going to kind of loop back here as

11 far as Caylee a little bit. Did you ever baby-sit

12 Caylee?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Do you know if anybody ever received money or

15 was paid to be a nanny or baby-sitter for Casey? I mean

16 Caylee. Sorry.

17 A I had never met that person, no.

18 Q And did you ever hear about Casey hiring a

19 nanny for Caylee?

20 A She would talk about it, but I've never seen,

21 met, talked to that person.

22 Q When you -- when you first heard about a

23 nanny, was that back during this time period or was it

24 closer to 2008 when Caylee went missing?

25 A I might have heard it once or twice before

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1 this, I mean, maybe once or twice.

2 Q But did you ever see this person?

3 A No. I've never seen --

4 Q Never seen the nanny?

5 A Never seen --

6 Q Any nanny?

7 A Never seen any nanny.

8 Q When you say that she would talk about it,
9 what would she say? What kind of stuff would she --

10 A Oh, just where's Caylee? And she'd say, oh,
11 she's with the nanny. I've got to go pick Caylee up from
12 the nanny.

13 Q You don't remember, again, any more specifics
14 about who the nanny was or --

15 A (Shakes head.)

16 Q -- where they were?

17 A The only other thing that I remember was that
18 at one point the nanny, the baby-sitter, lived in
19 MetroWest, then moved over by UCF. That's it.

20 Q And that's according to Casey?

21 A That's according to what Casey said.

22 Q Did any of your other group of friends ever
23 say that they met this nanny or any nanny?

24 A Not to my knowledge.

25 Q Now, subsequent, I guess, you guys have, I

0014

1 would imagine, have talked about --

2 A Yes.

3 Q -- about this? Has any of your group of
4 friends that you had in common with Casey ever said to

5 you that they met any nanny?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Has any of them ever said that they've ever

8 met or seen anybody named Zanny that was a nanny?

9 A Not to my knowledge.

10 Q And has any of them ever said that they've met

11 or seen a Zenaida Gonzalez?

12 A Not to my knowledge.

13 Q Now, during the time period -- I'm sorry to

14 jump around a little bit. But during the time period

15 when she was -- when Casey was dating Brandon, is it?

16 A Yes.

17 Q You guys became a little bit closer as far as

18 friends, you and Casey?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Would you e-mail, IM, text message, that type

21 of thing?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And were you fairly, as far as girlfriends,

24 were you fairly close?

25 A We were best friends for a short period of

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1 time.

2 Q And you would characterize it, again, in your

3 words, as being best friends?

4 A Uh-huh. Yes, sir.

5 Q So would you -- did you get the impression

6 that she was comfortable confiding in you --

7 A Yes.

8 Q -- and talking to you?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Of that -- during that time period when you

11 were best friends, on average, how much time would you

12 spend together, let's say, daily or weekly?

13 A Like physically together?

14 Q Well, let's start with that and then we'll go

15 how often you talked as well.

16 A I would say a couple hours every other day.

17 Q And then you would also communicate via the

18 different -- talk on the phone?

19 A Text messaging, phone, Internet.

20 Q E-mail, that type of thing. So it was fair to

21 say you were in pretty constant contact with her?

22 A Yes.

23 Q The other message as far as the text

24 messaging, e-mail, I mean, would it be a chat like on IM?

25 A No, Instant Messenger. Just Instant

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1 Messenger.

2 Q Instant Messenger?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q And was that a fairly constant thing --

5 A Yes.

6 Q -- during that time period?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And, again, during all this time period, did

9 she ever mention the name Zanny?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q And so would you also -- back during this time

12 period when you would see each other, would you also go

13 around to her house and be at her house?

14 A Occasionally.

15 Q Had you met George and Cindy?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And did you ever have conversations with them

18 or talk to them back during this time period when you

19 were best friends?

20 A Through -- in passing, yes.

21 Q And did they ever mention to you, George and

22 Cindy ever mention to you a nanny of any type?

23 A No, sir.

24 Q Did they ever mention the name Zanny?

25 A No, sir.

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1 Q Was that something that was in common

2 conversation that you heard around their house?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q You know Lee as well?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And how do you know Lee? Through Casey?

7 A Through high school, in high school.

8 Q Has Lee ever told you that he has met anybody
9 named Zanny the nanny?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Has he ever said to you I know Zenaida
12 Gonzalez?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q And has he ever mentioned to you the existence
15 of a nanny, whether one existed or not?

16 A Not to my knowledge, no.

17 Q You were -- I guess because Caylee used to
18 come over to the house or to the Sawgrass and you used to
19 interact, did you ever -- did you play with her, take
20 care of her, that type of thing?

21 A Well, Casey was always there.

22 Q Yeah, I understand. But even with the three
23 of you guys together?

24 A Yeah, I'd play with her.

25 Q Did Caylee ever mention the name Zanny?

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1 A No, sir. She really didn't talk then.

2 Q But she never talked about a puppy or anything
3 like that that you heard, a puppy belonging to Zanny?

4 A No, no. I mean, they have their own dogs,
5 but --

6 Q All right. The times that Casey would have
7 talked about the nanny, as you said before, that the
8 nanny had her, did she ever attach any name to that
9 nanny?

10 A No, sir, just baby-sitter.

11 Q So this would -- again, the baby-sitter, the
12 nanny, never had a name attached to it at any time?

13 A No official name, no, sir.

14 Q During the time that you knew her and
15 became -- were closer friends, let's say, when you were
16 best friends, was Casey working, to your knowledge?

17 A That's what she told me.

18 Q You say that like that you found out something
19 different.

20 A Yes.

21 Q But she told you she was working?

22 A Yes, sir.

23 Q And what did she say?

24 A She said she worked at Sports Authority, and
25 then she went back to work for Universal.

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1 Q And did you ever, again, see her going to work
2 or coming from work?

3 A No, sir. She -- I mean, there are times that
4 I'd see her. She'd say, oh, I just got off work and
5 she'd be dressed up, but never saw anything else other
6 than that.

7 Q Did you come to find out that she was not, in
8 fact, working?

9 A No, sir.

10 Q Now, there was a time -- as you said, there
11 was a time when you were fairly close friends. During
12 that time period, did you ever find her to be untruthful
13 about anything to you?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Can you give me some examples?

16 A Just about reasons why she couldn't go out.
17 She'd say I'm working. Obviously, she wasn't working.

18 Q Right.

19 A Basically, just things like that. I've never
20 caught her like lying to me, but, I mean, there are
21 things that I just doubted. Anything specific other than
22 her working I can't -- I can't remember things
23 specifically.

24 Q When you say you doubted it, is this because

25 it didn't seem to make any sense?

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1 A Just she had the ideal job. She could work
2 from home at any time. I mean, I'd love to have a job
3 like that, but --

4 Q Do you have an opinion, in your mind, as to
5 why she lied to you about those things?

6 A I don't know why.

7 Q As far as her reputation kind of in the
8 community among your group of friends there, are you
9 familiar with her reputation as far as her truthfulness?

10 A I mean, we all kind of assumed the same
11 things.

12 Q Which was?

13 A But never really caught her lying to us. You
14 know, we never -- I mean, we all kind of assumed -- like
15 I said, she worked from home all the time. Nobody at
16 that age can work from home at that time and work for a
17 major corporation. To me, it's impossible.

18 Q And so as far as her telling fibs or telling
19 lies, did some of your other friends ever mention the
20 same type of thing that either she had lied to them or
21 she had exaggerated or told things that weren't true?

22 A Can you clarify what you mean?

23 Q Sure. I mean, when you're talking to your

24 other friends, did they ever give any instances of her
25 telling --

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1 A No, not that I can remember, nothing specific.

2 Q Now, how about as far as her taking money or
3 taking things that didn't belong to her? Among your
4 group of friends, did you ever have conversations about
5 that?

6 A I don't know that she's ever taken anything
7 from any of my friends.

8 Q Did you come to learn that she had taken
9 something from her parents?

10 A That's what I've heard.

11 Q And how did you hear that?

12 A The news.

13 Q All right. Was there a time that there was
14 a -- I guess a graduation that Casey was going to?

15 A My college graduation.

16 Q Tell me about that.

17 A We were on our way to my graduation, and Casey
18 got a phone call from her mom. And Casey told me at the
19 time that her mother was mad at her, and she had to go
20 home because she didn't sign up for college classes at
21 Valencia. Well, after speaking to Cindy after all of
22 this, come to find out Cindy had just gotten a credit

23 card bill where Casey had spent their money on a phone

24 bill, I think, it was. I'm not certain, but --

25 Q So you actually talked to Cindy about it?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q And Cindy told you what, that --

3 A That she had found a credit card statement

4 that Casey had spent a lot of their money. I never saw

5 the statement or anything.

6 Q But that was something Cindy told you --

7 A Yes.

8 Q -- subsequently or when was that?

9 A After -- after Caylee went missing.

10 Q I see. When you talked to Cindy about that,

11 what was her demeanor? Did she appear upset about the

12 fact that the money had been taken?

13 A I mean, it was a year later.

14 Q Right. Did she say that she had been upset at

15 the time or --

16 A She said she was furious.

17 Q And I guess the context -- what was the

18 context of how that came up? Was Cindy talking about

19 graduation --

20 A We were -- no. We were just kind of like

21 talking about things trying to get Casey's lies out in

22 the open --

23 Q Right.

24 A -- about things. I was really upset that she

25 had missed my college graduation. I wanted her to be

0023

1 there. And so I asked Cindy about that, and she said,

2 no, this is what really happened.

3 Q And what really happened was that there a

4 credit card bill, an issue about that --

5 A Yes.

6 Q -- where Casey had taken money from the

7 family?

8 A That's what Cindy said, yes.

9 Q Were there other lies and those type of

10 conversations that you had with Cindy about Casey?

11 A Her not having a high school diploma.

12 Q Tell me about that. Did she tell you she had

13 a high school diploma?

14 A Yeah. She said that she was enrolled in

15 college.

16 Q And what did you find out about that?

17 A Cindy said she didn't even have a high school

18 diploma.

19 Q And that was -- as somebody who was your best

20 friend, she was telling you that she was enrolling in

21 college?

22 A Yes.

23 Q When, in fact, she hadn't even graduated high

24 school?

25 A Yes.

0024

1 Q At the time that you were having that

2 conversation after Caylee went missing, I mean, why was

3 it that you and Cindy -- why was it that Cindy was

4 telling you that or why was it that the two of you were

5 having that conversation? Was that having to do with

6 whether Casey might have done something to Caylee or --

7 A We were trying to track down Caylee.

8 Q And as part of that, that's how this came up

9 about --

10 A Yes, yes.

11 Q -- the earlier lies and inconsistencies that

12 she had told?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q During those conversations there, tell me

15 everything that you can remember about Cindy trying --

16 exactly what you were talking about when you say you were

17 trying to find out where Caylee was. Tell me a little

18 bit more about what Cindy was saying about what Casey had

19 said and the lies she had told.

20 A Those were the two things that I -- the one
21 conversation about my college graduation, how I said
22 that, you know, I was upset because Casey had to leave,
23 and I was like, you know, I was mad at Cindy. I told
24 Cindy I was mad at you because you pulled her out of my
25 graduation. And she said, well, you know, she stole a

0025

1 bunch of money from me. And I said, well, I thought it
2 was because she wasn't registering for classes, and she
3 said she doesn't even have a high school diploma. So
4 those two are tied together.

5 Q Right.

6 A Anything else was just us like trying to trace
7 down Casey during the times where Caylee was missing.

8 Q Now, during that time when Caylee was missing
9 and you were having this conversation with Cindy, was
10 there discussion or talk about Zanny at that point?

11 A We were trying to figure out who she was.

12 Q And what did Cindy -- tell me a little bit
13 more about that as far as Cindy and your conversations
14 about trying to figure out who this person was.

15 A She didn't -- she didn't have any more clue
16 than any of us did.

17 Q And tell me a little bit about that. Was
18 it -- when you had the conversations. I mean, because as

19 you may know, Cindy has said that Zenaida, or Zanny, was
20 a common name that they had heard and they knew all about
21 her. Was that the impression that you got?

22 A That's what she said, I mean, that Casey had
23 talked about it, you know, the nanny, but they had never
24 met her, as far as what they've told me.

25 Q And did they ever say to you, hey, we had her
0026

1 phone numbers or anything like that?

2 A Not -- not that I can remember.

3 Q And so certainly during the time when Caylee
4 was missing, there were some questions about whether this
5 person was even real or existed?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And these were questions Cindy had as well --

8 A Yes.

9 Q -- to your knowledge?

10 A She wanted to know if any of us knew her, and
11 none of us do.

12 MR. MITNIK: Do you mind if I just ask a
13 couple instead of whispering in his ear?

14 MR. DILL: Because it's like a telephone. I'm
15 missing it anyway.

16 EXAMINATION

17 BY MR. MITNIK:

18 Q Just on the conversation with Cindy. Was
19 Cindy saying things to you that indicated she doubted
20 whether this person Zanny the nanny existed?

21 A No, because she was -- I mean, she always knew
22 that Caylee was safe. But, I mean, her blatantly coming
23 out and saying I don't think this person existed, those
24 words never came out of her mouth.

25 Q Actually, tell me what she would say to you in
0027

1 this -- you-all are both trying to get to the bottom of
2 question. And I'm just trying to figure out what Cindy
3 was saying to you. I don't expect you to remember
4 exactly, but --

5 A Yeah, I don't remember word for word.

6 Q -- what was the gist of what she was saying?

7 A Just that she's talked to her before -- I
8 mean, no, talked -- like her and Casey talked about the
9 nanny before. I don't think that Cindy's ever talked to
10 the nanny herself, but she, I mean, to me seemed like
11 that this person did exist.

12 Q That she was -- Cindy was acting as if she
13 thought she existed?

14 A Yes, that Cindy felt this person existed.

15 Q And then what was she saying about -- what did
16 she say to you, the gist of it, in trying to find this

17 person?

18 A Just trying to figure out who she was hanging
19 out with at the time, you know, who her friends were. It
20 was a long time ago, and there was so much going on.
21 I --

22 Q When you say trying to find out who her
23 friends were, are you talking about Casey?

24 A Casey -- yeah, like who Casey was hanging out
25 with because we -- nobody knew this person, none of my
0028

1 friends. My friends are Casey's like core group of
2 friends. She had friends outside of us, but we -- you
3 know, we really didn't hang out with all those other
4 friends that she had. You know, she'd go from group to
5 group and we didn't hang out with them. But it was like
6 a work friend or someone who baby-sat someone she worked
7 with's kids.

8 Q And how was the name, this Zanny the nanny
9 name, even coming up that you-all were trying to talk
10 about who she might be? How had it come up at all?

11 A We had all met at their house to like make a
12 time line to see, you know, try to trace Casey's steps to
13 figure out, you know, where Caylee was.

14 Q And what time frame? Is this after --

15 A This is after July 15th.

16 Q Is Casey in jail at the time?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And you say we were all together. Who's "we"?

19 A Me and my friends. Me, Shawn Daley, Chris

20 Stutts, Christina. I don't know Christina's last name.

21 I think Stephanie was there. I'm not -- there were a

22 couple people, but I don't remember who they were.

23 Q And Cindy?

24 A And Cindy.

25 Q Was George there?

0029

1 A I don't think so because I think he was at

2 work or he was out doing something. I don't -- I don't

3 recall him being there.

4 Q And where were you-all?

5 A At their house.

6 Q And so at this time, Casey's in jail, but she

7 has told this story that Caylee is with this Zanny the

8 nanny or Zenaida Gonzalez, and you-all are trying to

9 figure out who she is so you can try to help find her.

10 A Yes.

11 Q Is that the gist of it?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And in that setting, no one had a clue who she

14 was?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q And in that setting, Cindy Anthony gave no
17 indication that she had any way of contacting this
18 person?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Do you think in the context of that
21 conversation if Cindy had had addresses or phone numbers
22 on Zanny the nanny that that would have likely come out?

23 A Absolutely.

24 Q And it did not?

25 A It did not.

0030

1 Q And she didn't say anything about having
2 address books or phone numbers or anything written down
3 and having turned them over to the police or anything
4 like that for Zanny the nanny?

5 A Not that I can remember.

6 Q Would you likely remember that if she had
7 said that?

8 A Oh, I -- because I would have wanted to know.

9 MR. MITNIK: Okay. Thanks.

10 EXAMINATION (cont'd)

11 BY MR. DILL:

12 Q Since we're talking about Zenaida, was there a
13 time right around before the 15th, I think it might have

14 been July 8th, when you saw Casey out with a new

15 boyfriend of hers?

16 A July 5th.

17 Q And how do you remember that it was July 5th?

18 A Day after the 4th of July.

19 Q Right. Okay. Where'd you see her?

20 A Buffalo Wild Wings at Waterford Lakes.

21 Q And who all was there?

22 A There was lots of people there. We were

23 watching the USC fight.

24 Q And she showed up without Caylee?

25 A Yes.

0031

1 Q And who was she with?

2 A Tony.

3 Q And is it Lazzaro or -- whatever you --

4 A Tony.

5 Q You knew him as Tony?

6 A Tony, yes.

7 Q And was that the first time you met him?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did she introduce him as her boyfriend?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And did she tell you on that date, July 5th,

12 where Caylee was?

13 A She said that she was at the beach.

14 Q And did she say with whom?

15 A The nanny.

16 Q And did she say anything else besides that?

17 A No. I asked her about -- because my dad had
18 seen her a few days before, a week before, at a liquor
19 store, and she was with a couple friends. My dad didn't
20 recognize the friends but recognized her. Didn't say
21 anything to Casey, didn't see Caylee.

22 My dad -- I asked her about that, and she said
23 that -- she's like -- she got baffled at the fact that I
24 asked that my father -- or I asked her, you know, was
25 Caylee with her. She's like, no, of course, I didn't

0032

1 bring Caylee to the liquor store with me.

2 Q Right. Who got -- oh, Casey got baffled --

3 A Yes, Casey.

4 Q -- that you asked her about that?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Why did you ask her? Was there a reason?

7 A Oh, I just said, oh, my dad said he ran into
8 you. You know, he saw you but he didn't say anything. I
9 was just making conversation. I hadn't seen her in a
10 while.

11 Q I gotcha. Okay. So right around this time,

12 though, around the 5th, though, did you ever come to find
13 out or get a message from Lee or anybody else?

14 A Yes. Lee sent me a message on Myspace maybe a
15 week and a half, two weeks before that, I don't -- I
16 mean, sometime between the beginning of June and the
17 middle of July -- that they hadn't seen Casey or
18 Caylee -- their parents hadn't seen Casey or Caylee,
19 hadn't really heard from them, wanted to make sure
20 everything was okay. You know, asked if I heard from
21 her, if she was staying with me.

22 And I text message Casey immediately asking
23 her if everything was okay, and she said, yeah,
24 everything is fine.

25 Q She sent you back a text?

0033

1 A Yes.

2 Q And do you remember what she said, what the
3 text said?

4 A Everything -- I mean, not word for word, but
5 the gist of it was that everything's okay. Everything's
6 fine. We're fine. Caylee's fine. You know, my parents
7 are crazy. I talk to them all the time.

8 Q So then do you know if your father had seen
9 her subsequent to you getting that message?

10 A I don't know when it was that my dad saw

11 them -- saw her. He had just got back from a trip, but
12 I -- when that -- when that message I got on Myspace was
13 and when my dad saw her, I don't --

14 Q When you saw Casey at Buffalo Wild Wings
15 around the 5th and she said that Caylee was at the beach,
16 did you mention the Lee message at that point or did she
17 bring up the fact that you had texted her?

18 A No, no. I don't think she brought it up.

19 Q In your mind you thought that she was --

20 A Everything was fine.

21 Q -- she was telling the truth --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- and that her daughter was at the beach and
24 all that?

25 A Yes, sir.

0034

1 Q Did she say anything more at that point about
2 the nanny, whether this was -- who this person was or any
3 identity of the nanny at that point?

4 A No, sir.

5 Q Out of that group of friends that were there
6 at Buffalo Wild Wings, did any of you guys subsequent to
7 when all -- when Casey went in jail, did you guys talk
8 again about that meeting and what she might have said to
9 one of them?

10 A I think we all always asked, you know, where's
11 Caylee, how's Caylee, and she always told us she's fine.

12 Q And would say that she was somewhere else
13 or --

14 A The beach or a theme park or just at the
15 nanny's.

16 Q Now, during this time period around July 5th,
17 did you still have the impression then that she had had
18 this dream job and was still working?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And obviously now come to find out that was
21 not true?

22 A Yes.

23 Q When you saw her at Buffalo Wild Wings, did
24 Casey appear to be, you know, under duress or acting any
25 differently when you saw her?

0035

1 A Absolutely not.

2 Q Describe for me how she was, you know, her
3 demeanor.

4 A Happy go lucky like nothing was wrong.

5 Q Were you able to see if she was drinking or
6 not when you were at the Buffalo Wild Wings?

7 A I think she might have had a couple drinks,
8 but not -- I mean, maybe two.

9 Q Did she appear, her demeanor, the way she
10 acted, any different than she had back when you guys were
11 hanging out more?

12 A No, sir, not at all.

13 Q As you said, happy go lucky like nothing was
14 wrong?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Was that the only time between the time you
17 got that message from Lee and then when she -- July 15th,
18 let's say, was that the only time you saw her?

19 A On July 5th?

20 Q Yes.

21 A To my knowledge, yes.

22 Q How about other IMs or text messages during
23 that time period, if you remember?

24 A Not really, not really, because at that point
25 we really weren't that close anymore.

0036

1 Q Right, because you had --

2 A We saw each other -- we saw each other, you
3 know, randomly. I'd seen her at a party in May, but
4 that's it.

5 Q And you weren't as close because I guess you
6 weren't dating the same people that you had been dating
7 before or --

8 A She was dating a new guy and was hanging out
9 with them a lot.

10 Q And do you know if that was the guy that
11 showed up at the Wild Wings?

12 A No, it's not the same person.

13 Q Do you know who it was?

14 A Ricardo. Ricardo Morales.

15 Q Are you friendly with him or do you know him?

16 A We used to work together.

17 Q Have the two of you ever discussed where
18 Caylee was during this time period or anything of those
19 things?

20 A When everything first happened, yeah, we
21 talked about it because both of us were baffled. We
22 couldn't believe that this person we thought we knew was
23 lying to us about basically everything. We discussed
24 that.

25 He had said he was very upset because she had
0037

1 stayed the night -- Casey and Caylee had stayed the night
2 at his house sometime in early June, I don't remember
3 exactly the date he had said, that he was upset about
4 that because he's like, you know, what if that was the
5 last time anybody saw Caylee alive. So he was very upset
6 about that. But other than that, no.

7 Q Did he ever say anything to you anything about

8 a nanny or Zanny the nanny, anything like that?

9 A Not to my knowledge. Not that I could

10 remember.

11 Q So after Lee sends you the message, did you

12 ever reply to Lee?

13 A Yeah. I told him I just talked to Casey. She

14 said everything's fine. Short and sweet.

15 Q Was that basically the last of that series of

16 conversations --

17 A Yes.

18 Q -- between you and Lee?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So then after the 5th, after Buffalo Wild

21 Wings -- how long was everybody there? Was it during the

22 duration of the fight?

23 A Yeah. We got there pretty early. I would say

24 between 7:00 and 7:30. And I think -- I went out

25 afterwards, so I think -- I want to say I left 11:00,

0038

1 11:30'ish, maybe even 12.

2 Q Right. Was she still there; do you remember?

3 A I do believe she was.

4 Q With Tony?

5 A Tony.

6 Q And that was the first time, I guess, you had
7 talked to Tony or met Tony?

8 A I didn't even really talk to him.

9 Q Have you subsequently talked to him --

10 A No, sir.

11 Q -- or seen him around or anything like that?

12 A No, sir.

13 Q I'm going to get to July 15th in just a moment
14 here, but I want to backtrack a little bit before we get
15 into July 15 forward, okay, to kind of orient you.

16 Did you ever observe any tension or fights
17 between Casey and Cindy ever?

18 A Before July 15th?

19 Q Sure. We're going back.

20 A I never observed them, no. Casey would call
21 me upset my mom this, my mom that, my dad this, my dad
22 that. I mean --

23 Q What were the issues with her mom concerning
24 Caylee specifically?

25 A The biggest one was on her second birthday.

0039

1 Q Tell me about that.

2 A Caylee was, you know, opening her presents,
3 and Cindy was doing a lot of the work for her and Casey
4 got upset. We had discussion about it. You know, she

5 was upset that Cindy was, you know, helping Caylee when
6 it was Casey's daughter. Casey wanted to be the one
7 helping.

8 Q And did she say that was an issue between the
9 two of them or a problem?

10 A I think that it's -- it was an ongoing battle
11 with the two of them.

12 Q Because you said -- during that time period
13 would have been the time she would have confided in you?

14 A Yes, yes.

15 Q So were there times when she would either call
16 you or e-mail you and vent about that situation?

17 A Absolutely.

18 Q And when you say the ongoing battle, I just
19 want to be a little more specific. Describe what you
20 mean.

21 A She'd called me before about it. You know, my
22 mom, you know -- I can't -- I remember her second
23 birthday specifically because there's videos of it.
24 There's pictures of it. But I mean anything specific,
25 any dates, any times as to when she called saying they

0040

1 had problems, I just remember her talking about it.

2 Q And when you say the problems, was it that
3 ongoing thing about Cindy being more either involved or

4 trying to be more of the mom?

5 A Trying to be more of the mom.

6 Q And that that was something that was upsetting

7 to Casey?

8 A To Casey, yes.

9 Q Did she describe why that was upsetting or

10 how?

11 A She just -- because Casey was Caylee's mom.

12 Cindy's her grandmother. And that's what -- it was her

13 daughter.

14 Q Did Casey ever say to you anything during

15 those time periods about plans to try to move out of the

16 house or anything like that?

17 A Yeah, absolutely.

18 Q Tell me about that.

19 A She just wanted to get a place on her own,

20 but, you know, she had it good at her parents' house.

21 She never specifically said any -- any specific place,

22 but she wanted to, but, I mean, it was going to be like

23 years.

24 Q Years forward?

25 A Yes.

0041

1 Q Did she ever mention Sawgrass as one of the

2 potential places?

3 A No, sir.

4 Q As far as that ongoing problems or fights, I
5 guess, between Casey and Cindy, did Casey ever tell you
6 that she was having some sort of a breakdown or problems?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Okay. Tell me about that.

9 A She'd come to my work one day for lunch, and
10 she was really, really upset. She was in professional
11 clothes like she had just gotten off work. She had
12 Caylee with her. We went to go grab something to eat,
13 and she said, you know I just feel like I'm having a
14 breakdown. I feel like I'm losing it. You know, I
15 just -- I need to get away. And I'm like, oh, you want
16 to go away for the weekend? And she's like, no, like I
17 need to go somewhere.

18 Like I didn't understand what she was saying.
19 She said that she wanted to like go to an institution for
20 a little bit, get everything out of her -- you know, off
21 of her mind or whatever. She never said anything
22 specific. And I asked her what she would do with Caylee,
23 and she said that she would give her to her grandparents,
24 to Cindy and George.

25 Q And do you remember about what time frame

0042

1 we're talking about that this happened?

2 A Absolutely not. Before Caylee's second

3 birthday for sure. I know that.

4 Q So before August of, what is that, '07?

5 A 2008. Oh, no, no, 2007. You're right.

6 Q Okay. And was that -- the subject of the

7 tension or problems between Cindy and Casey, would those

8 come up during conversations with the two of you often

9 moving forward?

10 A Not often, but we did talk about it before,

11 before her second birthday. That wasn't the only time.

12 Q So is it fair to say it was sort of an ongoing

13 issue?

14 A Yeah.

15 Q Now, let me ask some questions, and you may

16 remember this from the interview with the police. And I

17 just want to ask some questions about -- particularly

18 about Xanax, okay, so I'm going to ask about that.

19 I believe there was an e-mail or an IM where

20 Casey said that she could get a Xanax from her friend

21 Annie.

22 A Uh-huh.

23 Q You remember -- do you know what I'm talking

24 about?

25 A Yes.

0043

1 Q And that's obviously -- tell me about that.

2 Is that true or --

3 A Completely untrue.

4 Q Do you know why she would have said that or --

5 A I have no clue.

6 Q Do you know if she was -- had you ever been

7 around her when she had taken Xanax?

8 A Absolutely not.

9 Q Have you ever -- have you ever heard the term

10 that Xanax refers -- or Zanny the nanny refers to Xanax

11 given to a kid? Have you heard that?

12 A People on the Internet have said that. I've

13 heard on the news.

14 Q Right. But have you -- did you hear it

15 among your --

16 A Friends, no.

17 Q So this -- this e-mail, I guess what it is,

18 bookmark --

19 A Instant Messenger.

20 Q -- instant message saying that she could hook

21 up, my friend Annie, you don't know anything about that?

22 A I don't know anything about that.

23 Q Is that another example of her making up --

24 A Yes.

25 Q -- making up a story?

0044

1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q When you used to hang out with her, did you
3 ever see her -- I mean, obviously, she drank.

4 A Yes.

5 Q Did you ever see her use any other type of
6 drugs?

7 A No, sir. She barely -- and she barely drank.
8 She usually is the one who drove all of us when she did
9 go out.

10 Q That's back when you guys were close?

11 A When we were close, yes.

12 Q Now, I think you may have seen some more
13 recent photographs.

14 A Yes.

15 Q Were you -- were you in any of those parties
16 from the pictures like during the time period when --

17 A Not when Caylee was missing. There's one
18 picture -- there's a set of pictures that people say is a
19 July 4th party. It wasn't a July 4th party. It was from
20 May. It was the end of May. It was around this time.
21 It was Memorial Day weekend.

22 Q And is there another set of pictures that you
23 don't recognize or you're not sure when they were taken?

24 A Yeah. There's one she's wearing a purple

25 dress, I think. I think so. She's wearing a dress.

0045

1 It's at Fusion.

2 Q All right. Fusion being over there on, what,

3 Lake Underhill is it or --

4 A I'm not sure where. I know it's behind

5 Waterford Lakes. I'm not -- I've never been there. I

6 have no clue where it is.

7 Q That wasn't one of the places you frequented

8 back then?

9 A No, I've never been there.

10 Q And did you find out from your group of

11 friends or anything that Casey was hanging out there

12 or --

13 A She tried to get me to go out there because

14 she was doing some kind of promotions for them.

15 Q When was that? June?

16 A June, July, yeah.

17 Q So she was doing promotions for Fusion and

18 tried to get you to go out there to go to the parties?

19 A Yeah, she wanted me to come out.

20 Q And when she called you or tried to get you to

21 come out, again, was she acting like she was under

22 distress or --

23 A No, sir.

24 Q -- being directed by somebody to do that?

25 A No, sir.

0046

1 Q There came the point in time, I guess, it was

2 around the 15th that all of this first happened. Did

3 Casey ever call you or talk to you after she was

4 arrested?

5 A When she came home from jail.

6 Q About when was that?

7 A If I knew what time when she got out of jail,

8 I could tell you specifically.

9 Q I understand.

10 A Before my birthday.

11 Q When she came home from the jail the first

12 time?

13 A When she came home from jail the first time.

14 And then I believe she got arrested in -- she got

15 rearrested for the check charges and then got out of jail

16 again.

17 Q So when she came home from jail the first

18 time --

19 A Yes.

20 Q -- kind of take me through this now. Did she

21 call you or --

22 A No.

23 Q How was it that you ended up talking to her?

24 A I had -- a good friend of mine was the one

25 making the shirts for Caylee.

0047

1 Q Okay.

2 A And I had to go pick some of them up on a

3 Friday for George. He couldn't make it, so he wanted me

4 to go get them from my friend. So I went and got them.

5 They couldn't -- they went out of town. They had

6 something to do. I ended up meeting up with them on a

7 Monday night to get the shirts from them -- or, you know,

8 get the shirts to them.

9 And I had been going through something, and me

10 and Cindy and George were just talking, and I was like,

11 you know, this is one of those times that I would need

12 Casey and I can't have her. And they said, well, get in

13 the car. We'll take you to her.

14 Q And where did they take you?

15 A To the house.

16 Q When you saw her in the house, did the two of

17 you have a conversation at that point?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Tell me about it.

20 A She just -- we just kind of caught up a little

21 bit, talked about my stuff. I asked how she was doing.

22 She -- she had told me that -- I wish I remember word for
23 word. Just that everything -- that Caylee was -- because
24 it was before Caylee's second birthday -- or third
25 birthday; and that Caylee was going to be home before her
0048

1 third birthday; and that she knew she was going to be
2 home before her third birthday; and that Caylee was
3 close. She's like, you know, when this is said and done,
4 I have so much to tell you.

5 Q What did you think of that in the context of
6 what was going on?

7 A I didn't want to know anything because I
8 wouldn't want to be put in a situation where I'm the
9 person who knows, so I kind of just left it at that
10 and that's --

11 Q Did you get the impress -- when she said --
12 when you said you wouldn't want to know or didn't want to
13 know, did you get the impression that Casey might have --
14 was going to tell you something that --

15 A At that point, no. Like I didn't think she
16 was going to say anything to me at that point, but I
17 think that she wanted to talk to me.

18 Q Because, again, this was somebody that
19 confided in you?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And you'd confided in her?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Now, how about this when she was saying that
24 she knew that Casey was going to be -- sorry -- that
25 Caylee was going to be home by her third birthday? Did
0049

1 you ask her about that in light of the fact that she's
2 missing?

3 A Again, I didn't -- I didn't really want to get
4 into it with her. I mean, it's just one of those things
5 that I -- I had so many questions I could have asked her.

6 Q Right. Understood.

7 A And I just -- for my safety, I just didn't --
8 I didn't ask anything.

9 Q Did she at that point ever say to you, well,
10 this Zanny the nanny has her or took her?

11 A No.

12 Q So here now she's home from jail. You know
13 she's already told the police about the Zanny the nanny.

14 A Yes.

15 Q And you're her best friend. Did she say to
16 you that? Did she tell you that story?

17 A No, sir.

18 Q Did that seem odd to you in light of what you
19 know now?

20 A That she didn't say someone specific?
21 Q Yeah.
22 A It's all odd. Every bit of it is. Again,
23 when she would start saying something, I would back out
24 of it. I wouldn't -- I really didn't want to know. I
25 didn't want to be that person that knew everything.

0050

1 Q Was it just the two of you at this --
2 A Yes. We were in her room talking.
3 Q And when she said when this is all said and
4 done, I have so much to tell you, you took that to --
5 A When this was all said and done, she had so
6 much to tell me.
7 Q Exactly. How long was that conversation you
8 had with her in her room?
9 A I was with her for a couple hours.
10 Q You also talked about your situation?
11 A My stuff. It's just things that she wanted to
12 know about her friends, what was going on outside of, you
13 know, the jail.
14 Q Okay. Anything else that she told you at that
15 point about the circumstances of how her daughter was
16 missing?
17 A She -- no. Like I said, I stayed away from
18 it. I really -- I told her if there is anything I can do

19 for you, you know, let me know, but, again, I didn't want
20 to be that person that knew.

21 Q Now, at this point, though, you had heard the
22 Zanny story?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did you believe it at that point?

25 A I believed Caylee was alive until they

0051

1 confirmed that she wasn't.

2 Q And now in light of everything that you've
3 learned, what Casey had told you about the nanny, do you
4 believe that to be true?

5 A I think that there was somebody that watched
6 Caylee. Whether it was male or female, I don't know, but
7 I believe there was somebody that watched Caylee.

8 Q And why do you say that?

9 A Just a gut feeling. There's no reason why,
10 nothing that anybody said, but I just have a feeling that
11 there's somebody.

12 Q But certainly this Zanny the nanny and her
13 being a ten, her name being Zenaida Gonzalez, based on
14 what you know and what you've talked to all your friends,
15 do you have any information that that's true?

16 A I have no information about that. I had not
17 heard that name until it was on the news.

18 Q All right. Now, after that, when you went and

19 met with her on that day --

20 A Yes.

21 Q -- did you talk to -- first of all, we'll talk

22 with Case -- and we'll talk about the other folks as

23 well, George and Cindy and Lee, but did you ever talk to

24 Casey again after you met with her in person on that day?

25 A Yeah. We -- we would talk. She would text me

0052

1 from her mom's phone or from her dad's phone just saying

2 little things, you know, hey, hang in there.

3 Q How about a face-to-face conversation?

4 A I saw her again before she went to jail for

5 good.

6 Q Okay. And during that either the text

7 messages or the time when you saw her again before she

8 went to jail for good, did she ever talk to you about

9 Zanny the nanny?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q Anything about that, about the abduction of

12 her child?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q About Blanchard Park?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Did you ever hear anything about that?

17 A I know she used to run at Blanchard.

18 Q But did she ever tell you that this Zanny
19 person had taken her kid away to punish her, to teach her
20 a lesson?

21 A No. She did say that whoever had her child,
22 they were telling her to say everything that she said.

23 Q She told you that, then?

24 A She told me that.

25 Q When did she tell you that?

0053

1 A When she was out of jail the first time I saw
2 her.

3 Q Back this first --

4 A When she was first out of jail before Caylee's
5 third birthday.

6 Q So when she first got out of jail, she was
7 comfortable enough to tell you that somebody was telling
8 her -- telling her --

9 A To say what she said, yes.

10 Q I mean, did she expand on that at all?

11 A Again, I --

12 Q Did that seem odd?

13 A I didn't want to know. I really, really,
14 really didn't want to know.

15 Q Did that seem like something that was

16 realistic to you?

17 A I -- no, but, I mean, I don't know.

18 Q That next time that you saw her, were there

19 more conversations about what?

20 A That was less involved with Caylee than the

21 first visit.

22 Q What was it involving?

23 A We just hung out. I mean, me, her and her mom

24 hung out. George was at work. We hung out, watched a

25 movie.

0054

1 Q When -- you know, you told us before about the

2 group of friends had gotten together to put together a

3 time line.

4 A Yes.

5 Q Was that before she came home from jail the

6 first time?

7 A Yes. I mean, this was right after she had

8 gotten arrested.

9 Q Now, did you ever talk with George or Cindy or

10 Lee, any one of them again about the things you had

11 talked to about during that time line?

12 A Several times.

13 Q And tell me, did the name Zanny the nanny ever

14 come up with them?

15 A No.

16 Q First of all, with Cindy, I mean, how many
17 times -- how often would you talk to her about where
18 Caylee might have been?

19 A I would talk to them on a fairly daily basis
20 until my name got drug into things, and then I quit
21 talking to them.

22 Q All right. I'm going to get to that in just a
23 second about your name being brought in, but when you
24 talked to them on a daily basis, meaning George or Cindy,
25 did they ever again say, hey, we've got to find this

0055

1 Zanny or Zenaida --

2 A No.

3 Q -- because Zenaida took our child or
4 grandchild?

5 A No.

6 Q Never heard that? And when -- I guess you
7 were involved a little bit in the search as well?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And during all that time period, did you ever
10 have any conversations with George, Cindy or Lee about
11 Zanny the nanny or Zenaida?

12 A Just it was basically all three of them asked,
13 you know, did you know this person? Do you know who this

14 person could be? Is this this person's name? You know,
15 who is this person? They all asked once, and after I
16 said no, it kind of was dropped.

17 Q But you never heard them again talking amongst
18 themselves about a game plan to find Zenaida?

19 A Not that I can remember.

20 Q Now, when you see --

21 A Besides one of the times -- I know for sure
22 one of the times that we met up and talked that we tried
23 to figure out if it was somebody else.

24 Q Now, did you ever see the investigators that
25 they had hired or meet them?

0056

1 A The private investigators?

2 Q Right.

3 A I went to one of the vigils, a couple of the
4 vigils at their house, in front of their house, and they
5 were there, so obviously, I apparently have seen them,
6 but who they were, I --

7 Q Did they ever come up to you and interview as
8 the best friend of Casey --

9 A No.

10 Q -- about trying to find this person --

11 A No.

12 Q -- who was the baby-sitter?

13 A No.

14 Q Never did that?

15 A No, sir.

16 Q Now, when you say your name was dragged into
17 it, tell me what you mean by that, that your name being
18 dragged --

19 A Instant message.

20 Q The instant message --

21 A Yeah.

22 Q -- about the Xanax?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did Lee actually call you at some point in
25 time?

0057

1 A Yes.

2 Q And what was that? Lee called you and --

3 A Lee called me after Melina had been
4 interviewed by the sheriff's office.

5 Q His girlfriend?

6 A No. Melina is one of Casey's friends from --

7 Q I'm sorry.

8 A Melina was one of Casey's friends from middle
9 school. And Melina had called Lee and told Lee -- she
10 had told Lee about the interview saying that they were
11 asking Melina if she knew that I sold drugs or that I did

12 drugs. And Lee just told me, you know, tell them tell
13 the truth. If you know anything, tell them. You know,
14 they're going to talk to you. They're going to want to
15 talk to you. Just tell them the truth.

16 Q And so that's when -- do you know how that --
17 how that all came into it? Was it the instant message?

18 A Yes. I'm assuming that's what they asked
19 Melina. They asked Melina about the instant message
20 because they asked her if she knew that I sold drugs or
21 anything.

22 Q Again, that's all --

23 A Completely untrue.

24 Q Did Cindy -- or did you ask Casey at any time
25 about the chloroform? Do you remember that?

0058

1 A Yeah, I did the first time we were over there.

2 I did ask her that. I was like, you know, Casey --

3 Q Tell me about that.

4 A What is it they're saying about the
5 chloroform, you know, in your car? What is it? She said
6 they're cleaning supplies in the back of my car, which I
7 believe because that family cleans 24/7. Like everything
8 they have is spotless, and it wouldn't surprise me if
9 there was cleaning supplies, something in the back of her
10 car. There always was.

11 And she just said, you know, that there was
12 cleaning supplies back there, whatever chloroform is,
13 whatever it's made up. I think it's ammonia and bleach
14 because I didn't know what it was. I looked it up on the
15 Internet.

16 Q As far as the -- did the conversation ever
17 come up with George or Cindy or Lee about the smell from
18 the car? Did you ever --

19 A I've never talked to them about that.

20 Q Never heard them say that?

21 A No. On the news -- just the recordings on the
22 news.

23 Q Right. But what they said to you in any of
24 these conversations?

25 A I've never talked to them about that.

0059

1 Q Did Casey ever explain it or say anything to
2 you about that --

3 A No.

4 Q -- when you talked to her?

5 A No.

6 Q I saw something in the interview, and I just
7 want to follow up on it as well about Casey catching
8 Cindy with the e-mails or being on the computer. Do you
9 remember that?

10 A (Nods head.)

11 Q Is that something you saw or something you --

12 A I was there -- I think it was the second time

13 I was there. She had -- Cindy had signed an e-mail

14 "Case." That's what Casey signed everything, Case. And

15 Cindy was acting like Casey talking to somebody who said

16 they had a lead about Caylee, and she had signed an

17 e-mail Case, like she was -- like Casey was writing it,

18 and Casey kind of freaked out about it.

19 Q Was that something you saw or observed?

20 A I heard it. I was in the living room. They

21 were in the computer room.

22 Q You heard them yelling. So it's my

23 understanding you had -- when you're saying freaked out,

24 be a little bit more -- tell me what happened.

25 A She screamed and yelled at her.

0060

1 Q What kind of things was she saying?

2 A You're an idiot. You're stupid. What do you

3 think you're doing? Things like that.

4 Q And what was Cindy's response?

5 A Trying to find Caylee.

6 Q When they were -- when you were there and you

7 heard those guys interacting or talking, did you ever

8 hear them talking about Zanny or --

9 A No.

10 Q -- anything like that?

11 A No.

12 Q I just want to make sure, in my mind, after
13 she was arrested the first time, it looks like you met
14 with her twice --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- in person?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Is that right?

19 A Uh-huh.

20 Q And then you said you would get text messages
21 on George or Cindy's phone. How would you know it was
22 her?

23 A I would just -- things that somebody my age
24 would say versus something her parents would say.

25 Q I gotcha. How about the e-mails or instant
0061

1 messages?

2 A Never. I never got those.

3 Q After she'd been arrested?

4 A She would send me text messages. She could
5 from her Instant Messenger could text message my phone
6 and she would say thinking of you, love you, be strong,
7 be careful.

8 Q Anything else about this, her either being
9 directed about what to say or anything else about the
10 nanny?

11 A No, sir.

12 Q No mention of that?

13 A Just that one time.

14 Q Let me kind of clarify something else. I
15 guess you got a traffic ticket at some point in time?

16 A I've had a couple.

17 Q Was there one around Memorial Day last year or
18 May 24th or so?

19 A Of last year?

20 Q Yeah. I'm just looking at some things here.
21 That you got, I guess, a traffic ticket.

22 A The last one I got was a speeding ticket and
23 seat belt violation.

24 Q Right. That's the one.

25 A When it was I don't know. I know where I was,
0062

1 but --

2 Q Was anybody with you?

3 A No.

4 Q You were by yourself?

5 A I was by myself.

6 Q So traffic ticket and speeding violation. And

7 was Casey around following you?

8 A I was actually talking on the phone to her,
9 ironically. But I don't think it was last year. I think
10 it's been a year.

11 Q Oh, has it?

12 A A good year.

13 Q That may be. I'm just -- I'm just trying to
14 say when you -- that you actually got a seat belt --

15 A I got a couple speeding and seat belt
16 violations. One was on Moss Park Road and one was on
17 Curry Ford.

18 Q Do you know if Casey ever used a fake ID or
19 had a fake ID?

20 A Not to my knowledge.

21 Q Because I guess you would have known her after
22 she --

23 A After she was 21.

24 Q After she's of drinking age?

25 A Yeah, I -- I don't --

0063

1 Q So you didn't hang out with her back in high
2 school when she might have had a fake ID?

3 A No. We didn't socialize outside of high
4 school.

5 MR. DILL: Let's take a break for a second.

6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Time is 1:58. We'll go off
7 the record.

8 (A 2-minute recess was had.)

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 2:00. We are
10 back on record.

11 EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. MITNIK:

13 Q Okay. I've got just a few follow-up
14 questions.

15 When you were describing the situation
16 where after Cindy had -- I'm sorry -- after Casey had
17 gotten out of jail and she caught her mom signing her
18 name to e-mail or a text or something --

19 A Yes.

20 Q -- you said she screamed at her and said
21 you're an idiot and you're stupid. Was that, from your
22 experience between her relationship with Cindy, a pretty
23 volatile relationship?

24 A What do you mean?

25 Q I mean, I guess I never screamed at my mom or
0064

1 dad and said you're --

2 A And I didn't either.

3 Q -- an idiot or stupid.

4 A And I told her that is no way to talk to your

5 mother.

6 Q How was Cindy reacting when she did that?

7 A She just accepted it.

8 Q Was it your impression either from your

9 experience with her or from that interaction that that

10 was not out of the ordinary that she would talk to her

11 mom that way?

12 A I don't think it was normal. To me, Cindy

13 doesn't seem the type of person who would stand for that,

14 especially from her child. I don't think that she would

15 stand for that, but given the situation, I know -- I

16 mean, I'm not a mom. I'm not a grandma. But I think at

17 that point I would do anything, listen to anything that

18 it would take to get my grandchild back, get my child

19 back.

20 Q Had you -- in the past when there were -- for

21 example, you said there was an ongoing battle between

22 Cindy and Casey over the issue of Cindy kind of

23 overstepping her bounds playing mother as opposed to

24 letting Casey be the mother.

25 Do you know in those situations, when they

0065

1 would battle over it, whether it would escalate?

2 A Not to my knowledge. I mean, Casey had never

3 said to me my mom, you know, touched me or my dad touched

4 me. You know, they never -- I don't know of anything
5 that's ever happened.

6 Q Well, actually, that's part of the question.

7 Not just physical, but do you know whether they hollered
8 each other and got hot even if it --

9 A I never witnessed it besides that one time.

10 Q Over the phone when this ongoing -- how long a
11 period of time do you think the ongoing battle went on?

12 A I think her whole life. I think Caylee's
13 whole life.

14 Q Caylee's whole life Cindy would -- is it fair
15 to characterize the way Casey would describe to you that
16 her mom was acting like she was really the mom of Caylee
17 and that was upsetting to her, like overstepping her
18 bounds? Rather than just being the grandma, you're
19 stepping on my toes as the mother; is that fair?

20 A I wouldn't say that it was always like that.

21 Again, I was very rarely around Cindy, Casey and Caylee
22 all at the same time.

23 Q When it happened, was that -- is that a fair
24 characterization what --

25 A Yes.

0066

1 Q -- she would be -- what Casey would be griping
2 to you about on the phone?

3 A Yes.

4 Q You said other times she would call, Casey
5 would call you and talk about she was in a fight with
6 her, an argument with Cindy. What other kind of things
7 did they have problems with?

8 A Her wanting to move out, not registering for
9 school. That's what she told me.

10 Q And "she" being Casey?

11 A Casey, yes.

12 Q And Casey would -- in other words, Casey would
13 tell you that she was in an argument with her mom because
14 her mom did not want her to move out and Casey wanted to
15 move out?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And why -- why wouldn't her mother want her to
18 move out? What was Casey telling you? Was it over
19 Caylee?

20 A Yeah, I'm assuming that's what it was. I
21 don't remember exactly, but my -- my assumption would be
22 that because then Cindy would never see Caylee. Cindy or
23 George, for that matter.

24 Q While you don't remember the specific word for
25 word, is it fair the gist of what you recall about it was

0067

1 Cindy didn't want Casey to move out because -- because of

2 her wanting to have Caylee in the home?

3 A Yes.

4 Q How about you had said also she had called --

5 if I heard right -- that she had -- there were times that

6 Cindy would call and she'd be having arguments with her

7 dad, George. What would they argue about?

8 A You mean Casey call?

9 Q I'm sorry. I said Cindy. When Casey would

10 call that she would also have arguments with her dad

11 George. Do you remember what that would be about?

12 A They just didn't get along, from what Casey

13 told me. She -- I don't remember her ever saying

14 anything specific. She would say that her parents were

15 getting a divorce. They were fighting. And her dad --

16 she would just say her dad was just hateful, you know,

17 just not nice to her.

18 Q To her?

19 A To Casey. But never anything specific. She

20 was more specific about the arguments with her mom.

21 Q And the stuff about George being hateful, was

22 that kind of an ongoing deal to?

23 A Not so -- not so much.

24 Q When she -- how often would you hear that from

25 her?

1 A I think I maybe heard that twice, three times,
2 maybe.

3 Q What about her relationship with Lee?

4 A They were like best of friends.

5 Q Just going back for a minute about when you
6 went over to the house with some of the other group of
7 friends while Casey was in jail and you were kind of
8 trying to piece together who this baby-sitter could be or
9 where she could be and Cindy was there.

10 A Yes.

11 Q At any time during that gathering, did Cindy
12 say anything about indicating, well, I know the
13 baby-sitter's for real because --

14 A No.

15 Q -- because Caylee would talk about Zanny's
16 puppy or dog, anything like that?

17 A No. The one thing Cindy did say is that there
18 was a list, a list of items that she found on a piece --
19 like on a notepad that had -- like if you were packing
20 for like the beach or something, that had like those kind
21 of items, like things you need to get at the store, you
22 know, juice and Caylee's favorite snacks. What they -- I
23 don't remember what they were, but those were on the
24 list, and like things that Caylee would need if Caylee
25 was going to the beach. And I think she had mentioned

0069

1 that there was like a dog leash, dog bone, dog treats,
2 something like that on the list as well.

3 Q Now, this list that Cindy told you about,
4 would that have been during this meeting we were just
5 talking about?

6 A She had mentioned it, yes.

7 Q Was it something that she had found recently,
8 in other words, indicating it looked like she was packing
9 up to go to the beach when we last saw her now that I've
10 seen the list?

11 A I think she just found the list. I don't know
12 if she knew when it was from, though.

13 Q Was the context of her bringing it up she may
14 have been planning to go to the beach when she was last
15 here?

16 A Like Casey was planning to go to the beach.
17 She wanted us to go to the beach and like put fliers
18 around and stuff.

19 Q So she thought that was a lead as to
20 potentially where Caylee was?

21 A Yes.

22 Q In the conversation that you actually had with
23 Casey after she got out of jail, I heard you say that
24 when she would start to talk about any of the kind of

25 hotter issues about what was going on, you would back up.

0070

1 You didn't want to be getting information.

2 A No.

3 Q Can you remember the things, again, not exact
4 words, but the gist of times that she would start into a
5 subject where you would back out of it what those things
6 that she would start to bring up were?

7 A I've mentioned them. The trunk, the
8 chloroform in the trunk. Her saying, you know, when all
9 this is said and done I have so much to tell you, and
10 that someone had been telling her to say what she's been
11 saying, but nothing more than that that I can remember.

12 Q And when she said someone's been telling her
13 to say what she's saying, say what she's saying about
14 what?

15 A Everything. I'm assuming that -- I'm assuming
16 she meant everything.

17 Q Did she act scared or what was the setting? I
18 mean, what was her demeanor when she's telling you that?

19 A She did seem a little like on edge, I guess,
20 you could say. She wouldn't like sit near her window.
21 She would not sit near her window at all. She didn't
22 want me to sit near her window. But that's really like
23 the weirdest thing to me.

24 Q And when she said someone was telling her to
25 say everything she said, she didn't give any indication
0071

1 who?

2 A Again, it's "they."

3 Q And when she said -- but it was a plural

4 "they"?

5 A Yeah.

6 Q And it wasn't in any way, shape or form a

7 Zenaida Gonzalez?

8 A That name was not said.

9 Q Or Zanny the nanny or anything like that?

10 A That name was not said.

11 Q And when she said that she believed Caylee
12 would be home by her third birthday, did she say anything
13 else about why she thought that?

14 A Just a gut feeling.

15 Q Did she say that or is that --

16 A (Nods head.)

17 Q She said it's a gut feeling she'll be there by
18 her birthday?

19 A (Nods head.)

20 Q Nothing else?

21 A Nothing else.

22 Q And then on the she said she thought she was

23 close, was it your impression she meant close

24 geographically?

25 A That was what I took from it, yes.

0072

1 Q And what led you to think that?

2 A Nothing specific. Just I wouldn't -- I

3 wouldn't know what, you know, what other way she was

4 talking.

5 Q Did she -- as she said I have a gut feeling

6 that she'll be home by her third birthday, did she give

7 you any reason why she thought she was close --

8 A No.

9 Q -- or say gut feeling or anything like that?

10 A No, no. In her heart -- in her heart she

11 knows. In her gut she knows. But it was just a feeling.

12 Q That she's close?

13 A It wasn't anything concrete like this is the

14 reason why.

15 Q What was at this time when she's now home from

16 jail the relationship with her and Cindy? Is it tense?

17 Is it real warm? How would you describe it?

18 A That first time I just went over there and I

19 spent time with Casey. I didn't -- I mean, I had seen

20 George and Cindy and they took me back to my car, but I

21 spent my -- the entire time I was there with Casey.

22 The second time Cindy was there that one

23 little tiff and that was it.

24 Q Rest of the time how were they?

25 A Fine.

0073

1 Q How about were you ever there after she got

2 out of jail when George was there?

3 A I don't think -- I know George came home that

4 night that I had stayed the night there, but we were

5 sleeping.

6 Q So you didn't see any interaction?

7 A I don't -- I don't -- I don't remember seeing

8 anything, interaction.

9 Q From talking to any of your other friends,

10 were you able to piece toge -- did anyone else see her or

11 have information about where she was out and about during

12 that about 30 days that --

13 A None of my friends, no.

14 Q -- Caylee was missing?

15 A I know that a group of my friends they all

16 went out to Ale House one night, from what I've read,

17 what I've heard, that Casey had stopped by, but I don't

18 know when that was. It was between those time periods.

19 Q If I want to find out any more about that, do

20 you have any names of people that would have been there?

21 A I know Casey was there. I don't know why they
22 went up there because I guess that was the day that she
23 saw Jeff Hopkins, the guy that went to high school with,
24 but I don't know who was there. I don't even know why
25 they were there. I know I wasn't there. That's all I

0074

1 know.

2 Q All right. Now, she had got a kind of new
3 group of friends at some point?

4 A Yes.

5 Q About when would that have been?

6 A Well, after -- the beginning of 2008 -- I
7 would feel confident saying the beginning of 2008. I
8 don't know when she started dating Ricardo. As soon as
9 she started dating Ricardo, she hung out with them a lot.
10 And then from Ricardo's group of friends, she went to
11 dating Tony.

12 Q Now, everyone's seen because you can't turn
13 the TV on and not see a whole bunch of party pictures
14 with her and people's hands on her and hanging over a
15 toilet and, you know, it looks like a big wild party
16 scene.

17 A Those are like four different occasions.

18 Q There -- I guess my question is do you know
19 that -- after your group, it sounds like that would not

20 have been an accurate portrayal or kind of day-to-day
21 life when her when she ran with your group?

22 A Well, the one of her hanging over the toilet
23 was her 21st birthday. It was her 21st birthday. The
24 one of her in the American flag was Memorial Day last
25 year, so this was all before any of this happened.

0075

1 The pictures -- the other ones, I don't know
2 when those were taken, her dancing in boots. I don't
3 know when those were taken because I wasn't there.

4 Q But I guess what I'm getting at is do you know
5 whether or did you hear through any of your friends that
6 when she started hanging out with the new group, that it
7 was a wilder crowd or she had turned some corner and
8 gotten wilder or do you know?

9 A I don't think that Casey's ever been wild,
10 not -- not around me she hasn't been. Like I said, when
11 she went out with me, she most of the time drove.

12 Q That's what I'm getting at. It sounds like --
13 I get the description of when you hung out with her. And
14 what I'm trying to get is once the switch and she hung
15 out with a new group of friends, do you know one way or
16 the other if she changed some.

17 A I heard that she had smoked pot for the first
18 time and that that's what that group of friends did, but

19 I can't --

20 Q So it was a little bit more --

21 A -- confirm that.

22 Q -- of a party group in that regard?

23 A I guess. I don't know. I don't know them. I

24 don't know what they do. I don't know where they go. I

25 don't know where they hang out.

0076

1 Q Do you know -- and I don't you dragging people

2 in.

3 A That's -- I don't want to say something about

4 people that I don't know. I don't know for sure.

5 Q If you would rather not, it's okay, but I'll

6 ask you, if you don't mind, who you heard that from?

7 A I have no clue.

8 Q You don't remember who it was?

9 A Whether it was people's statements that I've

10 read online, I -- you know, I don't know.

11 Q That's fine. I don't want to put you in an

12 uncomfortable position anyhow.

13 MR. MITNIK: That's all I have unless you have

14 something.

15 MR. DILL: Just one more, actually, quick

16 follow-up on something you just said.

17 EXAMINATION

18 BY MR. DILL:

19 Q Jeff Hopkins, you were friends with him from
20 high school?

21 A I knew him, yes.

22 Q Do you know if he has a kid named Zachary?

23 A Not that I know of.

24 Q So the Jeff Hopkins --

25 A Not that I know of.

0077

1 Q -- and Zachary and kids were playing together,
2 you never heard about that?

3 A That it being true?

4 Q Yeah.

5 A No, I don't know that that is true, but she
6 would say that somebody she worked with who she got the
7 baby-sitter from also baby-sat someone she works with
8 kids. A specific name of that person I don't know.

9 Q This wasn't Jeffrey Hopkins or Jeff Hopkins?

10 A Not the one that I went to high school with,
11 no.

12 Q And did she ever tell you who Caylee's father
13 was?

14 A A guy named Eric that got into a car accident
15 the Sunday of Caylee's second birthday party and died.

16 Q And you never met this person?

17 A No.

18 Q And Eric who?

19 A (Witness shrugs.) I don't know.

20 Q Was he in the military or --

21 A He lived, I want to say, in Georgia she said.

22 He wasn't too far. He wasn't in the state of Florida but

23 wasn't too far. He had a wife and another child, a

24 brother, I think.

25 Q Did she date -- I mean, was that her boyfriend

0078

1 or was it just kind of a --

2 A From what I understand, it was like a

3 one-night-stand type thing. Like they were friends and

4 they just hooked up and she got pregnant.

5 Q But then, apparently, she said this person was

6 killed in a car wreck?

7 A That's what she told me.

8 Q Do you know if he ever met Caylee?

9 A I don't believe so.

10 Q When did those conversations take place about

11 who the father was?

12 A She had called me the Monday after Caylee's

13 second birthday party upset because she said Eric, you

14 know, Eric, Caylee's father, he died in a car accident.

15 She had like a memorial thing on like her Myspace or

16 something, you know, rest in peace or whatever. And she
17 was very, very upset about it, but that's -- I had asked
18 her because I had thought Jesse was the father, and she
19 said, no, he wasn't. It was just a friend that she had
20 hooked up with.

21 Q Based on the married and had a kid thing, was
22 it your understanding that at the time of their
23 relationship that he was married and had a kid?

24 A No, I don't think so. I think that he had met
25 his -- the way that Casey said that he had met the now
0079

1 wife -- yeah, I think she said that they got married
2 after they had the kid. That she had gotten pregnant and
3 that's why they got married.

4 Q Any idea who -- do you know if he -- did she
5 tell you or do you know if he knew he was the dad?

6 A I believe he was aware of it --

7 Q Did he --

8 A -- but never met --

9 Q Caylee, never paid support, to your knowledge?

10 A No.

11 Q Did she ever talk about anybody paying child
12 support for Caylee?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Any mention from her as to, you know, why she

15 didn't make this person who was the father of her child

16 pay or do support?

17 A Nope, no reason why. I mean, she never -- she

18 never really talked about it.

19 Q Did you ever -- as being her best friend, did

20 that ever come up, especially when she was -- if there

21 were financial issues?

22 A I never knew there were financial issues.

23 Q Right.

24 A She always had money.

25 MR. DILL: Thank you.

0080

1 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Time is 2:18. We are off

3 the record.

4 (The proceedings were concluded at 2:18 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF OATH

2 STATE OF FLORIDA

3 COUNTY OF ORANGE:

4 I, LAURA J. LANDERMAN, R.M.R., C.R.R., F.P.R.,

5 certify that ANNIE DOWNING personally appeared before me

6 on the 21st day of May, 2009, and was duly sworn.

7

8 WITNESS my hand and official seal this 4th day of

9 June, 2009.

10

LAURA J. LANDERMAN, R.M.R., C.R.R., F.P.R.

11 Notary Public, State of Florida at Large

Commission No. DD 485623

12 Commission Expires: Feb. 20, 2010

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1 -----

2 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

3 STATE OF FLORIDA:

4 COUNTY OF ORANGE:

5 I, LAURA J. LANDERMAN, R.M.R., C.R.R., F.P.R., do

6 hereby certify that I was authorized to and did

7 stenographically report the deposition of ANNIE DOWNING;

8 that the review of the transcript was not requested; and

9 that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 through 82,

10 inclusive, are a true and complete record of my
11 stenographic notes.

12 I further certify that I am not a relative,
13 employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties nor
14 am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
15 attorneys or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
16 financially interested in the outcome of the action.

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DATED this 4th day of June, 2009.

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20 LAURA J. LANDERMAN, R.M.R., C.R.R., F.P.R.

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