



Northwood Police Department

Person of Interest (Form S-853)

Case No.
9649-2a

Date filed:
March 18, 2024

DETAILS

Full Name:	Catherine Rowe	Age:	59	Dominant Hand:	Left
Height:	5'3"	Weight:	132 lbs		
Shoe Size:	7	Eye:	Blue	Hair Color:	Gray
Military Experience:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Own Fire arms:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Prior Arrests:	NA	Outstanding Warrants:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
Employer	SymBioCorp	Occupation	Senior Representative		

VEHICLES (use additional sheet of necessary)

Year	2021	Model	530i	Make	BMW	Color	Black	License Plate	NYR-4582
Year		Model		Make		Color		License Plate	

STATEMENT

In space below, describe your whereabouts on the date and time of incident

On the night Dr. Eleanor Vance died, I was in Northwood. I parked my car in Lot B, the one across the river from the Institute, because I had plans to visit a friend who lives a few blocks away. I walked over, but they weren't home, so I didn't stay long. I never went into the Institute, and I didn't see Eleanor that night. I understand it may look suspicious because of where my car was parked and because of the history between us, but I did not set foot inside that building. My only intention was to meet with my friend, and when that fell through, I left the area.

Received by: Det. Pat Jensen

Date: March 18, 2024



Northwood Police Department

Interview Transcript (Form S-942)

Case No.
9649-2a

Date filed:
March 18, 2024

Details

Interview: Catherine Rowe

Date: 03 / 18 / 2024 Time: 11:35 am Location: Northwood Police Station RM 2

Detective Jensen: Please state your name and occupation for the record.

Catherine Rowe: Catherine Rowe. I'm a senior representative at SynBioCorp, a biotech firm.

Detective Jensen: And how did you know Dr. Eleanor Vance?

Catherine Rowe: Professionally. SynBioCorp backed part of her research. We believed she was the right scientist to help us develop applications from enzyme systems her lab was working on.

Detective Jensen: And how did that collaboration go?

Catherine Rowe: At first, smoothly. She was brilliant, no question about it. But she also had... principles. Sometimes to a fault. We had a contract on the table, multimillion-dollar value, and Eleanor blocked it. Said there were "ethical concerns" with how the results would be applied. That decision cost my company money – and me personally. I've been clawing my way up for years. One deal like that makes or breaks a career.

Detective Jensen: You sound upset about it.

Catherine Rowe: Of course I was upset. Furious, actually. I'm not going to sugarcoat it. Eleanor cost SynBioCorp profits, and she made me look ineffective in front of my board.

Detective Jensen: Let's talk about the night of Eleanor's death. Where were you?

Catherine Rowe: I drove into Northwood. My car was parked in the lot across the river from the Institute. I think it is called lot B.

Detective Jensen: That's very close to the lab. Why were you there?

Catherine Rowe: I was supposed to visit a friend who lives a few blocks from the parking lot. I went to their place, but they weren't home.

Detective Jensen: Did you go into the lab that night?

Catherine Rowe: No. Absolutely not. I didn't see Eleanor. I didn't step foot inside the Institute.

Detective Jensen: Catherine, you admit you were furious with her, your car was across the river from the lab, and your alibi – this friend you say you were visiting – didn't see you. That's a lot of coincidence.

Catherine Rowe: [pauses, exhales sharply] I know how it looks. But I swear to you, I didn't go near that lab. Being angry is not the same thing as killing someone. Eleanor's death doesn't benefit me — it makes everything worse. SynBioCorp has investigators crawling all over me now.

Detective Jensen: Understood.

Conducted By: Det. Pat Jensen

Transcribed By: Dusty Riverson

From: Dr. Eleanor Vance evance@northwoodinstitute.edu
To: Catherine Rowe c.rowe@synbiocorp.com
Date: Thur, 29 Feb 2024 08:25:52 -0500
Subject: Contract Decision

Dear Catherine,

I wanted to take the time to personally explain my decision regarding the proposed contract. Up to this point, I have greatly valued our working relationship. SynBioCorp's support has provided my team with resources that made real progress possible, and I want to emphasize my gratitude for your professionalism and collaboration.

That said, after reviewing the details of the application outlined in the contract, I have serious ethical concerns. Specifically, the proposed use of enzyme-driven modifications falls into an area where safety testing, regulatory clarity, and potential misuse remain uncertain. While I understand the commercial potential, I cannot in good conscience move forward with an agreement that poses such risks.

I realize this decision has financial and professional implications, and it was not made lightly. Please know that this is not a reflection on you or SynBioCorp as a whole, but rather a necessary boundary given my responsibility as both a scientist and an educator.

I hope that despite this disagreement, we can maintain a positive relationship and continue exploring other avenues of partnership in the future. Your insight and commitment to science have always impressed me, and I remain optimistic that there are projects ahead where our values and goals will align.

With respect,
Eleanor Vance, PhD
Northwood Institute of Biochemistry



Northwood
Research Institute
Parking Lot B

PARKING RECEIPT
03/13/2024

from: 10:45 pm
to: 11:20 pm

Plate: NYR-4582

Paid: 3.25





Catherine Rowe