

*United States v. Keith Raniere et al.*  
Eastern District of New York  
Case Nos: 18-cr-204-NGG, 1:24-cv-02925-NGG

**Declaration of Mark Daniel Bowling**

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the United States, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the following is true and correct.

1. I am Mark Daniel Bowling.
2. I am a retired Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Special Agent and FBI Special Agent and a Digital Forensic Examiner for both agencies.
3. I served in the FBI for just under 20 years as a Special Agent, rising to the position of Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Little Rock Field Office, National Security Branch. Immediately following my time in the FBI, I served in a senior management position with the Department of Education (DOE), OIG, as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the DOE-OIG Technology Crimes Division, where I directly supervised all cyber investigations and digital forensics on a national basis. In both capacities, and previously as a Supervisory Senior Resident Agent and Supervisory Agent, I was directly responsible for the development of dozens of search plans, and participated in and oversaw dozens of additional searches. I am intimately familiar with proper FBI search protocols, including but not limited to search photography and evidence collection.
4. In September 2024, I began my review of the findings and analysis prepared by Former FBI Senior Evidence Technician and Evidence Response Team (ERT) member Kenneth DeNardo regarding the search of 8 Hale Drive, Halfmoon, NY, executed on March 27, 2018. Over the course of several weeks, I reviewed drafts and supporting materials to evaluate the methodology and evidence presented. I also analyzed the underlying FBI search logs and photographs. On November 20, 2024, I reviewed the finalized version of Mr. DeNardo's search report and affirm that it reflects the findings and conclusions consistent with my earlier reviews. Based upon my experience and analysis, I agree with Mr. DeNardo's findings in their entirety. His findings are listed as follows:

**Finding 1: Before the Team Arrived at 8 Hale, SA Elliot McGinnis Pre-Filled the Personnel List and Signed On Behalf Other Agents, Both in Violation of FBI Protocol.**

**Finding 2: Before Arriving at 8 Hale, SA Elliot McGinnis Pre-Filled the Evidence Recovery Log, Violating FBI Protocol and Choreographing the Search to Fit a Predetermined Narrative**

**Finding 3: SA McGinnis Improperly Signed As Other Agents For 80% of the Entries in the Evidence Recovery Log, Further Undermining Its Reliability and Integrity as a Real-Time Record**

**Finding 4: Failure to Log All Search Personnel, Such as a Canine, Constitutes a Knowing Violation of Protocol by Team Leader SA Doyle and the Canine's Handler, Undermining the Integrity of the Search Records**

**Finding 5: The Canon camera and Western Digital hard drive were deliberately prioritized in the improperly pre-choreographed evidence log, demonstrating foreknowledge of their precise locations and importance. This directly contradicts the FBI's claim of an 'accidental' discovery of their significance 11 months later.**

**Finding 6: Agents manufactured a scene on a bookshelf by adding and arranging items—including two incriminating sex trafficking books of unknown origin, likely brought to the scene—and then used this false setup to take evidence photographs.**

**Finding 7: A second camera of unknown origin, likely planted, was staged, labeled as evidence, and photographed, but deliberately left behind.**

**Finding 8: The Canon camera and memory card are not clearly visible in any evidence photograph, contrary to FBI protocol.**

**Finding 9: The hard drive was intentionally mislabeled in its evidence photograph.**

**Finding 10: There is no record in the chain of custody of what happened to the hard drive after February 22, 2019, months before trial.**

5. I agree with Mr. DeNardo's ultimate conclusion that the search of 8 Hale was deliberately and fraudulently staged and that search scene collection photographs were also deliberately staged. Further, I agree that at least 4 of the 9 search team members were complicit in this fraudulent conduct, with 2 of them as key orchestrators: SA Elliot McGinnis and SA Christopher Mills.

6. During my nearly 20 years in the FBI, I have never seen a search executed with this level of corrupt and illegal behavior.

Executed on: 11/20/2024 \_\_\_\_\_

DocuSigned by:  
Signature: Mark Bowling  
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**Mark Daniel Bowling**

Retired FBI and DOE-OIG Special Agent

20 years of service to the FBI and DOE-OIG, including my two times as an Assistant Special Agent in Charge, once for each agency.