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TRANSCRIPT OF TAPED INTERVIEW OF RICARDO MORALES

CONDUCTED BY DETECTIVE JEROLD WHITE

CASE NUMBER 08-069208

Detective White the uh Orange County Sheriff's Office Domestic Violence Unit, today is July 5th 16th 2008 is 9:31 p.m. and I'm at 232 North Glenwood?

A. Um huh (affirmative)

Q. And I am with...?

A. Ricardo Morales.

Q. Already...and this interview reference to case number...08-06928. Alright. (mumble..)right there..Ricardo, how do you spell your last name?

A. Morales. M O R A L E S.

Q. ES?

A. Yes.

Q. ES and RICARDO?

A. Yes.

Q. Ok uh, what's a good phone number for you?

A. (Redacted).

Q. Um huh (affirmative).

A. (Redacted).

Q. (Redacted).

A. Um huh (affirmative).

Q. And what's your date of birth?

A. January (Redacted).

Q. Right, all right umm, tell me, how do you know Casey Anthony?

A. From the first time I met her?

Q. Yea, just...

A. Ok, I met her at a birthday party at Amy's house um for her roommate Lauren at the time, Casey was there as...I'm not sure if she was a friend of Lauren or a friend of Amy, who worked with (inaudible).

Q. Right.

A. Um basically I met her at that party (inaudible).

Q. Okay so you meet her at a birthday party ...and uh how do you guys hit it off uh... you see her she sees you sparks fly...?

A. Oh no as far as like dating it wasn't a I just had just met her that night so no nothing happened from there um I started...I moved out to Orlando in August...

Q. Um huh (affirmative).

A. And we just hang out from there that's when I really actually got to know her and then we started getting and uh...been (inaudible).

Q. Alright so you met her would you say uh...June, July '07?

A. June.

Q. June?

A. Early June.

Q. You moved to Orlando in August 07... uh you see each other...

A. (Over talking)...and stuff. That's how we got to know each other.

Q. Okay so February comes and you guys make that leap of faith you guys you guys...

A. At first yea my birthday on the 23rd whatever had a party here and that's were...things got serious I guess and that's where we took it from there, eventually started dating.

Q. Ok so you guys stay start dating um...do you guys maintain separate residences ,did she stay over, did you stay over how that worked out.

A. She lived with her parents at the time ,she'll come over and stay over probably three or four times a week.

Q. Um huh (affirmative).

A. Uh most of the time with Caylee um very rarely without her.

Q. Okay and that was here at Glenwood?

A. Here

Q. All ready so she stayed over here with with you uh...she slept with you guys shared a bed...?

A. Um huh (affirmative).

Q. Where did Caylee sleep?

A. In the same bed.

Q. Alright so three of you all in the same bed and um ...happy couple?

A. Yea

Q. How would you characterize you guys relationship?

A. Fun I mean it wasn't it never really got too serious.

Q. Um huh (affirmative).

A. Um we pretty much broke up before anything ...because of that, because it wasn't getting serious.

Q. Okay she wanted it to be more or you wanted it to be more?

A. I told her I just...didn't my feelings for her weren't growing at all so I decided you know? There's no reason to keep doing it.

Q. Okay.

A. And she agreed, we were fine it wasn't like...a fight or anything about it and from there we kept hanging out and then she got a new boyfriend and we hang we hanged out less so...

Q. Okay.

A. Yea that's pretty much how it's been since and (inaudible).

Q. So tell me this when you guys are in your relationship what you guys do? You go to the movies...what what you guys...?

A. Um we did a lot of just hanging out here, actually we didn't really go out too much I mean we'll go out and get some food every now and then. Movies...don't even think I ever saw a movie with her um...but yea basically for the most part it was just staying in.

Q. Okay so...

A. So staying in and hang out here.

Q. Safe to say you guys would chill on the couch...

A. Um huh (affirmative).

Q. With Caylee in between you all laying on one of you all watching movies?

A. Well by the time I get off work it was pretty much Caylee's bedtime so when I get home Caylee is put to sleep and we just... just do other things yea.

Q. Okay how you get along with Caylee?

A. Just fine I mean she was uh...from what I think an average kid, she you know she had her tantrums now and then and...I had no problems with that I mean...I didn't have any problems with her at all.

Q. Did she like you?

A. I would think so yea (chuckle)

Q. (laughs) Did she give you hugs when she happen to see you?

A. Yes she was her mom would tell her you know go give Ricardo a hug and she would and stuff ,she never had a real problem with me.

Q. She gave you a big hug?

A. Normal little kid size (chuckle)

Q. A little kid size?

A. Yea

Q. Alright uh she give you a kiss on the cheek or anything?

A. Not regularly if she did it was a one or two time thing.

Q. Okay did you guys play?

A. Um yea I'd play with her you know and I...(inaudible)kid, I'm not too good with kids, I lifted up and stuff and do whatever made her laugh and every now and then but...I don't know I don't really ever been in a relationship where there was a kid involved and that never (chuckle) really been around kids too much so I guess I'm not too good with that but...I do what I could,

Q. But, you weren't mean to the kid?

A. No, I wasn't mean to the kid.

Q. (laughs) so it's kind of like well you know uh you don't have any kids um you never had any kids...

A. Yea I was just...mainly trying to...I guess adapt to been around a kid all the time.

Q. Do the best you could?

A. Yea

Q. Okay so um how would you say that uh Casey uh interacted with with Caylee,how they get along?

A. I felt they get along fine like from what I saw with her and Caylee ,she was always attentive of Caylee I mean I think she would feed her you know change her, give her juice make sure she had...all her little teddy bears she go to bed with I mean from what I saw between her and Casey I mean her and Cay...Casey and Caylee it was a good relationship. I thought Caylee Casey was a good mother.

Q. Um huh (affirmative) lots of kisses, lots of hugs?

A. Um? Yea she was pretty affectionate with her.

Q. If uh...did she ever like uh let's just say you guys were here together all three of you and did she ever like had to go to the store and leave Caylee with you for a few minutes...

A. Casey? No

Q. Yea...

A. No, if I vaguely remember one time where she wasn't here and Caylee was here ,I don't even know when that happen but it may have when she ran out to get something and came back and if it did it was once so...

Q. Well while she was gone did you know uh ...did she did Caylee give you any problems?

A. No if this happened if I'm remembering correctly she was asleep.

Q. Oh okay

A. So...

Q. So you you were pretty comfortable with her?

A. With Caylee?

Q. Yea

A. Yea

Q. And you and Casey got along pretty well?

A. Yea

Q. Tell me what you thought about uh, Casey as a person? And be honest, don't don't... sugarcoat if you think she was you know she was mean, if she was mean, if she was sweet, she was sweet (Over talking)

A. No, no I'll give you man I'll tell you exactly what I thought um...she was a very nice person , she is a nice person um ...a lot of...she seemed to be very agreeable like if you say something whether or not she's actually done she'll say she has and a lot of stuff she'd say I ...think it was a little bit BS but it was trivial things so I never paid it too much mind. Um...besides that she was very nice, she was caring, she...like I would I got sick one time even when we were after we were dating she came and cooked for me food, chicken soup and all this stuff like she was a very good person, she did care and I got along with her great.

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. But um...

Q. Okay so you guys relationship ends when?

A. Middle of April.

Q. Okay so middle of April you guys listen this isn't going where I you know I don't I don't foresee us get or go any further than this?

A. Yea pretty much

Q. And she says...does she does she say why, what can we do?

A. No she agrees.

Q. She was (inaudible).

A. She says my feelings for you haven't really increased and it's probably a good thing that we stop so...

Q. Fair enough, nobody cries.

A. Hum...

Q. Is cool...

A. We came back in sat on the couch, kept doing what we were doing, she (inaudible).

Q. Okay ,was was Caylee with her then?

A. No she wasn't on that night.

Q. Okay um...so that's in April do you see do you still see her after that time, between that time and now, do you still see her?

A. Yea up until probably the...the end of May.

Q. Um huh (affirmative).

A. We would still hang out a lot, you know she'd come over a lot and she'd bring Caylee over every now and then, it wasn't as much at all as when we were going out, specially like her sleeping over it wasn't as much at all. Um but she would come over and still hang out and stuff and we were still friends, everything was fine.

Q. Um huh (affirmative) When was the last time that you can remember seeing Caylee?

A. June 9th um her and Caylee slept over so it would be Tuesday, June 10th in the morning.

Q. Why does that stick in your head?

A. Because that Thursday the 12th it was my friends going away party, Hannah in Tampa so I went down there and saw her and...I just went from there as far as went back...and well obviously I been thinking about it lately like when is the actual last time I saw this kid and that's when it was.

Q. So they slept over um...June 9th into June 10th?

A. Um huh (affirmative) (background talking and noises)

Q. And you guys (inaudible)

A. No after that I saw her maybe three weeks later, who Casey?

Q. Yes, oh no, Caylee.

A. No I haven't seen her since then.

Q. Okay, so you saw Casey...maybe three weeks after?

A. Three weeks...about I would say about three weeks.

Q. Okay and when did you see what was that three weeks after that?

A. Where did I see her?

Q. Yes

A. She was here um Amy is been staying here for about two months um...cause she doesn't really have a place now. She was downstairs talking to Amy and I saw her when I woke up to go to work.

Q. Do you guys.....hi, hello?

A. Yea

Q. What's happening?

A. Hi, how are you? It was probably like 5 minutes that I was here and then she stayed longer but...

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. That's the extent of when I saw her that time then I saw her again...the day that I left on vacation, which was July 2nd.

Q. Okay then July 2nd um...where was, where do you think Caylee was?

A. She would just tell us she was either with the nanny or the mom and being that...I hadn't seen her in like three weeks ever since I saw Caylee...I hadn't seen her enough to think anything of it, like I didn't see her...consistently without Caylee. I saw her like two times after that and she didn't have Caylee and I didn't really think much of it because...well one of the times I was just going to work when she was here talking to Amy and the other time she just didn't have Caylee and I didn't...nothing I just didn't think anything of it.

Q. Have you ever seen the nanny?

A. No, never seen her never talked to her.

Q. Did you and um and um Casey ever go out on a date with...ever like go out on a date period go out?

A. Yea we go out I mean to...pretty much food is the only date we did.

Q. Um huh (affirmative) Did you ever go out on a date without Caylee?

A. Yea

Q. Where was Caylee at if you guys went out on a date?

A. I don't know specifics, I, I would assume it was with the Mother or with uh zany who is...who was the nanny of Caylee which is what Casey had told me the whole time I knew her. If she's not here she's with one of those two so.

Q. Okay so you've have you ever been to Casey's mom's house?

A. Yea I went there once.

Q. And did you meet mom and ...?

A. No her parents were not there, they were at work.

Q. Okay and uh, was Caylee was there that time?

A. Um huh (affirmative)

Q. So you got to see the house and everything else?

A. Yes

Q. Okay um do you remember if Caylee had her own room?

A. She did have her (inaudible)

Q. Alright did uh...Caylee have any (inaudible)...when I was a kid, when I was a little boy um, I got passed down a teddy bear named Bob , he's still in the family now too. Uh, he made it through...

A. Wow.

Q. Several surgeries um..

A. Oh okay.

Q. You know (over talking) teddy bear injuries ...um did she have like a stuffed animal toy or anything?

A. She had a few that her mom would bring over for her to sleep, um teddy bear, a little baby doll...

Unknown female in the background. named momma.

A. Is that the doll?

Unknown female in the background. yea that was in there.

Q. The dolls name is momma?

A. Yea I think the teddy was teddy or she had a few it was like four of them.

Q. Okay um...you get back from the trip, you just go back on a trip?

A. Yea we just got back yesterday.

Q. You get back yesterday, tell me what happened when you get back just...?

A. (over talking)

Q. The airplane lands, tell me what happened.

A. Airplane lands we go get our luggage, Casey came to pick us up. The arrangement was that she would come pick us up or pick at least one of us up cause we've never , we none no-body had a car that would fit us all. So Casey picked us up, drove someone back cause I know we got picked up again. And that's exactly what happened.

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. She take Amy um Amy took actually took Casey to her boyfriend's house and then Amy came to pick us up.

Q. Okay where do you go when you get back?

A. We came here.

Q. Alright so what do you do when you get back?

A. Um when we get back, Amy and JP shortly after go to the mall.

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. I stayed here um and shortly after that stuff went down with Amy finding out things about Casey, that you know she's been lying to her about stuff and...

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. Then after that that's pretty much what we talked about and then we found that Casey had stolen I don't know how much money from Amy thru a check book.

Unknown female in the background. (over talking) hundred dollars

A. Thru a checkbook that Amy left in the car and then we eventually heard from um, Casey's mom that...the issue with Caylee had not been seen for however long.

Q. Okay um, you, you know there's an issue with we haven't seen Caylee in a while.

A. I'm aware of that yea.

Q. If you were me, you were the Police and you been tasked with trying to figure out what's going on, where would you point me to look?

A. If I was...from what I feel right now I don't ...I know just about as much about Casey as you probably do, everything I thought I knew about this girl was...not the truth...

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. So I feel like the person we're talking about now and the person I knew before are two different people, I don't really feel like I know her. Apparently where she worked wasn't true, her nanny, no-one knew her. I really don't know what to think.

Q. Where did she tell you she worked?

A. At Universal Studios

Q. She ever take you there?

A. As an event....no never took me there.

Q. Never got you free pass?

A. No we tried a few times to go to a concert or something, it always fell thru and then um, maybe cause she didn't work there but um...she talked about it a lot to the point where...I would never guess that is not true, like she had her boss Tom, she had a best friend named Julia that she talked about and...it all added up. I don't know, I mean I had no reason to question it or anything but...

Q. Does she consistently go to work like....I got to go, got to go to work?

A. Well she had a great schedule apparently she, just if she don't want to work she can work from home and uh sometimes have to work early in the morning, sometimes have to work late at night um...

Q. Did you ever see her work at home?

A. I never saw the work that she did, she never brought it here and I've only been to her house once, and when I was there...I didn't see her working at all.

Q. Okay...you ever see pictures at of, of her at home, at at her house that was like Universal Studios or anything behind her or anything?

A. Not really.

Q. Ever seen...

A. I mean but then again, I mean I'm not looking I wasn't looking for that at the time I just...assumed what she's telling me is true, you..(inaudible)

Q. Right you ever see like um...you know how (inaudible) with a name tag with (unintelligible) what would it be um.....Ricardo, from Tampa?

A. Uh...

Q. You know how they wear those kind of like Disney tags?

A. Oh just you know, just a normal name tag.

Q. Yea, you ever see anything like that?

A. No, I did not see a name tag that I can remember.

Q. Okay, um, had you ever gone on any trips, any day trips any night trips anytime you know you going away with her, any road trips, anything with Casey?

A. No, no road (mumble)

Q. You ever taken her to Tampa or (inaudible) anything like that?

A. She actually met me in Tampa one time. I was there for a wedding.

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. I was there for a weekend and she came down and met me in Tampa. So I guess I don't know if that constitutes a road trip with her but...

Q. Stay overnight with you?

A. No she stay there (inaudible)...they were getting married on a Sunday, she was there Saturday pretty much throughout the day and left at night.

Q. Okay, she bring Caylee with her?

A. No she didn't.

Q. Okay, she, have you ever....found anything of yours missing? Any money or anything like that?

A. No I haven't. I heard that she had gotten a hold of something, a credit card of mine but I didn't know when it was uh, all mine accounted for now so...

Q. You never had noticed any charges that were weren't made by you or anything?

A. No, I've looked at it now and I mean there's nothing ...big enough that I would have been concerned at the time not to pay it.

Q. Um huh (affirmative)

A. So I just if she did charge anything to it, I guess I must have paid it off already and I mean if it was a big charge I think I would have noticed it but I never saw anything in there that was either large, and if I did or if it was large it was something I bought so then...yea none none of my statements were suspicious at the time, at least not to me.

Q. Okay do you have any other information you think I need to know about with uh between Caylee or Casey or anything else?

A. That I know, honestly no. I wish I could tell you more and if you have any more questions (inaudible) you know more than willing to answer them but as far as her relationship with Caylee in front of me at least, she seemed like a fine mother. I mean she took great care of her and all that stuff so I mean outside of here I don't know. I assumed she had a nanny I assumed her mother was watching her but um....yea a lot's changed as far as what we've found out lately so.

Q. Okay um...did you ever meet her new boyfriend?

A. I met him once yea.

Q. What do you think about that cat?

A. I shook his hand that was pretty much it.

Q. One of those hi, how you doing things?

A. Yea it wasn't, I didn't talk to him at all and..

Q. Did you know that that was her boyfriend when you met him?

A. No he wasn't her boyfriend at the time.

Q. Okay, so when you met him, he was just some cat? Some guy?

A. Like I mean they were talking, I think they were pretty much throwing down that path to be going out but they weren't at the time that I met him.

Q. Okay uh....and did you ever discuss meeting him with Casey?

A. How so? You mean if I wanted to meet him?

Q. No after you met him did you ever talk to Casey yea he's alright or..?

A. Well I mean, she was right there so she knows I didn't talk to him at all so we never really....brought it up like as far as what I thought of him cause I really had no opinion of him. I didn't talk to him at all.

Q. Okay alright. Raise your right hand. Do you swear the information you provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge?

A. I swear the information that I provided is true.....

Q. (laughs)

A. What's the rest of that?

Q. Do you swear (laughs) the information you provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge?

A. I do. I swear the information I provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Q. All ready. It is still the 16th of uh July 2008 and is 9:50 p.m. and that'll conclude this interview.

This transcript has been reviewed for accuracy.

Signed this 18th day of September 2008.

Detective Jerold White OCSO Deputy Sheriff.