

1 **TAPED TRANSCRIPT OF RYAN PASLEY**
2 **INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY CORPORAL MELICH**
3 **CASE NUMBER – 08-069208**
4 **JULY 30, 2008**
5 **YM – CORPORAL YURI MELICH**
6 **RP – MR. RYAN PASLEY**

7 **YM:** Okay now it is July 30, 2008. The time right now is 1822 hours. I'm going to be
8 trying to contact uh, Ryan Pasley reference to Orange County case number 08-
9 069208. I'll be dialing [REDACTED].

10 **(Sound of telephone ringing).**

11 **RP:** Hello Detective.

12 **YM:** Hey, is this Ryan?

13 **RP:** Yes. Who's this?

14 **YM:** Now I'm about to throw my phone out the window. So if you hear something
15 crash that's what it's going to be.

16 **RP:** (Laughs.) You uhm, were you trying to pick it up or something?

17 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative). I keep seeing your phone number call. Every time I pick it up
18 it doesn't want to, the button doesn't want to work. It's....

19 **RP:** (Laughs.)

20 **YM:** I'll tell you.

21 **RP:** (Inaudible) I work at a place I can get you a cell phone buddy. You just let me
22 know.

23 **YM:** (Laughs.)

24 **RP:** (Inaudible).

25 **YM:** That's, that's icing on the cake right now.

1 **RP:** (Laughs.) Yeah (affirmative).
2 **YM:** Uh, hey, I was wondering if you had a couple of uh, a couple minutes....
3 **RP:** Oh, yeah (affirmative).
4 **YM:** ...to talk to me.
5 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).
6 **YM:** Okay. Uh, well since I'm doing this over the phone I really have no idea who you
7 are, so kind of give me some information to verify. What's your date of birth?
8 **RP:** My date of birth is [REDACTED]
9 **YM:** Okay. And you currently live up in Jacksonville, or you just...
10 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).
11 **YM:** ...go to school in Jacksonville?
12 **RP:** Uh, uh, well yeah (affirmative), I mean I live here but I'm, I won't be living here
13 uh, for much longer. After I graduate I'll be going back down to Orlando. But I
14 currently do reside in Jacksonville.
15 **YM:** What's a good mailing address if we had to mail you a picture, or mail you
16 something to look at?
17 **RP:** Uh, [REDACTED]
18 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
19 **RP:** [REDACTED]
20 **YM:** Spell that?
21 **RP:** [REDACTED] And that's [REDACTED]
22 **YM:** Is that an apartment or a house?
23 **RP:** It's, yeah (affirmative), it's an apartment. It's [REDACTED].
24 **YM:** [REDACTED]? Okay.
25 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

1 **YM:** Okay, that works for me.

2 **RP:** Okay.

3 **YM:** Alright, uh, I'll, I'll try and make this brief. I know it's dinner time...

4 **RP:** (Inaudible).

5 **YM:** ...so I don't want to interrupt you too much.

6 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I mean you know, take your time. Man I'm willing to talk.

7 **YM:** Tell me, tell me what you know, well first of all, last, yesterday we talked a little bit

8 you said I guess you've known Casey since you were about five years old?

9 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), yeah (affirmative), five or six years old. I've known her for a

10 long time. Most of my life.

11 **YM:** Would she consider you one of her best friends?

12 **RP:** Uh, prior to any of this she always referred to me as like uh, one of her best

13 friends. I don't know what she would think about me now, you know, because of

14 all the media coverage and everything else. But yeah (affirmative), definitely.

15 She knows pretty much everything about me.

16 **YM:** Okay. Yeah (affirmative), because uh, when I was looking in her phone book I

17 know she has you listed as best friend. So that's why I'm reaching out, hoping

18 that uh....

19 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

20 **YM:** Recently, when was the last time you actually saw her?

21 **RP:** Uhm, I actually saw her, this would be, shit, (making sounds), it would have to be

22 man, I'm in July here we go. Uhm, huh....

23 **YM:** You...

24 **RP:** ...just some of my dates are all misconstrued. I know I saw her uh, maybe two or

25 three weeks before the actual date that she said Caylee went missing.

1 **YM:** So it would have been....

2 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

3 **YM:** ...the end of May, the beginning of June?

4 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), and I, I, I believe I saw her once a, once uh, while I was in

5 Orlando uhm, a couple weeks after that. But I, I don't recall, see and I, now I

6 wish I would have, and I, you know, at the time I wasn't thinking that I was going

7 to have to remember dates or anything, you know?

8 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative). When were you in Orlando?

9 **RP:** Uhm, well I was just in Orlando three, four weeks ago, something like that.

10 **YM:** Okay. Just for, just to visit family or?

11 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), exactly. Family, friends and you know, I definitely spoke to

12 her. I don't remember if I talked to her but I definitely spoke to her. Every time

13 I'd come in town you know we tried to, you know, hang out, something, but uh,

14 you know sometimes it doesn't pan out with her schedule and my or....

15 **YM:** If you...

16 **RP:**or her supposed schedule.

17 **YM:** If you look at a cal...I, I got a calendar in front of me. I've kind of been using this

18 with a whole bunch of friends to narrow down dates. If you look at a calendar

19 right now could you kind of give me the ballpark of what day you, you drove down

20 and what day you went up?

21 **RP:** Uh, sure. Let me uh, pull up a calendar.

22 **YM:** Sure.

23 **RP:** It would be June, I'm going to say the weekend of the 14th? Of June?

24 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

25

1 **RP:** That, that actually seems about right because I think that's when uh, I met up
2 with my family and we ended up going to the beach with my, uh, I, me and my
3 family ended up going to the beach that weekend.

4 **YM:** June the 14th? And how long'd you, how long'd you stay in Orlando?

5 **RP:** Uhm, until that Sunday.

6 **YM:** Oh, okay, so the 14th, 15th and 16th?

7 **RP:** Right.

8 **YM:** Okay. Did you....

9 **RP:** So I think it was the 13th, 14th, 15th, like the, whatever those dates are and I left
10 that Sunday.

11 **YM:** Uhm....

12 **RP:** So it would have been, 13, 14 and 15.

13 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), 13, 14 and 15. Okay.

14 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

15 **YM:** Did you go, did you meet with Casey that weekend?

16 **RP:** Uh, no. I spoke to her. Uh, and apparently it just didn't pan out. She was
17 supposed to I believe come to my aunt's house but she never made it out there.
18 There was a big get together at my aunt's house that day. Uh, and I'd spoken to
19 her throughout the day and I can't remember what excuse she came up with but
20 there was something, you know she just hadn't, never ended up going out there.
21 We had a big cookout with all kinds of stuff.

22 **YM:** Did she end up inviting you to Fusion that night or to go out that weekend she
23 knew you were coming down? Or did she even know you were coming?

24 **RP:** Uh, no, she knew I was coming down. Well I spoke to her (unintelligible)
25 probably half the drive down here. Uhm, and yeah (affirmative), I was giving her

1 directions to my aunt's house and everything. But no, she never mentioned uh,
2 Fusion. In fact never, ever has she mentioned that place to me uh, until I saw it
3 uh, in the reports.

4 **YM:** Hmm.

5 **RP:** And she never mentioned to me actually going there.

6 **YM:** Okay. Did uhm, when did you first find out about this whole thing between her
7 and Caylee, well what's happening with Caylee? How'd you find out about it?

8 **RP:** Uhm, you mean the, the actual incident or, or....

9 **YM:** Well the fact that Caylee....

10 **RP:** ...(inaudible).

11 **YM:** The fact that Caylee is missing. When did you first find out about that?

12 **RP:** I, I heard about that the morning that she got arrested.

13 **YM:** Okay. Did you hear it from her or hear it from the news or?

14 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I heard it from her, her mom. Her mom called me 8:30 in the
15 morning.

16 **YM:** Okay. And I guess you're....

17 **RP:** And then I spoke to her at ten o'clock in the morning, uhm, and that's when I got
18 the, you know Zenaida Hernandez-Hernandez crap and then uhm, uh, you know
19 John Hopkins and all that uh, which again I was telling you yesterday that doesn't
20 seem right to me.

21 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), Jeff Hopkins. Well let's....

22 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

23 **YM:** ...let's talk about this Zenaida. You said Zenaida and crap. That kind of,
24 obviously that peaks my interest.

25

1 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), and she was just uh, it's, I've never heard the name and it
2 doesn't, uh, (sighs), to me it doesn't even sound like a real name. But I have
3 never heard the name in my life and suddenly case has known her for four years
4 she said. I, because I asked her specifically. Because I was trying to get people
5 up here...

6 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

7 **RP:** That known how to find people.

8 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

9 **RP:** You know I was trying to give them information, as much information as possible.
10 Uhm, apparently you know she's known her for four years. She moved from New
11 York uh, possibly I, I think she said North Carolina as well, or South Carolina,
12 one of the two. Uhm, and she was just you know, trying to give me information
13 on it. But I, I, I just found it really odd that, that I've never heard the name of the
14 nanny. In fact I, I've heard of another name. I can't think of it now, but it was you
15 know a, definitely a Caucasian woman's name, uhm, was babysitting the child.

16 **YM:** When was the first time that you, that she ever mentioned Zenaida or Zani to
17 you? Was it on the 15th, or was it before that?

18 **RP:** It, it would, it, it's been, it was the morning that uh, she was getting arrested.

19 **YM:** Okay.

20 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

21 **YM:** So, so prior to that, ever since I guess the age of five, she's never mentioned the
22 name Zenaida?

23 **RP:** Never, ever, ever.

24 **YM:** Okay. Well I know you're going to school up in Jacksonville. When did you start
25 living in Jacksonville I guess fulltime so to speak? And I know you're...

1 **RP:** Uh....

2 **YM:** ...you're back and forth.

3 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), yeah (affirmative). I come back and forth all the time but I

4 moved up here uhm, you know, I guess you could say probably in January, right

5 at the beginning of the spring semester.

6 **YM:** Okay. So prior to January you were kind of in the Orlando area?

7 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), oh, yeah (affirmative), I, I was living there with my parents,

8 yeah (affirmative).

9 **YM:** Okay. And prior to January I guess would you and Casey go out often or, or

10 (inaudible).

11 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), we'd probably like, we probably saw each other well at, at

12 times you know it would be fairly often. You know, once every couple days and

13 then you know other times I'd see her once every two weeks or something. But

14 yeah (affirmative), I saw her pretty often.

15 **YM:** Would you, would she normally bring Caylee along, or would she normally

16 leave....

17 **RP:** Uhm...

18 **YM:** ...Caylee somewhere? What kind of, give me an idea.

19 **RP:** (Sighs.) You know, it, it was, it was probably uh, yeah (affirmative), maybe a

20 third of the time I saw Caylee. Uh, the rest of the time she said that it was with,

21 but she was with her nanny or her parents. And the nanny, once again, I never

22 heard the Zenaida name. It was another Caucasian name like a, maybe a Jenny

23 or a, a Krista, or Kristen, something like that. Uhm, but it was definitely not an

24 Hispanic name whatsoever.

25 **YM:** Could it be....

1 **RP:** I know that.

2 **YM:** Could it be Christina?

3 **RP:** Christina? That sounds a little more, and that sounds closer. But again, I mean I
4 don't want to you know.

5 **YM:** No, that's fine.

6 **RP:** Uh, you know....

7 **YM:** Did you, did you ever meet one of her friends named Christina by any chance?

8 **RP:** (Sighs.) Uhm, I don't think so. No.

9 **YM:** Okay. So uhm, I guess when she was down here and she was either with
10 Caylee or without Caylee, how would you describe her? Was she okay with
11 Caylee, or did, did she seem kind of frustrated being a, a single mom? Having a
12 hard time with it or?

13 **RP:** Oh, I mean for the most part she seemed okay. I think the biggest frustration on
14 her to be honest was the situation that she got, I guess has with her parents.
15 Their, their relationship uhm, you know....

16 **YM:** Just bossed her or (inaudible).

17 **RP:** Uhm, both.

18 **YM:** Okay.

19 **RP:** Uh, she's always kind of had a complaint about uhm, her mom stepping in too
20 often and stuff like that. But I mean I always defended her mom on that case just
21 because you know you're living with your, your mom. What are you, you know,
22 you're a young mom. She's older. She knows what she's doing, so...

23 **YM:** She...

24 **RP:** ...uh....

25 **YM:** She every make any ... I know the pregnancy was unexpected? Uhm....

1 **RP:** (Inaudible).

2 **YM:** Actually maybe you can even answer this. Who's the, who's the baby's father?

3 **RP:** Oh, uhm, uh, the only thing that I know, uhm, and actually it's, it's uh, apparently
4 some transient guy. Some random guy. Uhm, I have no idea.

5 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

6 **RP:** Uh, but I know that there was a, uh, a guy by the name of Jesse that was in uhm,
7 Caylee's life that uhm, was (making sounds), uh, I guess they dated for quite
8 some time but uh, well Caylee is not uh, not his daughter. Uh, the other guy, I
9 mean all I was told is that you know he died in a car accident. And this was told
10 by uh, Casey and Cindy.

11 **YM:** Well yeah (affirmative). Did she ever mention a name? Do you ever remember
12 a name?

13 **RP:** Uh, the, a name of a guy? No. No, absolutely not. I don't know, I don't know
14 why uh, that never came up, but no, never. It never did.

15 **YM:** Okay. Uhm, well back to, back to the way she was acting, was she making any,
16 any, any uh, and again, this is a, a young, single mom and....

17 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

18 **YM:** ...she ever make any statements to you about you know, like what if she hadn't
19 had Caylee and how her life would have turned out or?

20 **RP:** Oh, yeah (affirmative). Oh, yeah (affirmative), definitely. Uhm...

21 **YM:** Give me, give me an example of what she would say.

22 **RP:** Well, for you know, uh, uh, getting (inaudible).

23 **YM:** (Inaudible.)

24

25

1 **RP:** You, you know along the lines of well you know sometimes I wish I hadn't you
2 know, because I'm young and I can't go out and I can't do the things I want to do.
3 And that was pretty common.

4 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative). Did you ever, uh, did she ever say anything about uh,
5 wishing she never (sighs), did, let me ask you this way. Did her mom and her
6 have a, like a conversation about uh, abortion at the time she was pregnant? Uh,
7 was her mom like really against that? Uh, I keep hearing that from people down
8 here. But I figured you might be the one to ask.

9 **RP:** Uhm, uh, I, I don't, I mean I know the family very well. I mean I've been over
10 there a billion times to eat dinner and things. I don't, I've never heard a
11 conversation like that, but (sighs), I don't really think that her parents would go for
12 something like that.

13 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

14 **RP:** Just because of the, I mean because we'll have some political conversations and
15 things.

16 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

17 **RP:** They don't seem to be very (inaudible) in their social....

18 **YM:** Right.

19 **RP:** ...or fiscal politics, so uh, uh, I don't think that they would necessarily say that.
20 But again, I, I have never heard it so I don't know.

21 **YM:** Okay, that's fair enough. Uh, do you, do you, I mean we've already talked about
22 Jason, uh, Jeffery Hopkins and, and you never heard of him. Juliette Lewis ring
23 a bell to you at all?

24 **RP:** Juliette? Yeah (affirmative), Juliette, Juliette. I don't know the last name Lewis,
25 but I know Juliet and she's mentioned her. And I don't know in what context.

1 **YM:** And you know uhm, a friend, or work, or anything like that to narrow it down?

2 **RP:** Oh, uh, Juliette, Juliette, Juliette, Juliette doesn't, that oh, definitely not from
3 work. The only people that I really know her to talk about from work she, I guess
4 she never really worked there for very long anyways, were guys.

5 **YM:** Okay.

6 **RP:** Uhm, but Juliette sounds like uh, a friend. I, I definitely don't think it was a co-
7 worker.

8 **YM:** Can you tell me a little bit about where she used to work uhm, while, I guess we'll
9 start with last year just because I don't want to go too, too far back.

10 **RP:** Uhm, well I mean uh, that whole time supposedly she was working at Universal.
11 And that's the only thing she ever told me. I think the biggest problem with her is
12 that, well with me especially, is that she had to, she this issue with uh, you know,
13 trying to, you know, be the one-uppy? And I guess she felt kind of like her life
14 wasn't necessarily going in the direction that she wanted it to go. So every time
15 she would talk to me and maybe that something was going good for me like I
16 finished up my final exams, or I'm getting this much closer to graduating, she
17 would always come up with something to kind of make the, the playing field level
18 between the two of us somehow.

19 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

20 **RP:** I guess she felt like it was a competition.

21 **YM:** Right.

22 **RP:** So when it came to the job situation, you know I, again, I guess it was a lie, but
23 she was an event coordinator at Universal Studios. Uhm....

24 **YM:** How, how long was she tell, how long had she been telling you she was doing
25 that?

1 **RP:** Oh, man, for quite some time. And I know I, I, oh, probably two years. Three,
2 two or three years probably.

3 **YM:** Really, that long?

4 **RP:** Uhm, yeah (affirmative), and, and she, I guess at one point uhm, her, because
5 her mom called me try to confirm some lies that Casey had said. Her mom
6 called and said, because uh, oh, at the time I was, you know, I was like oh,
7 (inaudible) at twenty one, uhm, I was working at Sports Authority. And uh, I
8 guess because I loaned her four dollars...

9 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

10 **RP:** ...while I was working there. And I guess at that time she was telling her mom
11 that she worked at Sports Authority with me. And then...

12 **YM:** And go back to the four hundred dollars. I, I think I missed you on that one.
13 What was that about four hundred?

14 **RP:** Well because I just lent her four hundred, oh, well I didn't lend her. I, I mean I
15 basically it was, it was....

16 **YM:** Right.

17 **RP:** She was supposed to give it back but I, I, I lent her four hundred dollars for what
18 she said was rent to her parents, which it didn't make any sense really to me
19 because I would think that as a single mother that doesn't really have the
20 faculties to take care of a child they're not going to charge their daughter rent.

21 **YM:** Right.

22 **RP:** But I went along with it anyways because whatever. I don't know. I guess she
23 needed it more than I did.

24 **YM:** Alright.

25

1 **RP:** So I gave her the four hundred dollars and I guess during that time she was
2 telling her mom she worked at the Sports Authority and many like nights that
3 she's out uhm, that her excuse was that the reason why she was staying out late
4 is because there would be inventory, things like this. And that the only reason
5 why her mom never really got upset about it, and this is what even Cindy told, the
6 only reason why Cindy got upset about it because she knew I was there and that
7 she was okay, when in fact this never even happened.

8 **YM:** Hmm.

9 **RP:** She never, she never, she never worked there. She just hung out with me.
10 Because I was (inaudible).

11 **YM:** Let me guess. Was this the Sports Authority over here at Waterford?

12 **RP:** Uh, it, uh, well no. Originally that, uh, this is what uh, Casey, uh, Cindy told me is
13 that originally she worked at the one with uh, me, uh, with me uh, at 436 and
14 Colonial.

15 **YM:** Gotcha.

16 **RP:** And then she transferred to the one uhm, in Waterford.

17 **YM:** But she never worked for Sports Authority.

18 **RP:** Never worked at Sports Authority. But that's what's she, that's what she told her
19 mom.

20 **YM:** Well when, when, did you find this out last year or, or just recently?

21 **RP:** No, I found, I found this out uhm, about a month, no, not, uh, three months,
22 maybe three, three and a half weeks before Caylee went missing. Her mom,
23 Cindy...

24 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
25

1 **RP:** ...called me and told me not to talk to Casey because she didn't want me to get
2 hurt because she's been lying about a lot of stuff, and put her in, stole money
3 from her and her grandmother. And she doesn't want me to get hurt, you know.
4 Which I, you know, I was, I said, "Okay. You know, I understand." And she, you
5 know, she seemed really upset. She was just calling me to tell me all, what was
6 going on and, and also to ask about some lies that she had suspected Casey of
7 telling.

8 **YM:** Oh.

9 **RP:** Uhm, so she actually phys...she just called me. Her mom called me uhm, you
10 know, uh, in my summer semester, at one of my classes. I remember the
11 specific time and what I was doing. And she basically told me, "I don't, I don't
12 think it's a good idea that you even talk to Casey anymore because she's a," uh,
13 the actually, those are the exact words that came out of her mouth was that she
14 was a sociopath.

15 **YM:** And that's, and mom said this?

16 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

17 **YM:** Wow. And does that match the Casey that you know?

18 **RP:** Uhm, it makes sense. I just thought that Casey was just a little bit of a white liar,
19 you know. I would catch her in certain lies like (sighs), you know, just stupid
20 things about what she was doing or uhm, you know, and who she was hanging
21 out with. And so that, but it never really uh, caught my attention. And then you
22 know later on I started finding out that she's, you know, she was doing drugs and
23 she never, ever did drugs. And when she did drugs. And when she uh, and it's,
24 and we were always totally against it. I mean everybody smokes pot. I get that.
25 You know it's not a big deal.

1 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

2 **RP:** You especially in college like I, I mean, you know, I know, I know you're a
3 detective and probably don't want to hear this come out of me but....

4 **YM:** No, I'm, I'm....

5 **RP:** ...it's not a....

6 **YM:** ...I'm, I'll, I'll tell you straight up. When I was in high school I did the same thing,
7 so.

8 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), but and so you can, uh, you can understand that. So I mean
9 she was, she started telling me that she was you know, smoking pot and this and
10 that. (Inaudible.)

11 **YM:** Well what other, what other this and that because uh, I'm, I'm trying to make
12 sense of what her friends are telling me down here.

13 **RP:** But, but that, that's literally what she would say. You know I would uh, like she
14 would get into drugs and, and you know, I would ask her specifically what and
15 she said, "Well you know just pot and you know whatever else is around," is
16 actually the, the, sort of the way she put it.

17 **YM:** Do you know if she was rolling? Was she doing...

18 **RP:** Uhm...

19 **YM:** Was she doing Ex, popping pills or?

20 **RP:** ...it's a very good possibility to be honest with you because uh, you know, just
21 the fact that she actually released to me that she was smoking pot, you know,
22 she always, she's always known that I've been against it completely.

23 **YM:** Right.

24

25

1 **RP:** Uhm, and just the simple fact that she released that little bit of information from
2 me, if she, well she felt very apologetic after she even told me that. Like she was
3 trying to explain herself over and over again, you know?

4 **YM:** How long ago did she...

5 **RP:** So....

6 **YM:** ...actually open up to you about this?

7 **RP:** Oh, gosh. Uhm, maybe a week and a half before uh, uhm, uh, Casey or Caylee
8 actually was reported missing.

9 **YM:** Oh, so she said she had you know, maybe some pot and whatever else is
10 around? Well....

11 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), that, that was pretty much the way it was said to me. Just
12 (inaudible).

13 **YM:** Did she say she was having any problems uh, handling all these drugs or any,
14 any blackouts, or flashbacks, or anything?

15 **RP:** Uh, not that I know of. But again, I mean she, everything just I mean for the last
16 decade has been a lie.

17 **YM:** Oh.

18 **RP:** You know, her mom told me that. Because uh, I mean we confirmed stories and
19 talked back and forth. Pretty much everything is a lie.

20 **YM:** Alright.

21 **RP:** Uhm, her schooling, she said she's been going to school. She's not going to
22 school. Uhm, all sorts of things. Everything's just a lie.

23 **YM:** Huh. Amazing.

24 **RP:** I mean it, go ahead.

25 **YM:** No, no, I said amazing.

1 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), no, I mean it's, it's, it was definitely a, a shock to me because
2 you know, uh, well I guess when I'm told something by somebody that I've known
3 forever I'm just going to believe you. I just don't tend to question it too much.

4 **YM:** Sure.

5 **RP:** I guess if I thought a little bit further into it and put you know, two and two
6 together, some things started, may have started to make sense. But uh, you
7 know uh, I guess yeah (affirmative), pretty, pretty much everything she's ever told
8 me was a lie, huh.

9 **YM:** Wow. Well....

10 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), so.

11 **YM:** Well let me, let me ask your opinion. Uh, I mean you've known her since you
12 were three. I just met her a couple weeks ago and obviously....

13 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

14 **YM:** ...I'm not her biggest fan.

15 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

16 **YM:** But uh, what do you think may have happened?

17 **RP:** (Sighs.) Oh, man, in my opinion?

18 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), your, simply your opinion.

19 **RP:** Oh, uh, uhm, (sighs), I don't, I, and I, and I don't want to you know, sound like uh,
20 I don't know, like a hateful person, but she, definitely something went wrong. I
21 mean she, she was involved in something. I don't know if it was a accident.

22 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

23 **RP:** Because she definitely doesn't seem like the type that would just maliciously go
24 out and kill her daughter.

25 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

1 **RP:** Uhm, but it, it, uh, it's kind of occurred to me that maybe there's been an accident
2 of some sort. I mean it, and I was, I was hearing uhm, some people talk about
3 the fact that you know like ne...you know, new slabs of concrete and things that
4 are poured in their backyard at the time, and uh, and you know that kind of stuff
5 just freaking scares me because then that tells me that the grandmother was
6 involved and I don't want to think that.

7 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

8 **RP:** I just think that there was, you know, and just maybe an accident and then Casey
9 just got scared and then ran away....

10 **YM:** Do you....

11 **RP:** ...basically...

12 **YM:** Do you....

13 **RP:** ...from everything.

14 **YM:** Do you think if, of all the people that, that you know that know Casey....

15 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

16 **YM:** ...including yourself, who do you think she would open up to? Do you think she
17 would ever open to you about this? I mean if she actually saw you do you think
18 she would kind of you know, and it would, and it would, it would strike a cord on
19 you know, hey, the ba...you know, this is my friend I've known since we were five
20 Do you think maybe (inaudible).

21 **RP:** I think if I actually spoke to her....

22 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).

23 **RP:** I think if I actually spoke to her, yeah (affirmative), I think that it would, it would
24 definitely, I mean it could, it would be better than most people that could talk to
25 her, uhm, including you know, obviously reporters, lawyers....

1 **YM:** Right.

2 **RP:** ...detectives, uh, everything else. I mean it's, it's definitely, and, and even if she
3 doesn't give me a straight answer about something at least I can, I will definitely
4 get something out of her that will you know, maybe lead to something else.
5 Because I've often thought about that, you know, if I actually had the time to
6 actually you know, get one-on-one with her.

7 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

8 **RP:** You know maybe she could let me know what's going on. Because uh, I mean I
9 can always play the, you know, nice guy card and try to see if I can't help her out
10 or something, you know?

11 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative). Well uh, obviously I'm not asking you to, to reach out and talk
12 to her and ask her anything specific. I'm not probably going to even do that.

13 **RP:** Right.

14 **YM:** I'm not going to put you in that position. Uhm, with that being said, you know that
15 you could actually set up visitations down there. And we're, we're, uh, contrary
16 to what the news is saying we're trying to keep visitations, the video visitations
17 confidential. So uh....

18 **RP:** Okay.

19 **YM:** ...you know that's what, that we're trying to do. Uhm....

20 **RP:** I mean for me it's been, that doesn't, that doesn't affect me at all. I don't care if I
21 show up on the news on uhm, some video to be honest with you.

22 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

23 **RP:** Uhm, I, I, I have nothing to hide, so whatever, huh....

24 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

25

1 **RP:** ...you know? That doesn't affect me whatsoever. Uhm, but if, if uh, I definitely
2 have, have thought about going down there and making a visit because it's, you
3 know, maybe something, someway, somehow she can give some sort of
4 information. I mean uh, I don't know how it can happen. I know at this point the
5 reason why she isn't saying anything is that, uh, the, the because she's lawyered
6 (sic) up. You know if she says anything then of course instead of you know,
7 getting uh, a simple felony you know, there's a, well a murder charge.

8 **YM:** Well...

9 **RP:** So obviously, I mean and then that....

10 **YM:** Uh, well....

11 **RP:** ...that's a, that's a scary thing for her, you know?

12 **YM:** Well, we, we, see, we can't even go there with it because we don't know what
13 happened. Uh, assuming something happened, you know, it, it, just because
14 something bad happened it doesn't necessarily mean that this person is going to
15 you know, face a say first degree murder charges. It doesn't uh...

16 **RP:** Or even, or even....

17 **YM:** Uh, yeah (affirmative), it doesn't, it doesn't....

18 **RP:** ...manslaughter or something. But I mean...

19 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), but even if it doesn't look (inaudible) and there has to be
20 contributing circumstances to it. But of course, the longer we go, you know, the
21 more we start to look at it and go, hmm.

22 **RP:** Right, exactly.

23 **YM:** But uhm, you know uh, I mean...

24 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

25 **YM:** ...now she understands that.

1 **RP:** I, I, I'm sure she, I'm sure all, all her lawyer is telling her just shut up and
2 hopefully they won't find anything. You know, and I...

3 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

4 **RP:** ...and I guess that's what I'm, I'm going to assume. Because he actually, he has
5 called me and asked me questions. Uhm, you know, and basically what I told
6 him is you know I answered whatever questions he had and then me, she, uh, he
7 ended up asking me, he's like, "Do you think you'd be a good person to, to as a
8 re...as a, you know, a character witness or a reference to Casey?" And I said,
9 "To be honest with you...."

10 **YM:** Oh.

11 **RP:** ...you know, from, from the truth that I've told you, I mean I, I, I'm not going to be.
12 I mean I am, I'm going to be a big detriment to your case." He's like, "Yeah
13 (affirmative), you're probably right," and he even hung up the phone (chuckles).

14 **YM:** Really?

15 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). So....

16 **YM:** (Chuckles.)

17 **RP:** ...uh, he....

18 **YM:** When was this conversation?

19 **RP:** Oh, man, uh, two or three days after uhm, the, the incident got reported.

20 **YM:** Huh.

21 **RP:** I mean uh, Jose, Jose actually...

22 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).

23 **RP:** ...called me and, and uh, on his phone, on his cell phone. Uhm, you know
24 because Casey had given him my number and said go ahead and give me a call.
25 "I'm uhm, I'm going to ask some questions," or whatever. And I told him, "You

1 know I'll tell you whatever you want to know. I just don't think it's going to help
2 your case, you know."

3 **YM:** Right.

4 **RP:** So.

5 **YM:** Oh, man.

6 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), (chuckles).

7 **YM:** Well what do you, what do you think that the, you know, what do you think would
8 prompt Casey into actually you know, opening up? I, I understand based on
9 what you're telling me, and not only you, a whole bunch of other people, she's
10 just a pathological liar.

11 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

12 **YM:** Uh....

13 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

14 **YM:** Narcissistic. You know what do you think is the way to get in and, and say hey,
15 you know, now is the time? Because she's making everyone suffer with this.
16 You know, the...

17 **RP:** She, she, it's really just to take the fear of God to be honest with you. Because
18 she, that's the type of person she is. She's not going to do anything for anybody
19 unless she has, un...unless there's something in it for her.

20 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

21 **RP:** And she has to be scared.

22 **YM:** Right.

23 **RP:** But she, but she really does. I mean I know her well enough to know that.
24 She's, she's always been kind of a hard ass.

25 **YM:** Right.

1 **RP:** Uhm....

2 **YM:** Do you know, I know, I know she had, she had problems with her mom. That her
3 and her mom kind of...

4 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

5 **YM:** ...butted heads in a sense.

6 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

7 **YM:** What about her brother? How, how is her relationship with her brother?

8 **RP:** Uh, that relationship seemed fine. Uhm, in fact I think she kind of confided in her
9 brother.

10 **YM:** Ok.

11 **RP:** Uhm, as far as all that went because her brother was kind of like a third party,
12 you know.

13 **YM:** Sure.

14 **RP:** And so whatever her, she said to him just kind of reverberated back to her just to
15 make her feel better. You know, nothing, nothing you know, uh, no indication
16 that uh, there was any sort of, you know....

17 **YM:** Uh...

18 **RP:** ...odd relationship, or bad relationship. In fact I've been over their house when
19 we've had parties and (unintelligible) their house before.

20 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

21 **RP:** Over at Lee's house.

22 **YM:** Okay. So they have no problem? What about her father? Any problems there,
23 or is it a typical....

24 **RP:** Uh, yeah (affirmative).

25 **YM:** ...father/daughter or?

1 **RP:** Well (sighs), uhm, I guess there's a little bit of animosity between the two of them
2 because I guess he had had some issues uh, earlier on, you know, putting him in
3 a bad spot as far as credit goes. He took off for a couple months.

4 **YM:** Hmm.

5 **RP:** Uhm, you know, and then came back. Uh, Cindy had found out that he was
6 talking to another woman on-line and so there was some issues there that she
7 had some sort of, you know, and actually you know, some valid reasons, but
8 other ones you know, not so valid to be upset at, at the, at her dad. But it
9 seemed like for a little while it was getting a little bit better. But again, I don't live
10 in the house and I only know what she has told me.

11 **YM:** And you said dad left for a couple months? Is that because of the cheating or
12 something else.

13 **RP:** Uh, yeah (affirmative). No, basic, pretty much they were, they were getting ready
14 to get divorced.

15 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), hmm.

16 **RP:** So he took off and then came back. I guess they were trying to working stuff out.
17 (Unintelligible) and I've been over there now and not seen the dad, you know.

18 **YM:** Right.

19 **RP:** But.

20 **YM:** And, and does Casey, does Casey hang out with people, is she fairly open and
21 kind of, I can't say open up because obviously she's been lying to several people
22 but.

23 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I would say...

24 **YM:** Is....

25 **RP:** ...I don't know what open really is if....

1 **YM:** She, she....

2 **RP:** ...if everything she says is a lie.

3 **YM:** She considers you one of her, let's say oldest friends.

4 **YM:** Is there anyone else that, that, that pretty much has the same information that

5 you would have down here? Any, any female friends that she hangs out with?

6 Any of the guys that you know of? Any, basically what I'm doing is I'm trying to

7 reach out to people who've known her the longest. And aside from...

8 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

9 **YM:** ...the parents you seem like one of the people who have known her longest. Is

10 there anyone else....

11 **RP:** Oh, God.

12 **YM:** ...out there to reach out to that, that might be able to help shed some light on

13 this? And ultimately my goal is to find Caylee period. End of statement.

14 **RP:** Right. Oh, yeah (affirmative). Yeah (affirmative). Uhm, (sighs), I, no uh, we

15 don't have very, we uh, uhm, we don't have the same friends. I, I had moved

16 away in eighth grade and moved to Seminole County.

17 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

18 **RP:** And went to Seminole County schools. So it would be kind of, you know, as far

19 as the friends went we started having separate friends, but we were still friends.

20 So I don't know many of her close friends. I know that she's, she mentions new

21 people all the time. Uhm, you know, so what, I don't think she really had any real

22 close friends. Apparently, according to her mom one of her friends were

23 annoyed with her because she tends to be a uhm, kind of a mooch, you know.

24 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).

25 **RP:** Like a, like a, a leech off of everybody.

1 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
2 **RP:** So uhm, I don't really think she has very many close friends as far as that goes.
3 **YM:** Okay. Uhm....
4 **RP:** Uh, I can definitely, I mean if I, if I, if I need to come down there I can definitely
5 do that. I mean I'll, I'm, I'm on my summer right now and I can take off work
6 anytime.
7 **YM:** Well like, like, like I said, I'm, I can't ask you to do that, nor will I ask you to do
8 that. If....
9 **RP:** Well I'll...
10 **YM:** Basically if its something you're concerned about and you want to ask her, you
11 know, by all means uh, uh, visitation....
12 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).
13 **YM:** ...is, it's, it's there. You can make visitations and they're, they're accepting
14 everyone.
15 **RP:** Okay.
16 **YM:** Uhm...
17 **RP:** And how does that, how does that work really? Uhm....
18 **YM:** Like...
19 **RP:** ...(inaudible).
20 **YM:** ...you call the jail and you set up an appointment. Uh, so they, they'll give you a
21 date and time of the day, you know, uhm, uh, morning, evening or night, and
22 uhm, you show up at the scheduled time. It's a video visitation. It's not face-to-
23 face. You know you're looking at a....
24 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).
25

1 **YM:** ...monitor and you just talk to her. And you talk to her on the phone and you got
2 forty-five minutes.

3 **RP:** Okay. Okay, cool. Well then I guess, I mean I'll definitely end up having to do
4 that then because I do feel like I need to at least talk to her. Maybe I can get her
5 to, I don't know, maybe not necessarily right when she talks to me to give you an
6 answer, but maybe it'll, it'll wear on her a little bit, you know? I don't know.

7 **YM:** Well I guess uh, that, that's a decision you make. Uhm, uh...

8 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

9 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), ob...obviously if you want to keep me in the loop with that
10 that's fine. I'm not....

11 **RP:** Oh, definitely.

12 **YM:** ...I'm not going to, you know, I'm, I'm not going to sit here and ask you to do
13 anything specifically for me. So as long as you understand that I'm not here to
14 manipulate you or, or ask you...

15 **RP:** Right. No (laughs).

16 **YM:** ...for anything anything, but.

17 **RP:** (Inaudible)

18 **YM:** (Laughs.)

19 **RP:** And I....

20 **YM:** Okay.

21 **RP:** ...understand you, your position in this whole, in this whole cog or machine you
22 know this machine. So you, you, you have no, you have no worries as far as that
23 goes. I'll never, I'll never say that that was the situation. Uhm, (inaudible)....

24 **YM:** I just want to make it clear that that that's not uh...

25

1 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). Yeah (affirmative). It'll be, it'll be on my own behalf and you,
2 you can, you can (unintelligible) be rest assured on that if anybody decides to
3 ask me. Uhm, so uh, yeah (affirmative), uh, I guess uh, at some point I am going
4 to. And I'll keep you in the loop. It's, it's not a, you know a problem with me.
5 And in fact I'd rather because I get all these TV stations and everybody else
6 calling me all the damn time and I don't know how they got my number.

7 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).

8 **RP:** But uhm, yeah (affirmative).

9 **YM:** I just got a call from Dr. Phil today, so yeah (affirmative).

10 **RP:** Really?

11 **YM:** Well yeah (affirmative).

12 **RP:** God.

13 **YM:** I'm in the same, I'm in the same boat and I actually went and picked that one up,
14 so.

15 **RP:** Oh, boy. Now, see there you go, you know.

16 **YM:** Like I said, the ultimate result is finding Caylee. And uhm...

17 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

18 **YM:** ...and that's why we're reaching out to so many people in her life right now is
19 because obviously she's not giving us the answers.

20 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), yeah (affirmative). Uh, uhm...

21 **YM:** Is it, is there anything else right now that you can think of that I haven't asked you
22 about Casey in particular, or, or, or maybe with this situation that I should be
23 looking at? Is there anything, uh, again....

24 **RP:** Uh, other, other than the reports that she said that Caylee was with her mom at
25 the beach...

1 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

2 **RP:** ...uh, during that time, I don't, that's not the best, I mean that, I don't know how
3 many, but again, like I was telling you yesterday, I don't know how, how m...how
4 many months a parent can be at the beach, but....

5 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).

6 **RP:** ...uh, uh, oh, yeah (affirmative), that, uh, that was where she said that the baby
7 was at the beach and this is weeks before uh, the 9th.

8 **YM:** Right.

9 **RP:** Or you know, J...June 9th I think is when we, when she, well when she said she
10 went missing. I don't know what that means, but....

11 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).

12 **RP:** Uhm, other than that I mean I, unless I come up with something, because I mean
13 I, I, and it, well it probably will. Something will snap and I'll find out. You know
14 it'll jog my memory. Uh...

15 **YM:** Well you've got both my numbers. And on....

16 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

17 **YM:** ...on the chance that my cell phone doesn't get fixed her pretty soon....

18 **RP:** (Chuckles.)

19 **YM:** ...hopefully it (unintelligible). You feel free to call each one. I think with
20 voicemail....

21 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).

22 **YM:** ...just sometimes I get cut off and I don't get it.

23 **RP:** Okay.

24

25

1 **YM:** But uhm, anything comes feel free to give me a call, uhm, you have carte
2 blanche. Whatever time of day or night. You know obviously you know if we can
3 get help call....

4 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

5 **YM:** And uh....

6 **RP:** (Inaudible).

7 **YM:** And if I'm just a little asleep and give me a couple minutes to wake up.

8 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

9 **YM:** But aside from that uhm, is there anything else you can think of that uh, you
10 know, I haven't asked about...

11 **RP:** Uhm, (sighs).

12 **YM:** ...or anything about Casey or Caylee that you?

13 **RP:** Not right at the moment, no. But like I said, I'll, I'll keep you updated. I'm sure
14 that inevitably I'll come up with something, or find something, or you know,
15 something like that.

16 **YM:** Okay. And you swear and affirm everything you've told me is the truth, right?

17 **RP:** Absolutely a hundred percent.

18 **YM:** Okay. Well listen Ryan, it's been a pleasure talking to you. Thank you so very
19 much.

20 **RP:** Sure.

21 **YM:** And again, you got my number, so if something comes up give me a shout.

22 **RP:** Okay Detective.

23 **YM:** Fantastic. Thank you so much.

24 **RP:** Alright.

25 **YM:** 'Bye-bye.

1 **End of recorded statement.**

2 **This transcript has been reviewed for accuracy.**

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CORPORAL YURI MELICH, OCSO DEPUTY SHERIFF

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