

1 **TAPED TRANSCRIPT OF MR. RICK PLESEA**
2 **INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY CORPORAL MELICH**

3 **CASE NUMBER – 08-69208**

4 **AUGUST 21, 2008**

5 **YM – CORPORAL YURI MELICH**

6 **SM – SPECIAL AGENT STEVE MC???**

7 **NS – SPECIAL AGENT NICK SAVAGE**

8 **SB – SPECIAL AGENT SCOTT BOLIN**

9 **RP – MR. RICK PLESEA**

10 **YM:** The date right now is August 21, 2008, and the time right now is 1746 hours.
11 Detective Melich with the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Orange County Sheriff
12 building. Uh, I'm in my office with uh, three Special Agents from the Federal
13 Bureau of Investigation. Uh, Scott Bolin, Nick Savage and Steve?

14 **SM:** McElyea.

15 **YM:** McElyea. Thank you. And we're going to make a controlled phone call to uh,
16 Rick Plesea. Uh, we're going to be dialing first uh, home number 843-236-2498.
17 This is going to be surreptitiously recorded. (Sound of telephone buttons being
18 depressed and telephone dialing).

19 **(No one answers the telephone).**

20 **YM:** No answer on that number. I'm going to try calling XXXXXXXXXX

21 **(Sound of telephone buttons being depressed and telephone dialing).**

22 **RP:** Hello?

23 **YM:** Hi, is this Rick?

24 **RP:** Yes.

25

1 **YM:** Hey, this is Detective Melich. I'm with the Orange County Sheriff's Office down
2 here in Orlando, Florida. How are you sir?

3 **RP:** Pretty good. How you doing?

4 **YM:** (Sighs.) I'm busy, busy, busy. But I think you probably know that, huh?

5 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I know.

6 **YM:** Huh. Hey Rick, I was wondering if you got a couple of minutes. I uhm, I ran
7 across your name on some blogs. To make a long story short uh, from what I'm
8 reading uh, you have some pretty good information that you might be able to help
9 me with. Uhm, I was hoping that I could take couple minutes of your time and
10 maybe talk about that.

11 **RP:** Sure. Uhm, a guy named Joe Gordon, do you know Joe?

12 **YM:** Uh, Joe Gordon or Joe Jordan?

13 **RP:** Joe Jordan, from the Fox News?

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

15 **RP:** And uh, he's got uhm, and he looks for, for kids that are missing and stuff.

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

17 **RP:** You, you, have you, do you know him?

18 **YM:** Actually uh, yeah (affirmative), I do. I've talked to him.

19 **RP:** (Coughs.) Okay, because he said he was going to have somebody call me. I
20 said I'd like to talk to somebody from Orange County uh, Sheriff's Department.

21 **YM:** Well that's me. And not only do you have me, I've got a couple of friends of mine
22 here in the room from the FBI. Uh, I'll let...

23 **RP:** Okay, very good.

24 **YM:** I'll let them introduce themselves so you know who the, who they are.

25 **SB:** Hey Rick...

1 **RP:** Hey.

2 **SB:** ...this is Scott Bolin.

3 **SM:** Steve McElyea.

4 **NS:** Nick Savage.

5 **YM:** I've got you on speaker....

6 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

7 **YM:** I got you on speaker phone. Is that okay? So that way we could all hear?

8 **RP:** Uh-hum (affirmative), yeah (affirmative).

9 **YM:** Alright.

10 **RP:** Yes. Excuse me, I, I got a bout of like uh, bronchitis. So I got it four weeks ago

11 and I, I cough once in a while. I, I...

12 **YM:** Oh.

13 **RP:** ...got a doctor's appointment tomorrow.

14 **YM:** That's quite alright. But uh, like I said, we'd love to talk to you a little bit about,

15 because apparently you have a completely different version of this family's life

16 that uhm, Cindy and George are letting on to. And uhm...

17 **RP:** (Inaudible.) Uhm...

18 **YM:** Go ahead.

19 **RP:** I know, I know you guys went down to talk to my mom.

20 **YM:** Shirley? Yeah (affirmative).

21 **RP:** In Mt. Dora.

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

23 **RP:** Okay. And you went down to basically just verify that, that uh, Cindy and George

24 uh, had Caylee there on the 15th?

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

1 **RP:** Is, is, you didn't ask my mom anything other questions?

2 **YM:** Well, to be perfectly honest when we went there that was at the beginning of our
3 investigation. And what we're trying to do is uh, get a timeline. Find out the last
4 time actually Caylee was seen. Uh, all this other stuff really didn't start coming to
5 light until maybe two, three weeks into the investigation. But unfortunately a lot
6 of the information that we were getting were from you know, third parties, or, or
7 just people. And unfortunately you know, I'm sure you understand, we've been
8 inundated with all these tips and all these people. It's kind of hard to, to filter out
9 the truth from a lie. Once I saw, and once I kind of got onto the fact that you
10 were on and you were concerned about the family and, and especially concerned
11 about Caylee's well being then I started the ball rolling and of course I made a
12 couple phone calls and, and here we are.

13 **RP:** Okay. I appreciate it.

14 **YM:** Oh, not a problem. So tell me I guess (sighs), I know that you, you've blogged a
15 lot and you've written a lot of blogs and uh, I just want to make sure I got the,
16 what is the, the blog i.d. (identification) that you use? Uhm, do you remember
17 offhand? I know you, you kind of started one.

18 **RP:** Okay, well I, first I started with just Rick and it said United States underneath.

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

20 **RP:** And someone imi...someone tried to imitate me after I signed off the first night.
21 And uhm, they said they were me and it was just a hoax.

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

23 **RP:** Well the next day I got on and I met this uh, lady named Suzanne from Missouri.
24 She was a, a just-the-facts lady.

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

1 **RP:** Okay. And she said she's helped other people find lost kids in, in Missouri stuff
2 and, and uh, she's like a detective, kind of detective.

3 **YM:** Right.

4 **RP:** Anyway, I e-mailed her uhm, proof that who I was, who I said I was. I gave her
5 pictures of me and Cindy and, and Casey when they came up to, for my
6 wedding.

7 **YM:** Right. I saw those.

8 **RP:** Okay, you did see them? Okay.

9 **YM:** And what was your uh, your screen i.d. name? Do you, do you remember, or do
10 you know it offhand?

11 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). It was [REDACTED]

12 **YM:** Okay. Now Rick, since I don't, I don't see you face-to-face, and I don't have a
13 video phone unfortunately, I'm going ask you some questions just to verify who
14 you are so that way when I...

15 **RP:** Right.

16 **YM:** ...when I talk to you I know I'm talking to, to Rick. I know that you live in [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED] and uhm, did you or do you still live on a street named [REDACTED]

18 **RP:** Yes, yes sir.

19 **YM:** What is the address or number on [REDACTED] so I can verify with what I have.

20 **RP:** Okay, [REDACTED]

21 **YM:** Okay. And I have as your social number in front of me. I'm going to read the last
22 four to you. The last four I have is [REDACTED] Could you please tell me the uh, first
23 five?

24 **RP:** Yes. It's [REDACTED]

25 **YM:** Okay. And your date of birth sir?

1 **RP:** [REDACTED]

2 **YM:** Excellent. Okay. Now I know I'm talking to Rick. And how do you pronounce
3 your last name sir? Plesea?

4 **RP:** Uh, it's pronounced, it's pronounced Plesea.

5 **YM:** Plesea? Okay.

6 **RP:** Yes sir. Like, like I know who you are but I can't place ya, you know?

7 **YM:** I got you.

8 **RP:** I've al...always had to tell my teachers in school because I, I got every kind of
9 variation that there ever was.

10 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative). I do the same on my last name. But I won't share it here.
11 Uh...Alright Rick, tell me what you know my friend.

12 **RP:** (Coughs.) Okay, what I know is basically my mom, I talk to my mom about once
13 a week, okay? And we, we e-mail or talk on the phone. Uh, I got a frantic e-mail
14 from her uh, about the day before, or the day that this broke on the, on the TV.
15 And she, she had just got a heads up from Cindy because Cindy didn't want my
16 dad seeing it in the nursing home because it would super upset him. So my
17 mom (inaudible) in on the details. So then I started asking my mom questions. I
18 said, "Mom, how long has this been going on with Casey and Cindy? What's,
19 what's the story?" Well, my mom told me that uh, Casey stole money from her in
20 a check. But then she also somehow got into my dad's checkbook and that,
21 that's a dedicated checkbook to the nursing home. And only my mom can write a
22 check from that and it has to be for the nursing home that he's in. Because that
23 was set up, it's a separate account set up for my dad and the nursing home. And
24 somehow Casey got a check out of that and she tried cashing it. And actually
25 she did cash it. I guess it was, uh, when the statement came back it was uh, AT

1 & T. Uhm, Casey had cashed it either to buy a phone, or to pay phone bills or
2 something with AT & T. And my mom was very unhappy (coughs) and she
3 called Cindy. And she, oh, well no, first of all she called the bank and she said,
4 “How can I possibly have a check cashed from this account? I’m the only one
5 that can write a check and it has to be for the nursing home.” And the bank knew
6 it.

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

8 **RP:** The bank refunded, the bank refunded the money to my, my dad’s account.

9 **YM:** How much, how much? Do you recall, or?

10 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), three hundred and fifty-four dollars (\$354.00).

11 **YM:** Okay.

12 **RP:** And that, that, that’s a lot of money for them.

13 **YM:** Oh, absolutely. It’s a lot of money for anyone.

14 **RP:** (Inaudible).

15 **YM:** Uhm, when...

16 **RP:** Then...

17 **YM:** ...when was this? Do you remember approximately when this was?

18 **RP:** This was in April. And my mom has statements to, to show that.

19 **YM:** This year, right?

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

21 **YM:** Okay.

22 **RP:** ...of this year.

23 **YM:** I’m sorry, I didn’t mean to interrupt. Go on.

24 **RP:** So anyway, uhm, I uh, my mom told the bank, “I don’t know who did it but, but
25 whoever did I want charges pressed. So if you find out who did it press charges.”

1 **YM:** Hmm.

2 **RP:** Well they, they tracked the charges back and it came back to, to Casey. So
3 when my mom found out she called Cindy and said, “You, you got to do
4 something about, about your daughter. She stole.” And Casey tried to come on
5 the phone. And my mom was so mad she said, “I don’t want to talk to you. How
6 dare you steal from us.” And you know, then later it came out Casey made up a,
7 a lie and said that she worked at Universal and uhm, that they were, she’d got a
8 new account and they were supposed to give her a phone and something
9 happened so they told all the employees that she had, they had to buy their own
10 phone and they’d be reimbursed.

11 **YM:** Right.

12 **RP:** So and my mom, my mom wasn’t buying that at all. She said, “That’s, that’s the
13 stupidest thing I ever heard of.” Well if you knew Casey’s propensity to lie then
14 you would know that was a lie right off. Well anyway, you know she don’t work at
15 Universal.

16 **YM:** Right.

17 **RP:** She hasn’t worked there for a year and a half. Well, then my mom told me that
18 uh, Cindy had threatened Casey with, with taking Caylee away from her...

19 **(Whispering in background – inaudible.)**

20 **RP:** ...at least two or three times.

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

22 **RP:** Because Cindy was so upset that Casey had done this that I guess Cindy had
23 went to a counselor to talk about it. And the counselor said, “Just kick them out
24 on the street. You don’t have to put up with, with your daughter. She’s over
25 eighteen. Kick her out on the street.”

1 **YM:** Do you know if this was a counselor through EAP (Employee Assistance
2 Program) at her work at Gentiva or do you have any idea?
3 **RP:** Uh, I don't know. And, and Cindy would have to uhm, tell you exactly who it was.
4 I just know it was just my mom said Cindy saw a counselor. And that, and it
5 probably was through work because I don't know who else uh.
6 **YM:** Okay. And this...
7 **SB:** Hey Rick? Yes. At, any point and when you said that you knew that she hadn't
8 been working at Universal for a year and a half, is that as a result of what you've
9 heard uhm....
10 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative).
11 **SB:** ...because of this, or did you know...
12 **RP:** Well, I...
13 **SB:** ...that ahead of time?
14 **RP:** I was as stunned as you were that she wasn't, she didn't have a job.
15 **SB:** Okay.
16 **RP:** I was stunned. Okay?
17 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative).
18 **RP:** So that's how, that's how I know that. Anyway, uhm, the counselor had told uhm,
19 Cindy, "Just kick them out on the street," and Cindy wouldn't do that. She goes,
20 "Uh, what about Caylee?" She says, Can't, "I can't kick my, my granddaughter
21 out on the street," and, and because Casey would try to take her. And finally the,
22 the counselor said, "Well you need to file for custody."
23 **YM:** Uh-hum (affirmative).
24
25

1 **RP:** So I know, I know Cindy a couple of times had threatened Casey, this is through
2 my mom, that if Casey didn't behave and straighten up she would throw her out
3 on the street and file for custody.

4 **YM:** And she told you this? Did Cindy tell you this, or is this coming from Shirley, I
5 mean your mom?

6 **RP:** This is, this is coming from my mom.

7 **YM:** Okay.

8 **RP:** My mom said, I said, "Mom, are you," I talked to my mom yesterday and I go, I
9 went through all these because I knew I was going to be talking to you guys.
10 And I said, "Mom, I need to know." I said, "How many times?" And she said at
11 least two or three that she definitely got in fights with, with Casey uh, about,
12 about taking Caylee off of her. So I know Cindy is not telling you the whole truth
13 here...

14 **YM:** Right.

15 **RP:** ...of what happened. And she, so when Casey first took Caylee away Cindy told
16 my mom she just thought Casey took Caylee to punish her, or you know, just
17 being uhm, you know, threatening her all the time and, and uh, but Cindy didn't
18 think a whole lot about you know, that, that Caylee's well being was, was ever
19 going to be in jeopardy. She just thought Casey took her. First Casey I guess
20 made up a story that she was on vacation in Tampa. Well first she said she was
21 working in Tampa. And then she said she was on vacation...

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

23 **RP:** ...with some other family who, that had a little kid and all that. That was all b.s.
24 too. Well anyway, as it, as it came out uhm, Casey never, never came back.

25

1 Well I guess she did come back to the house a few times, but they still never,
2 ever suspected anything happened.

3 **YM:** They just thought that she was gone because of spite and that's it?

4 **RP:** Well, yeah (affirmative), that, that Casey was just holding her off and, and said
5 that oh, she's with uh, the babysitter or some, or something, you know, and, and
6 she was always doing something that just wasn't uhm, convenient for her to talk
7 to Cindy. You know, to let Caylee talk to Cindy.

8 **YM:** Did, did, did, did Cindy ever call you that, since Caylee went missing and say
9 anything to you, or oh, kind of talk to you about what was going on? Say hey,
10 you know Rick I...

11 **RP:** Well..

12 **YM:** ...I really don't know what to do? Uh, she's, she's never done it this long before?
13 Or had she done that, the, before for this duration? Do you know anything about
14 that?

15 **RP:** Uh, during the period that she was missing...

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

17 **RP:** Uh, I, I, none of the family knew that, that uhm, Caylee was missing, or Casey
18 had even left the house.

19 **YM:** Hmm.

20 **RP:** Okay?

21 **YM:** Okay.

22 **RP:** We did not know that. That was in the dark. It wasn't until Cindy told my mom
23 like uh, after she called 911 and, and the next day. Uhm, because she said I,
24 you know, everybody was going to see it on TV and she wanted to, my mom to
25 know. And my mom e-mailed me right away. And I turned on TV right away to

1 find out what was going on and. And then I, I kept asking my mom questions.
2 “Alright, how long has this been going on? What, what, you know, what’s the
3 story here?” And so I sat back for a long time thinking alright, I knew the Sheriff’s
4 Department visited my mom.

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

6 **RP:** So I figured they, they would ask her some more questions. And the more and
7 more I saw and the more I heard I said, “I don’t think you guys really know what’s
8 going on or what happened prior.”

9 **YM:** Right.

10 **RP:** Or I, I went on that blog to see if anybody else, well why I sent a tip into the tip
11 line. Uhm, I didn’t call it it. I e-mailed it in.

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

13 **RP:** And uh...

14 **YM:** Which, what was the tips uh, do you remember the tip number, or what, what did
15 the tip say?

16 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). The tip number was W156, well uh, dash 5217. That was my
17 tip number.

18 **YM:** That was through uh, Crimeline, our Crimeline?

19 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), Crimeline. And it went to Central Florida.

20 **YM:** Okay.

21 **RP:** Okay?

22 **YM:** Gotcha.

23 **RP:** And you can look that up and see, see what I said there because alright, Casey
24 had been stealing...

25 **YM:** Uh, well...

1 **RP:** ...off, off Cindy and George through credit cards for some time also.

2 **YM:** How do you, how did you know about that, or when did you first find out about
3 that?

4 **RP:** I found out after quizzing my, my mom on it. I said, "So how, I said, "When did
5 Casey start stealing?" And, and Cindy says, "Well don't you know that, that
6 Cindy had almost bankrupted them like by what with all these credit card bills and
7 stuff." And so...

8 **YM:** Now Cindy or Casey?

9 **RP:** Casey was, was running up these credit cards.

10 **YM:** Okay.

11 **RP:** And, and I, I said, these names are very, very hard, even for me, a family
12 member. You know, you got all these C's, Casey and...

13 **YM:** I feel for you Rick. Alright.

14 **RP:** (Laughs.)

15 **YM:** (Laughs.)

16 **RP:** And I know the, the news media gets tongue tied all the time and it's, it's difficult.

17 **YM:** Hey, what day was that tip in? Do you remember uhm, approximately when you
18 sent that in?

19 **RP:** Ah, geez. It was a couple weeks ago. I think it was back....

20 **YM:** Was it, was it close to the date this all happened, or like a week after?

21 **RP:** No, no. It was, it, well this was, this was later. This was only about a week and a
22 half to two weeks ago I sent it in.

23 **YM:** Okay. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to break your train of thought there. Hey, one
24 thing uh, you mentioned before, uh, maybe I can ask you about. The job at
25 Universal, when did you first uh, find out that she didn't have a job?

1 **RP:** Uh, exactly when it broke on TV that...

2 **YM:** Okay.

3 **RP:** Well actually I, I, I got the uh, uhm, police report that uh, was on-line. I, I went
4 ahead and made a copy of that. And....

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

6 **RP:** ...like while I, I was reading it I was stunned. I, I said, "Wow." I said, "How, how
7 could she pretend to have a job and Cindy not know it for a year and a half?"

8 **YM:** Right.

9 **RP:** And that's, that's how that babysitter got made up because they always heard
10 her talking about this Zanny was watching the baby. Oh, yeah (affirmative),
11 Zanny. And I, uh, I talked to my sister once on the phone after all this happened,
12 and then I e-mailed her probably six or seven times. And uhm, she stopped, she
13 wouldn't listen to me anymore. I was telling her, I said, "Cindy you got to wake
14 up. Casey is telling so many lies." And I said, "You're right in the center of it.
15 You're, you, you can't see what's going on. You're in complete denial."

16 **YM:** Hmm.

17 **RP:** There's so many facts, there's so many fact out there. I said, "This is the oddest,
18 strangest, bizarre behavior I've ever seen." And I said, "I've seen Casey a few
19 times and she's never acted strange like this." I said, "How do you, why would
20 abandon a car if it ran out of gas and not tell anybody? And then..."

21 **YM:** Hmm.

22 **RP:** ...why would you go to a, a nightclub if, if your, your daughter is missing?"

23 **YM:** Hmm.

24 **RP:** "You know and party and have fun?" I would be so distraught I, I would, and the
25 first people I'd call would be my mom and dad, saying, "I can't find my daughter."

1 **YM:** Yeah (affirmative), and I agree with you Nick. I agree with you Rick, I do. Let me
2 ask you this. How often would you actually talk to Cindy? Before this whole
3 thing happened how often would you guys say you talked? Uh, once a month,
4 once a week, once a year, at Christmas?

5 **RP:** Okay. Uhm, usually maybe once or twice a year. Uh, we'd all used, used to live
6 in Ohio.

7 **YM:** Okay.

8 **RP:** Then my mom and dad moved away in 1989. And I gave them ten thousand
9 dollars because I had it at the time.

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

11 **RP:** Oh, to buy their house, which they had.

12 **YM:** And you guys got, you have what, two other brothers?

13 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I have two older brothers. Uh, one's in Port St. Lucie.

14 **YM:** What's his name?

15 **RP:** (Inaudible.) His name is Gary.

16 **YM:** The same last name, right?

17 **RP:** Yes.

18 **YM:** Okay. And what was the other one's name?

19 **RP:** Uh, Daniel.

20 **YM:** And where's he at?

21 **RP:** He's, he moved to a place that's in uh, near B...Bonita Springs in, in uh, Ft.
22 Myers area.

23 **YM:** Okay. How do they feel about this? Have you talked to them at all? Uh, they
24 have any, any, any...

25 **RP:** I talked to my, my brother Dan.

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

2 **RP:** I, I talked to him a couple times. And when we had seen all this information
3 come out, and all the lies, I go, "Dan, what, what do you make of this?" And he
4 said, "Rick, I don't believe anything that comes out of that house, or out of that,
5 Casey's mouth. I, I don't believe anything."

6 **YM:** Why would he say that?

7 **RP:** Because he says it was so bizarre. It, it wasn't making any sense to him either.

8 **YM:** Well you, you (sighs), how (sighs), let me ask you this. You, since you grew up
9 with Cindy, she's your sister.

10 **RP:** Yes.

11 **YM:** Uh, uh, how...

12 **RP:** I'm five years older than her.

13 **YM:** Has she always been like this, or, or is this something, like uh, you're, you're
14 right. If, if my kid went missing and my grandkid was missing, you know, yeah
15 (affirmative), obviously I'd be out there looking for them. I'd have questions. Uh,
16 uh, and if I, the kid came back and said, well, and come up with this big story, it'd
17 be real hard to believe him. Well...

18 **RP:** I know. Well I, let me, let me give you this. When they showed up for my
19 wedding here, alright, it was uh, June 4th. They came in on June 3rd of 2005.

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

21 **RP:** And uh, I answer the door and Cindy and George came in. And then I looked,
22 because I only thought Cindy and George were coming to my wedding with my
23 mom and dad. My other brothers were busy and I didn't want to bother them.
24 We just had a real small ceremony on the beach here.

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

1 **RP:** So I (inaudible) I looked up and Casey was at the door. And I looked and I go,
2 "Oh, Casey, I didn't know you were coming." And when I looked down she had a
3 tight fitting top on and her stomach was protruding, alright? And her belly button
4 was sticking out at least a half inch.

5 **YM:** And this is during, this is at your wedding?

6 **RP:** This is at, this is the day before my wedding.

7 **YM:** Okay.

8 **RP:** And so I invited them all in. And we're all talking because I hadn't seen them for
9 a long time. And when I got Cindy and George alone I said, "Cindy." I said,
10 "George," and I said, "What's up with Casey?" I said, "You got something to tell
11 me? What's going on here?" And they, they go, "What?" And I said, "She's
12 expecting?" And they looked at me like I was crazy. And I looked over at my, my
13 uh, wife to be and she, she said, she just rolled her eyes, you know. And I, I
14 said, "Cindy," I said, "She, she looks like she's pregnant. Come on." And Cindy
15 goes, "Oh, no. No, she's not. She's just putting on weight." I said, I said,
16 "Cindy," I said, "I've seen a lot of pregnant girls." I said, "But I'm not an expert
17 but man," I said, "She looks pregnant." And everyone on my wife's side said,
18 "Who's the pregnant girl?" You know every time they, they would see her, or they
19 saw pictures of our wedding, "Who's the pregnant girl?"

20 **YM:** Huh.

21 **RP:** Well, so I said, "Cindy," I, I asked my mom and dad because they were there.
22 And I go, "Mom," I said, "Casey's pregnant." And she goes, "That's what Dad
23 and I thought. Cindy swears that she's not pregnant."

24 **YM:** And Cindy's telling you this?
25

1 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). Cindy's a nurse. And I'm going, "Mom, she's a nurse for
2 crying out loud. She can't see it?" And so I said, "Cindy," I said, "Come on."
3 And I said, "You're kidding me? Now tell me is, is Casey pregnant?" And, and
4 Cindy says, "Casey told us that she'd have to have sex first in order to have a
5 baby and that she did not have sex with anyone." So I'm thinking, okay, then uh,
6 if it's not a baby then it's a tumor and she's only got a short time to live because
7 it's big. Here she was seven months pregnant because she had it uh, on uh,
8 August 9th.

9 **YM:** Well...

10 **RP:** (Inaudible.)

11 **YM:** What did George say about all this?

12 **RP:** George was there too. He believed it too. They believe everything that Casey
13 says. It's like are they blind? I'm, I'm, uh, my last e-mail to her I go, "You guys
14 will go down in history as the stupidest parents in the universe.

15 **(Whispering in background - inaudible.)**

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

17 **RP:** Because I swear to God. I said, "You guys," I said, "I know you're in denial and
18 you don't understand." But I said, "If you could see things from where I see it,
19 you guys are in total denial." I said, "You would see right away." I said, "Casey
20 is the answer here. She's the only one that knows what she did with Caylee and
21 if she doesn't talk, my God, shake the crap out of her." I, I said, "Oh, this is
22 ridiculous." And I, I would not have let her out of jail. I would have told her, I
23 would have said put her in regular population and, and a couple days of that
24 would have scared her so bad she would have talked and said anything she
25 want, you know that, that was the truth finally.

1 **YM:** Right. Well and you all, you also mentioned here about uh, I guess Cindy had
2 gone into her 401k. Is that something that you knew, or is that something that
3 you heard from uhm, your mom?

4 **RP:** Uh, my mom. And, and uh, Cindy confirmed it yesterday when she was blasting
5 me. She goes, "You don't even know how much I took out of my 401k." And I
6 said, and uh, it was like, uh, fifty-six thousand or fifty, fifty-two or fifty-six
7 thousand dollars she took...

8 **YM:** Man.

9 **RP:** ...out of...

10 **YM:** Holy cow.

11 **RP:** ...(inaudible) had in it. Yeah (affirmative), because I know it had to be a, you
12 know, because Casey ran up, and that's what my mom said.

13 **(Whispering in background - inaudible.)**

14 **RP:** Casey ran up a whole bunch of bills and nearly bankrupted them. That's why
15 they were behind in payments and...

16 **YM:** How is, how's (sighs), obviously if you're sending these e-mails to Cindy and
17 she's not listening to, I guess what she should be uh, how is your relationship
18 with her now? Is she upset with you or is she just kind of pushing you off, or?

19 **RP:** When she found out that, see I, I said on the blog that, she found out I was on
20 that blog. And I only went on the blog to straighten some people out because
21 they were, they had all this bogus information flying around and I, I just said
22 some things that I knew. And I verified who I was and stuff. Uh...

23 **YM:** Well...

24 **RP:** ...she found out about it. Somebody named Rachel told, e-mailed her and, and
25 uh, filled her with a bunch of stuff I said and even some stuff I didn't say.

1 **YM:** Right.

2 **RP:** And she, she e...e-mailed me last night, or the night before last. Before I went to
3 bed I saw this e-mail. And she said, "How could you do this?" And I had e-
4 mailed her back and told her basically why I got on there.

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

6 **RP:** And, and she was mad. She e-mailed me back and started yelling at me, and
7 saying, "And what's this I hear you, you might go on Greta," and all this. And I
8 said, "Look, all I want is the facts to come out." I said, "I don't think you've told all
9 the facts here." And I said, "I'm not trying to hurt you." I said, "I still love you."
10 And I said, "But this has gone on long enough." And I said, "There's a little girl
11 missing here that," I said, "in my gut I feel is dead." I said, "That, that is my gut
12 feeling and, and it, and it's really bothering me that." I said, "Your daughter is in
13 jail and she isn't saying anything." And I said, "That makes me madder than
14 anything."

15 **YM:** Hmm.

16 **RP:** "And the fact that you cover it up that she tried to steal from mom and dad." And,
17 and then Cindy goes, "Oh, she wrote, she only stole fifty bucks." And I said, I
18 wrote her back and I said, "No, no." I said, "Mom told me it's three hundred and
19 fifty-four dollars from Dad's account, that's an account that couldn't, couldn't be
20 got into." And uh, I said, "You were called on it because Mom called and yelled
21 at you and told you to do something with Casey. You didn't do any." And I said,
22 "It's your fault that all this happened because you didn't sit on Casey like you
23 should have."

24 **YM:** Right.

25 **RP:** So she, she is saying that (unintelligible) that uh...

1 **YM:** Well Rick, I got, I got, I got these people that also have got some questions to
2 ask. I don't want to, I don't want to take up all your times with these. But I have,
3 I do have one thing I want to ask you as a favor.

4 **RP:** Sure.

5 **YM:** It....

6 **RP:** Sure thing.

7 **YM:** Obviously we're looking at every aspect of this from every angle, and what
8 everyone says is important to us, including what she made have said, or
9 Cin...I'm sorry, of what your sister may have said during the e-mails. I'm sitting
10 here in my office. I just e-mailed an e-mail to you at uhm, RickA1P@AOL.com.
11 It's got my e-mail address. Would, would you be so kind as to forward me the e-
12 mails that you've been having with Cindy so I can take a look at them and maybe
13 see if there's, if there's something in them that can help us out?

14 **RP:** I sure will. I'll, I'll give you everything I got.

15 **YM:** Oh, fantastic. Uh, like I said, I just send my e-mail address, or an e-mail to that
16 address. So uh, if, if you have a pen and paper I could even give it to you over
17 the phone so that way in case for whatever reason it doesn't come through you
18 have mine.

19 **RP:** Okay. Uhm, well let me go in and get a pencil and paper here.

20 **YM:** Oh, no problem.

21 **SM:** Hey Rick, Steven McElyea. Can you hear me?

22 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), hi Steve.

23 **SM:** Hey uh, a c...a couple questions for you. One, your two brothers, do you know if
24 they've had any discussions uh, with your mother about uh, the theft of the
25 money or...

1 **YM:** No, probably not (inaudible).

2 **SM:** ...the incident with uh, Caylee and Casey?

3 **YM:** (Inaudible.)

4 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), she talked to my brother. My mom talked to my brother Dan

5 about it. About, about the money that was stolen.

6 **SM:** Right.

7 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), so he, he knows about that.

8 **SM:** What about your other brother?

9 **RP:** I don't know be...Gary is kind of a recluse of the family. Uh, I've seen him

10 probably at my mom and dad's fiftieth wedding anniversary, and then again when

11 my dad had a stroke. He kind of does his own thing. He likes to fish and golf

12 and he lives in Port St. Lucie and, and uh, we, we never talk. But my brother

13 Dan, who's closer to him in age, talks to him maybe once a month or so.

14 **SM:** (Inaudible)

15 **RP:** But I don't know what, what Gary knows.

16 **SM:** Do you know if either one of the had, had conversations with uh, Cindy about

17 this?

18 **RP:** Uh, say again please?

19 **SM:** Have, have they had conversations with Cindy about this?

20 **RP:** I don't know if Dan has, has contacted Cindy or not. Because I talked to Dan

21 earlier on, earlier on, like the first or the second week of this, this whole thing.

22 And uh, he was fed up with it. When he told me, he said, "I don't believe

23 anything that comes out of that, that household," he...

24 **SM:** Had...

25 **RP:** ...he was pretty much fed up.

1 **NS:** Rick?

2 **RP:** Because we were all in shock. I mean this has been, this is unbelievable.

3 **NS:** Rick, Nick Savage. Uh, uh, you mentioned that uh, it was almost as if Cindy
4 wasn't happy that you were blogging. Is that, is that an accurate assessment?

5 **RP:** Uh, that would be an understatement.

6 **NS:** How do you know she was upset with you?

7 **RP:** Uh, uh, I'll let you, when you guys get these e-mails you'll see. She was furious.

8 **NS:** Has she basically asked you, has she told you to stop?

9 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), uh, absolutely.

10 **NS:** Did she say anything with respect to talking to law enforcement?

11 **RP:** No, she didn't say anything about that. She just said, "Get off those blogs.
12 Those people are the scum of the earth," and all that. That's, that was her direct
13 quote. I said, "Cindy I was trying to set the record straight." I said, "There was
14 people saying really, really awful things." And I said, "I was trying to say you
15 were a good person and that you were just in denial." And she was furious I said
16 she was in denial. And I, I said, "Cindy...."

17 **(Whispering in background - inaudible.)**

18 **RP:** ...I said, I said, "Give me one fact that you have that there's a babysitter." I said,
19 "Just give me one, one person that saw her, one person that can confirm it."
20 And she says, she said, "Why are you so fixated on that?" Because I have asked
21 her in like four or five e-mails to give me proof. And she says uh, "Well I have
22 pictures of the apartment and I have pictures, I have articles I gave the police."
23 And I said, "Cindy that could be anybody's. That could, who gave, who told you
24 that was her apartment? Casey?" I said, "I wouldn't believe Casey at all." And I
25 said, "It, it could be Ben Franklin's or, or Joe Blow's for all I know." I said,

1 “(Unintelligible) could be anybody.” I, I said, “That’s stupid.” I, I said, “Why are
2 you believing it?” And, and she was furious with me. She said, “You don’t
3 understand.” She says, “I have more facts than you and you, you, you just don’t
4 know what you’re talking about.”

5 **NS:** Rick, this is still Nick. Uhm, be, was that the first time you’d ever heard of
6 anything regarding a nanny? Had anybody mentioned anything before about
7 one?

8 **RP:** No, never. I, I never, in fact my mom, she had always, Cindy talks to my mom
9 probably once a week and then goes and sees my dad maybe...

10 **(Whispering in background - inaudible.)**

11 **RP:** ... twice a month at the nursing home. So my mom knew of the nanny, you
12 know, by being talked about because that was the excuse with Casey when she
13 was supposedly going to work would leave Caylee at the nanny’s okay? Well if
14 she’s not going to work you don’t need a babysitter, right? So I said, “There’s no
15 babysitter because she wasn’t going to work.” I said, “And there’s no proof of
16 ever there was a babysitter.”

17 **NS:** After you confronted Cindy and George with respect to Casey being pregnant,
18 they obviously denied it. But shortly after that she obviously gave birth?

19 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). What happened was, I said, “When you guys get back
20 home,” I said, “You take her to a doctor.” I said, “Because if she’s not pregnant,”
21 I said, “She’s got something drastically wrong with her.” And I said, “She’s got
22 female organ troubles, she, she, something’s wrong. Definitely a tumor in her, in
23 her uh, ovary or something because that’s not normal.” And I said, “She looks
24 pregnant.”

25 **(Whispering in background - inaudible.)**

1 **RP:** And, and uh, so I think it was a couple weeks later they finally took her to a
2 doctor. And the doctor confirmed what I said, that she was pregnant all along.

3 **NS:** So I mean do you, so do you think Casey knew she was pregnant? I mean
4 obviously she's eight months pregnant. Do you think...

5 **RP:** Well uh, I, I absolutely knew that Casey knew she was pregnant. She wasn't
6 fooling me one bit. And I even, I, and my, my step-son here from my wife, he
7 was in our wedding and, and he looked at her and he goes, "Do you know who
8 the daddy is?" And she just looked at him and smiled. So she, she knew who,
9 that she was pregnant.

10 **NS:** Do you know who the dad is?

11 **RP:** You know what? It's not that Jesus uhm, Ortiz. You, you knew she tried to pin it
12 on this guy named Jesse, right, the first one? Did you guys know that?

13 **NS:** Yes.

14 **RP:** Okay. Jesse had the paternity test done at the hospital.

15 **NS:** Yes.

16 **RP:** And it wasn't his. And he still was going to marry her anyway. This is what I
17 heard and, and uhm, she, she was the one that, that called off the wedding,
18 didn't want to be married.

19 **NS:** Heard it from whom?

20 **RP:** Uhm, Cindy and my mom.

21 **NS:** They both said it to you?

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

23 **NS:** So any idea who the father is?

24 **RP:** I have no idea who he is. But I know, I don't think in my gut that it's that guy
25 named Ortiz, and that Jesus guy. Uh, if you look at Caylee she has no Hispanic

1 traits at all. I, I would say this about Casey. If she sees something or hears
2 something she will spin it into her own little world to make it work for her,
3 whatever kind of lie it is. And uh, Cindy was on her back trying to find out who
4 this, who the father was when it wasn't Jesse. And uh, to get her off, off uh,
5 Casey's back, to get Cindy off her back I think she cut out this obituary. This,
6 she knew of this Jesse guy, or, or not Jesse, uh, uh, Jesus guy, and she cut his
7 obituary out and, and told Cindy that it was a uh, it was, he was the father.

8 **NS:** So you think she purposely...

9 **RP:** Uhm...

10 **NS:** You think she purposely...

11 **RP:** I...

12 **NS:** ...found somebody who is, was deceased? Uh...

13 **RP:** Exactly. I, I think the, my, my own gut feeling, I think the father is out there. And
14 I think the only way that Caylee is still here is if he has her and that, that Casey
15 gave it to him. That's my own gut feeling. Uhm, because I'm not buying that
16 story. And I'm hoping they do the DNA test to, to prove that it's not Ortiz'.
17 Because even his mom said he never, ever mentioned anybody named, named
18 uh, Casey Anthony.

19 **NS:** What did...

20 **RP:** And...

21 **NS:** What did, what did Cindy and George say after the baby was born? Obviously
22 they took her to a hospital. I mean did they, did anybody call you back and say,
23 yeah (affirmative), you were right?

24 **RP:** No. They, they, they won't do that. They're, they're uhm, uh, you, yeah
25 (affirmative), you got to know my sister. When she's, she, and it made her look

1 really stupid is what it did. And she was a nurse and everything. So my mom's
2 the one that's like confirmed it on a phone call that, "You know, you were right.
3 Casey was pregnant." And then they, they took her out and throw this baby
4 shower right after that. And my wife looked at me and goes, "Man when we were
5 growing up if, if you had a illegitimate kid you kept it quiet. You know you didn't,
6 you didn't have no baby shower. What kind of stuff is this, you know?"

7 **SB:** Hey, hey Rick this is Scott.

8 **RP:** Hi Scott.

9 **SB:** Uh, uhm, with regards to your knowledge of Casey and her ability to spin stories
10 to her favor like you said earlier, how long did you know that about her? How
11 long did you so to speak have her number?

12 **RP:** Well, when I first saw the, the extent of what she could lie was at my wedding. I
13 mean to look at people with a straight face and tell them oh, well I'm not
14 pregnant. I'm, I'm, well, (inaudible). Okay.

15 **SB:** And, and that wedding took place when?

16 **RP:** Uhm...

17 **SB:** I'm not trying to put you on the spot with your wife.

18 **RP:** June 4, 1950, or excuse me, June 4, 2005.

19 **SB:** Okay, thank you.

20 **RP:** You're welcome.

21 **SB:** How, and uh, is, is, when you were talking about your sister and, and how she,
22 you, you mentioned that you know, you have to know my sister to understand
23 that she wasn't uh, what, what did you mean by that? Does she uh...

24 **RP:** Well anything that happens in her family, if, if anything good happens everybody
25 knew about it. Okay, the whole family knew about it. Like Casey got a

1 promotion, and all this. Casey uhm, was supposed to be some kind of human
2 resource uh, head of human resources or you know. And I said, "Man you need
3 a degree to have a job like that. You know, how, uh, why are they giving this to
4 her?" And here it turned out she didn't have it. This was just Casey telling her
5 that she was getting promoted and all this. So I mean we always heard good
6 news. But anything bad like, like when we found out Casey didn't even graduate
7 with her class. Her ceremony wasn't with the graduating class.

8 **SB:** Did she graduate?

9 **RP:** Uhm, well she's twenty-two. I mean so she didn't flunk any. But they held her
10 back. I don't know if she missed so many days. But my mom told me that she
11 didn't even graduate with, you know, with the ceremony with all the kids. You
12 know when they hand out diplomas.

13 **SB:** So you were told that she did graduate, right?

14 **RP:** I was told that she did by, by uh, you know, we, we just assumed that she did.
15 And uh, my mom told, told us when this broke she, I go, because, because I said,
16 "Mom," I said, "How long have they been having trouble with Casey?" I said, "I
17 have never heard anything about trouble with Casey." And she said, "Well the
18 first she got wind of it is when she didn't graduate on time." And it was like....

19 **SB:** Would, would you be surprised if we told you that she didn't graduate ever?

20 **RP:** I would be shocked. She didn't graduate.

21 **SB:** Well we're asking would you, would you be surprised if we told you that?

22 **RP:** Uhm, right now I wouldn't be, but if you told me that before I, I really would.

23 But...

24 **SB:** Well...

25 **RP:** ..after what I've seen.

1 **SB:** I'm going to ask you a hard question right now about your sister. Uh, what is...

2 **RP:** Okay.

3 **SB:** What is her propensity for having the same characteristic regarding lying as her

4 daughter?

5 **RP:** I don't think she would, she would lie. I think she would be just in like uhm, right,

6 right now I think she's just in denial, thinking she's always raised her daughter

7 (inaudible) that my daughter can do no wrong. No matter what it was, my

8 daughter, that, that's my daughter, and, and she can't do any wrong.

9 **NS:** Rick, this is Nick. Just, just so I am completely clear, you were basically told that

10 Casey did not graduate with her class because....

11 **RP:** According...

12 **NS:** ...because of an attendance problem?

13 **RP:** Well no. That's what my mom thought maybe and I thought maybe it was an

14 attendance problem because why wouldn't she graduate with her class?

15 **NS:** So no one told you why?

16 **RP:** (Inaudible.) I, I don't know if she graduated or not. I have no clue that she did or

17 if she didn't. I'm just assuming that she did and then when my mom said she

18 didn't graduate with her class I'm going, "What?" And I told my brother that and

19 he, he was shocked too. He goes, "I never heard that." And I said, "See," I said,

20 "they keep secrets and stuff that don't go with the flow. Then anything good that

21 happens everybody knows about it." You know and I, I just, a lot of families don't

22 want to have all their stuff out in the open, you know with you, the rest of the

23 family. Like if your son got in trouble, or whatever.

24 **SM:** Hey Rick, Steve McEylea again. Uhm....

25 **RP:** Yes Steve.

1 **SM:** I, I know you've talked with Cindy about this since uh, this all came out. Have
2 you had the opportunity to uh, speak directly to George or uh, trade any e-mails
3 between you and George?

4 **RP:** No. I, I, George and I aren't, aren't real close. Uhm, I nev...I always, I, I
5 respected him and stuff but I, I never really cared for him because you know,
6 they lost their first home and everything. You heard about that, right? How they
7 lost their first home?

8 **SM:** No. How'd they lose their first home?

9 **RP:** Uh, he, he was uh, he was a police officer for a while in uh, Trumbull County
10 Sheriff's Department. And then uh, my sister wanted him to go into his dad's car
11 business because George's, one of George's sisters was married to a very
12 successful car businessman in Austin Town, Bob Eddy, Bob Eddy's cars uh, in
13 Austin Town. Bob Eddy's. And it's, it's a huge dealership. And they, they're very
14 wealthy. And uh, George's dad owned a, a real good sized used car lot. And he,
15 he was doing pretty well. So Cindy thought that George's dad was going to retire
16 pretty soon and wanted George to go into that. So she persuaded him to, to
17 leave the police department and work for his dad. Well, George and his dad,
18 they didn't get along real well. And that was like gasoline and fire. I don't know
19 their history. Uhm, but I, I know there was some kind of altercation. And uh,
20 George's dad said, "I don't think, you know, I think you need to find another job
21 somewhere. I don't want you back here." Uh, so George started his own car lot.
22 And he bought up a, a small car lot in, in, Niles, off of uh, Youngstown Warren
23 Road, uh, off of 42...it's called 422, but it's Youngstown Warren Road, in uh, in
24 Niles there. And what happened was he got in over his head and he had second
25 mortgaged uh, their home. And when the bills came in he couldn't pay them.

1 And they had to, they, their home got foreclosed on. And Cindy wasn't working
2 then because she had, she had had Lee and then had, had Casey. And uh,
3 Casey was only a couple years old. And since my mom had just moved to
4 Florida they ended up moving not too long later. Cindy already had her nursing
5 degree and she had worked for a, a doctor's office uhm, a, a highly regarded
6 uhm, surgeon in Howlands, Ohio, that was real close by. And she was his head
7 nurse. So I mean she was, she was real good at that, for a surgical nurse. So
8 when she moved to Orlando they found a, uhm, a home that, that was in an area
9 that they liked and the assumed the mortgage. And mortgages were pretty high
10 back then. I think they were like eleven, eleven and a half percent or something.
11 And she assumed that and that's where they live today. So, I mean they, they
12 stayed there and maintained it. But I never, I always thought George, I said,
13 "Wow," I said, "If you were that far in trouble why didn't you say something?
14 Cindy would have went back to work and you guys could have saved your
15 house." You know, I, to me, I never told it to him, but I mean it, it, it struck me
16 that way. And then they almost got a divorce sometime in 2005. They were
17 fighting and, and uh, George ran up some bills. Uh, I think on-line gambling or
18 something.

19 **SB:** This is Scott again. Well, uh, Rick what, what exactly did she explain to you
20 about that break up? If...

21 **RP:** Uh...

22 **SB:** ...if you know anything beyond just the gambling bills. What, what did she say
23 was going on at the time because our understanding is that...

24 **RP:** That...

25 **SB:** ...he left the house for a while.

1 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative). She, she threw him out of the house. She just said, "You
2 know what? I, I don't need you here." She said, "I have enough problems with,
3 with uh, with baby on the way and stuff," or, or the baby was there. Let's see. It
4 might have been right shortly after the baby was born or something. Anyway,
5 she uh, she threw him out of the house. And they were out of the house for a
6 while. And then he filed for divorce first and was filing for half the house and, and
7 alimony because he wasn't working. And that, that made her mad and, anyway,
8 they, they reconciled. And my mom was even unhappy that they reconciled
9 because again, so uhm, you know, no good. Because why would Cindy go back?
10 I guess Cindy didn't have any other, anybody else, and plus George was good
11 with, with uh, with the baby. So and the kids wanted George back. So...

12 **SB:** So is your...

13 **RP:** ...they got back to...

14 **SB:** ...Lee, uh, Lee and Casey wanted George to come back?

15 **RP:** Yes. Yeah (affirmative), they didn't want, they didn't want their mom and dad
16 broke up.

17 **SB:** Re...regarding uh, well after Caylee was born uh, uh, how did Cindy act with,
18 with her granddaughter? How would you describe their relationship from what
19 you heard?

20 **RP:** How did Cindy act?

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

22 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), Cindy loved that baby. I mean she absolutely loved that baby.
23 And she, she would give her own life for that baby. I, I know that for a fact. And,
24 and my, my mom used to tell, I, I got pictures that they're happy and you know,
25 uh, you know, her birthday and stuff like that.

1 **SB:** When, when you were talking earlier about Cindy having problems with Casey
2 you mentioned the fact that uh, grandma had told you that or, or that you had
3 heard that she had gone to a counselor and the counselor had told her to kick
4 her out and file for custody of the, of, of Caylee. Uh, would that...

5 **RP:** Right.

6 **SB:** Would that be because uh, Cindy viewed herself as a better caregiver than
7 Casey, or did she consider Caylee like her daughter, or how would you describe
8 that? Why do you think she'd want to do that?

9 **RP:** Well, because she knew that she could provide for, for, for Caylee. And if
10 Casey's out there by herself, you know, how's she going to find her own place
11 and then be able to work and pay for a babysitter and all that? And so she was
12 just thinking of the welfare of, of, of Caylee. That's, that's all I think that was.
13 And she, she threatened her to have her straighten up because she really didn't
14 want to throw her daughter out on the street. But she wanted her daughter to
15 start to you know, act, act like a normal daughter and, and you don't steal from
16 family members. I mean that, that's just, that's disgusting.

17 **SB:** Right. On that, on that note, well how would you describe from what you know
18 about the relationship between Cindy and Casey? Uhm, we've heard varying
19 stories from different people regarding uh, the contentiousness of their
20 relationship. How would you describe it?

21 **RP:** I would describe it as Casey resented Cindy. She resented Cindy to the point
22 where she could see that Caylee likes Cindy way better than she likes her. And,
23 and, to me that was normal for a baby to like the grandma, because grandmas
24 always like spoil, spoil kids, you know?

25 **SB:** Right.

1 **RP:** And, and, and Cindy just you could see the love in Cindy's eyes when she would
2 be around, around Caylee. Just uhm, when I was at the hospital with my, with
3 my dad and stuff and, and Cindy and, and uh, was holding the baby and stuff, it,
4 you could just tell she, she loved that baby. And that's what, what my mom
5 would say when they went for visiting and stuff.

6 **SB:** When, when you were at the hospital with your dad and you saw Cindy with
7 Caylee, was Casey there?

8 **RP:** Yes.

9 **SB:** And, and who did the baby stay with when they, when they were in the room
10 together?

11 **RP:** Oh, the baby was, was, Casey was holding the baby most of the time.

12 **SB:** Okay.

13 **SM:** Hey this is Steve McEylea again. I hate to jump around like this again. Uhm, I
14 asked you whether or not you talked to with George. Have you had the
15 opportunity to talk with Lee during this uh, whole thing, or have any interaction
16 with him?

17 **RP:** I, I e-mailed Lee like the first or second day and I said, I said, "Lee." I said,
18 "Cindy looks," I saw, when I saw Cindy on TV it looked like she hadn't slept for
19 three or four days. I mean she had dark circles under her eyes. She, she looked
20 terrible. And so I immediately e-mailed Lee and I said, "Lee," I said, "Look after
21 your mom." I said, "She needs rest." I said, "You guys, the rest of you guys can
22 talk to the media." I said, "Let her get some rest. Make sure she's eating right."
23 I said, "She looks terrible. She looks like she's going to collapse." Uh, that's the
24 only e-mail I sent to Lee.

25 **SM:** Did you ever get a response back?

1 **RP:** I never did, no.

2 **SM:** Uh, would, would you mind uh, could you forward that e-mail also to Yuri?

3 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), I'll, I'll send it to you.

4 **SM:** And, and also, your brother Daniel. Do you know if he's had any, any interaction
5 with uh, Cindy or George or Lee since this started?

6 **RP:** I think Cindy had called him about the first week this happened she talked to our
7 brother, Dan.

8 **SM:** Would you have...

9 **RP:** So....

10 **SM:** Would you having giving out uh, Dan's contact information to us?

11 **RP:** No. I have to find it though because I don't call him all the time.

12 **SM:** Alright, uh, well you know, and whenever you get that just e-mail Yuri with that
13 information too.

14 **RP:** Okay, I'll, I'll well I'll give you his phone number, okay?

15 **YM:** Both brothers.

16 **SM:** Oh, yeah (affirmative), yeah (affirmative), both brothers if you mind. He, he was
17 saying one's a recluse, so, uh...

18 **RP:** Okay, he would have Gary's phone number. I haven't, I haven't talked to Gary.

19 **SM:** Alright, that's good. That's good. Uhm, who told you that Cindy spoke, called
20 him?

21 **RP:** Uhm...

22 **SM:** Did Daniel talk to you afterwards?

23 **RP:** No. Cindy had actually told me. And I, and I talked to Dan and Dan told me that
24 he had talked to her. So I had, I had it from two sources that, that they had
25 talked.

1 **NS:** Rick, this is Nick Savage again. Uh, I know you mentioned the media, and you
2 mentioned Greta van Sustrand. Uh, have you done any, any television shows,
3 and are you considering it?

4 **RP:** No, I, I, Cindy forbid me to go on any show last night when she sent the e-mail.
5 And out, out of respect to her I said I will not go on. I said, "There's really no
6 good that I can do." I said, "The better I can do is probably talk to the police." I
7 didn't tell her that, but I, I, when people from Greta decided to contact me I said,
8 "I'd really, really like to talk to the police to see if they know what I know." You
9 know....

10 **YM:** (Inaudible.)

11 **RP:** ...just the prior history before all this happened. Because after the fact I don't
12 know a whole lot except what, what the media is releasing because no one, you
13 know, the media don't know everything. And I know, I'm sure you guys know a
14 heck of a lot more than what, what's out there.

15 **SB:** Hey Rick, this is Scott again. Scott Bolin. And quick, in, in her e-mail to you, and
16 I'm sure we'll find out later when you e-mail it to Yuri, uh, well what, why would
17 you, why do you think that she would try and forbid you from talking to the media,
18 in as much as considering she, well I don't know how else to say it other than
19 doesn't have a problem with talking to the media.

20 **RP:** Well...

21 **SB:** I mean if you're trying to help find Caylee?

22 **RP:** Well she's probably afraid of uh, you know, that I might say something that, that
23 uh, she don't think's appropriate or something. I, I have...

24 **SB:** Well, well...

25 **RP:** ...no idea.

1 **SB:** ...what, what you've told us today is, is...

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

3 **SB:** ...what we know as the truth, and, and is honest. And, and why, what is your
4 opinion of why she would have a problem with you being honest? And...

5 **RP:** Well I don't know. If she, I don't know if she thinks I would say anything
6 derogatory. I, I don't want to say anything derogatory.

7 **SB:** I haven't heard you say one word today in this conversation with all of us that's
8 been derogatory towards her. I've heard you say things about Casey that are
9 truthful, but not necessarily nice.

10 **RP:** Right.

11 **SB:** I, I, the, the reason that I, I guess the problem I have is you have the, one of the
12 best understandings of that family dynamic that we've run into. And, and we
13 appreciate your candor with us today. Uhm, I, I, I...

14 **RP:** Uh, and I'll...

15 **SB:** ...I want...

16 **RP:** I'll tell you, I get most of my information uhm, probably ninety percent of it comes
17 from my mom. So I mean my mom can verify everything I told you. Everything.

18 **SB:** Uh, you, and let me ask you this. Do you think that your mom would have a
19 problem talking with us Rick? You know her better than we do.

20 **RP:** No, I really don't think so if, if, if uh, you call her first and tell her that you're
21 coming, or you're going to put her on speaker and, and call. And I'll, I'll tell you
22 the best time to get a hold of her is around like two o'clock to three o'clock, in that
23 time frame.

24 **SB:** Okay.

25

1 **RP:** Because she, she goes and sees my dad in the morning and then she uh,
2 usually does some errands if she has any to do, and then she's usually home by,
3 by two o'clock. And then she goes back to see him at, at uh, the five o'clock
4 uhm, supper hour, to make sure that he eats okay and, and spend some time
5 with him. She, she's like clockwork. Two times a, a day, every day.

6 **SB:** Okay, well I appreciate that Rick.

7 **RP:** Oh, you're welcome.

8 **SB:** And, and, and we'll, we'll reach out to her. And if you talk to her, uhm....

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

10 **SB:** Uh, we're not, well I wouldn't hesitate to tell her that you talked to us and, and
11 you can relay to her, you know, our, our conversation and in as much as we, we
12 didn't ask pushy questions because we wouldn't do anything to her. And we
13 wouldn't want you to think that we would do anything to your mother that would
14 be out of line. And, and we would....

15 **RP:** Right.

16 **SB:** ...want to allay any fears on her part, or any hesitation on her part.

17 **RP:** Right, and I appreciate that you guys. Uhm, and my dad because the stroke that
18 he's had, I don't know if she told you when you guys visited her, but uh, and him.
19 Or you just visited her. But he uh, he's had a stroke and uh, it affected his
20 speech. So he can't talk. I, I wish he could because it's, it's really eating him up
21 inside and, and he don't have any, he can't express himself. Because he, he
22 loves little Caylee to, to death. I mean he, he just loves her. And uh, and that'd
23 cheer him up every time she would come and visit.

24 **SB:** I'm sure it lit his eyes every time she came in the room.

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

1 **SB:** You guys you have any...

2 **RP:** I, I hope I've been able to help you guys today.

3 **SB:** You have; absolutely.

4 **YM:** Listen Rick, this is Yuri again. You got, you, you've been a wonderful help.

5 You've uh, you've definitely shed a lot of insight uhm, into the family structure

6 and into this case. Uh, I want to thank you but for talking to us. Uhm, I also want

7 to give you my telephone number. My cell phone number, in case...

8 **RP:** Okay.

9 **YM:** ...any, uh, that way you have someone to contact and you don't think that we're

10 kind of, you know, going about our business.

11 **RP:** I was hoping to, to get a direct line to somebody. I just didn't want to call and,

12 and, and have it go to somebody and then get lost in the shuffle.

13 **YM:** No. I'm going to give you my cell phone number. I'll give you my work

14 extension. Uh, uh, do you have that pen and paper yet? I'll also make sure I

15 give you my e-mail.

16 **RP:** Right here.

17 **YM:** Okay. My uh, direct cell phone, well now first off, my last name is Melich. It's M-

18 E-L-I-C-H.

19 **RP:** Okay.

20 **YM:** My first name is Yuri, Y-U-R-I. Feel free just to refer...

21 **RP:** Okay.

22 **YM:** ...to me as Yuri. And my number is 321.

23 **RP:** 321?

24 **YM:** 388.

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

1 **YM:** 2396. That's my cell phone.
2 **RP:** Okay.
3 **YM:** I'm going to give you my work extension too. You ready?
4 **RP:** Yeah (affirmative), go ahead.
5 **YM:** It's 407.
6 **RP:** Okay.
7 **YM:** 254.
8 **RP:** 254?
9 **YM:** 7000.
10 **RP:** 7000.
11 **YM:** My extension is 70633.
12 **RP:** 70633?
13 **YM:** Yes sir. And my, lastly my e-mail address when you're ready.
14 **RP:** Okay.
15 **YM:** It's my first name...
16 **RP:** Alright, go ahead.
17 **YM:** It's my first name, with a period.
18 **RP:** Okay. Y-U...
19 **YM:** And....
20 **RP:** ...I, or how do you spell Yuri again?
21 **YM:** Y-U-R-I.
22 **RP:** R-I. Okay, got it.
23 **YM:** Per...period Melich, M-E-L-I-C-H.
24 **RP:** Okay.
25 **YM:** At...

1 **RP:** What's that?
2 **YM:** ...the at (@) sign, OCFL, like Orange County, Florida.
3 **RP:** OCFL?
4 **YM:** Dot net.
5 **RP:** Okay. That was uh, Yuri Melich at OCFL dot net?
6 **YM:** You got it. I sent you an e-mail to that e-mail address too. So when you see it
7 come up you'll know it's me.
8 **RP:** Alright, and very good.
9 **YM:** Alright. Thank you very much Rick. I, I think we all here in the room say thank
10 you.
11 **NS:** Thank you.
12 **SM:** Thank you.
13 **SB:** Thank you Rick.
14 **RP:** Thanks. Well you're, you're very welcome.
15 **YM:** Alright, you have a good night sir.
16 **RP:** Uh, you too.
17 **YM:** 'Bye-bye.
18 **RP:** 'Bye-bye.
19 **YM:** And he time right now is 1843.

20 **End of recorded statement.**
21 **This transcript has been reviewed for accuracy.**

22
23 

24
25 **CORPORAL YURI MELICH, OCSO DEPUTY SHERIFF**