

1 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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4 IN RE: STANKOSKI/STOUT EEO
COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION

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8 CONFIDENTIAL INTERVIEW OF

9 MOLLY TAYLOR

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11 Taken at the offices of
The State of Ohio
12 180 East Broad Street
11th Floor, Room A
13 Columbus, Ohio 43215

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on April 17, 2008, at 12:33 p.m.

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17 Reported by: Sara S. Clark, RPR/CRR/CCP/CBC

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1 PRESENT:

2 Ben Espy, Esq.
Executive Assistant Attorney General
3 Administration
30 E. Broad Street, 17th floor
4 Columbus, Ohio 43215

5

6 Julie M. Pfeiffer, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
7 Employment Law
150 East Gay Street
8 Columbus, Ohio 43215

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1 MR. ESPY: Molly, my name is Ben Espy.

2 I'm the executive assistant to the Attorney

3 General; and this is Julie Pfeiffer, who is a

4 senior attorney in the employment section.

5 On April the 8th, we were asked to

6 investigate allegations of sexual harassment

7 involving one Anthony Gutierrez. Do you

8 understand?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

10 MR. ESPY: Your name was given because

11 you may have information which may help us in

12 our investigation.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay.

14 MR. ESPY: We cannot promise

15 confidentiality, because some of these things

16 may be made public at some point in time.

17 THE WITNESS: Okay.

18 MR. ESPY: But we are requiring all

19 witnesses to be placed under oath.

20 THE WITNESS: Okay.

21 MR. ESPY: Do you have a problem being

22 placed under oath?

23 THE WITNESS: No.

24 MR. ESPY: Okay. Raise your right hand,

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1 please.

2 MOLLY TAYLOR

3 being first duly sworn, as hereinafter

4 certified, says as follows:

5 EXAMINATION

6 BY MS. PFEIFFER:

7 Q. I think I asked you to bring any

8 documents or anything that you think are

9 relevant. Did you do that?

10 A. I did.

11 Do you want me to tell you -- these are

12 documents that were brought to my attention from

13 Mariellen Aranda. Actually, she brought those

14 to my attention on the 10th of October but did

15 not send them to me until the 11th of October.

16 And they are text messages that she received

17 from Cindy Stankoski.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And the other documents that I have is
20 the same text messages that I sent to Stephanie
21 Bostos-Demers, the HR director, when she
22 requested them for a second time when I was off
23 sick one day. She already had the documents,
24 and she misplaced them, and called me at home

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1 and wanted them again, because she said there
2 was a public records request for those text
3 messages.

4 Q. When did she ask you for the second
5 time?

6 A. On November 27th. I sent them the very
7 same day. She called me at home, and she said,
8 code red, public records request for text
9 messages. I can't find mine. Do you still have
10 another copy? And send them to my private
11 e-mail. So I did that on November 27th. That
12 was, like, a month later.

13 Q. So these are the same text messages?

14 A. It is the same.

15 Q. Just with a different date?

16 A. Different date. I mean, that's when I
17 received them. That's when I sent -- gave them
18 to HR for the second time.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. I just forwarded them, and she wanted

21 them to her private account, so that's what I

22 did.

23 Q. Okay. When's the most recent time

24 you've --

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1 MR. ESPY: I'm sorry to interrupt you.

2 Could you get into -- before you get into that,
3 her name, where she works.

4 MS. PFEIFFER: I'm sorry. That's right.

5 BY MS. PFEIFFER:

6 Q. Can you state your name for the record.

7 A. Molly Taylor. And I work at the
8 Attorney General's office, special prosecutions,
9 currently.

10 Q. When did you become an employee of the
11 Attorney General's office?

12 A. July -- I'm sorry -- July 14th of 2003.

13 Q. And what were you hired to do? What was
14 your position?

15 A. I actually worked in general services,
16 and I helped with printing documents, answering
17 phones, just in general services. And then I
18 did that for about a year.

19 And then I was asked to work for Jim

20 Canepa, because I had a criminal justice

21 background, and I did that until the new

22 administration came in.

23 And then I worked for Ed Simpson, Joyce

24 Chapple, the administrative side of the

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1 building, until, I think it was like July, and

2 then I went to HR, and went to special

3 prosecutions January of 2008.

4 Q. What do you do at special prosecutions?

5 A. I assist with their cases, like project

6 assistant, help put the cases together.

7 Q. What's your job title?

8 A. It is project assistant. And when I was

9 in HR, and when I worked for Ed Simpson, it was

10 administrative director.

11 Q. As a project assistant, is that a

12 promotion?

13 A. No. Stayed the same. I haven't had a

14 raise since the administration came in.

15 Q. Who do you report to in special

16 prosecutions?

17 A. Paul Scarcella.

18 Q. Is he your direct report?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Do you know Cindy Stankoski?

21 A. No, not really. I've said hi to her,

22 but I don't know her.

23 Q. When's the first time you met her?

24 A. I think she might have come to HR when

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1 she was first getting hired, you know. I think
2 I might have said hi to her then. She came to
3 HR for something. But I've not -- I've never
4 had conversations with her.

5 And I think I did ask her -- I was
6 trying to find a parking lot to park at, and I
7 was in general services, and Tony Gutierrez
8 said, ask Cindy, she knows where there's good
9 parking. And she gave me a phone number of
10 where she parks. I never did go to that lot, so
11 it wasn't...

12 Q. Okay. Do you know Vanessa Stout?

13 A. No, I do not.

14 Q. Have you ever met her?

15 A. Said hi to her. Not formally
16 introduced. The only thing with Vanessa, when
17 her background came in, and there was some
18 issues, I took her background up to Ed Simpson

19 to have him sign off on her background, to see

20 if it was okay to still bring her in. And he

21 signed off on the background.

22 Q. You took Vanessa Stout's -- what did you

23 take up to Ed Simpson?

24 A. It's what we get back from, like, BCI,

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1 her background. Her criminal history,
2 background. I took it up to Ed Simpson because
3 there was some issues. And I didn't want to
4 sign off, Stephanie didn't want to sign off. So
5 we made sure Ed was aware, and he signed off.

6 Q. Are you required at that point -- your
7 function in HR, were you required to sign off on
8 background --

9 A. Stephanie --

10 Q. Let me finish my question, for the
11 record.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Were you required to sign off on
14 background checks before somebody was hired?

15 A. Only if there were issues with their
16 background and they had some history.

17 Q. Okay. Were you required to sign your
18 name to some kind of authorization or approval

19 before someone could be hired?

20 A. In the later part of my position in HR,

21 I came up with a form; so, yes, we wanted to

22 sign off on them, but we were not required.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. If that's -- no, we were not required.

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1 Q. So to your knowledge, when you were
2 working in HR during the Dann administration,
3 you were not -- the policy was not that Molly
4 Taylor must approve somebody's background check
5 prior to them being hired?

6 A. No. No.

7 Q. Now, you stated that you took Stout's
8 background check. Did you take the actual
9 paperwork that was the background check?

10 A. The actual paperwork that came in from
11 BCI&I so Ed could see it and initial it that it
12 was okay.

13 Q. Did you just go to him yourself?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Just you and he?

16 A. (Witness nods head.)

17 Q. And why did you do that?

18 A. Stephanie asked me to. She said, can

19 you take this up to 17, make sure Ed sees this,

20 and make sure he signs off on it. And I can't

21 tell you the date.

22 Q. And did you then go to Ed?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did you have a conversation with him?

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1 A. No. I talked to Jackie, his assistant,
2 and I said, I have a background Ed needs to sign
3 off on. She said, okay. She said, he's in
4 there. Go on in. I said, Ed, you know, handed
5 it to him, and he signed off.

6 Q. Did you --

7 A. I think I left it. That's right. He
8 signed off on it. I can't remember exactly. I
9 think I left it there with him. To be honest
10 with you, I'm not sure. I think I left it there
11 with him, and he sent it down. But he was
12 signing, as I was standing there. And he had a
13 pile of stuff.

14 Q. Did Stephanie give you any instructions
15 as to tell you anything about the background?

16 A. Not that I recall. It spoke for itself,
17 you know. You could see everything --

18 MR. ESPY: You have to keep your voice

19 up so she can hear you.

20 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.

21 A. No, I don't believe she gave me any

22 instruction; just make sure Ed sees this.

23 Q. Was that an usual thing, or is that what

24 you did for all new hires?

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1 A. Only if there was something that was
2 alarming in their background. And I don't --
3 honestly, I don't remember what she had in her
4 background. But if it was something like that
5 they had some criminal history, Stephanie wanted
6 Ed and Joyce to start signing off on them.

7 Q. Was it your understanding that that was
8 the problem with Vanessa Stout's background, is
9 that there was some criminal problem?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And why was that your understanding?

12 A. Because you could see that there were
13 some issues with it.

14 Q. So you reviewed Vanessa's background?

15 A. Stephanie did, and talked to me about
16 it. Like, I think there's some issues with her
17 background; we need to have somebody sign off on
18 this.

19 Q. And when you took the background check
20 to Ed Simpson, you did not have any conversation
21 with him about that?

22 A. I don't -- I don't recall conversation
23 with him, you know. Ed, we want you to see this
24 background, we need your signature on this, that

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1 type of conversation.

2 Q. I'm going to hand you some exhibits that
3 have been previously marked.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. If you went through her personnel file,
6 meaning Vanessa Stout's, would you be able to
7 pick out if it's in here, what it is you took to
8 him?

9 A. Yeah. They were all about the same when
10 I came in.

11 Q. I'm handing you Exhibit 12. I'm also
12 handing you Exhibit 13 and 14. If you could
13 take a look, and if you see it, pick out what it
14 is you took to Ed Simpson.

15 A. Do you want me to go through -- okay.

16 (Pause in proceedings.)

17 A. Okay. It was this document. But these
18 documents were behind it so he could actually

19 see (indicating). I think that's all there was

20 to it, I believe.

21 Is that the same? Is there two

22 copies --

23 It was actually these documents with --

24 I'm just going to put these back here. I'm

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1 trying to keep them in order.

2 It was this sheet with the background
3 information. And then attached was her OHLEG
4 information from BCI (indicating).

5 MS. PFEIFFER: We're going to make the
6 OHLEG information Exhibit 15.

7 COURT REPORTER: It would be 18.

8 MS. PFEIFFER: Okay.

9 --0--

10 (Exhibit 18 marked.)

11 --0--

12 BY MS. PFEIFFER:

13 Q. So it's your recollection that what you
14 took to Ed Simpson was Exhibit 14, along with
15 Exhibit 18; is that correct?

16 A. Right. That is correct.

17 Q. And you said you left it there --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- for him to sign?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You did not witness him signing it?

22 A. I don't remember for sure. It seems

23 like he might have started to sign it and said,

24 Molly, let me send this back down to you. He

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1 just made some kind of comment about I'll send
2 it back down, like maybe wanted to look at it a
3 little closer.

4 Q. But you don't recall him signing it?

5 A. I think he started to sign it, yes, but
6 he kept it.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I guess what I'm saying is I didn't see,
9 like, his full signature. You know what I mean?
10 He started marking on it, and he was like, let
11 me keep this, let me send this back down to you.
12 Okay?

13 Q. Okay.

14 Did you have any other involvement with
15 the hire of Vanessa Stout other than taking
16 Exhibit 14 and 18 up to Ed Simpson?

17 A. You know, I processed the HR request
18 forms, you know, and put them through -- routed

19 them to who they needed to go, so I would have

20 helped with that.

21 Q. About how many other background

22 information forms or OHLEGs did you transport to

23 Ed Simpson?

24 A. Oh, wow. I don't know. I mean, I could

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1 probably count them on one hand. But I don't
2 know for sure, honestly.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. And that was in, like, the later part of
5 me being in HR, when Stephanie really wanted to
6 get a handle on things and wanted to see all
7 those documents. We started to take more up
8 there, but it wasn't many.

9 Q. Were you ever involved in any
10 conversations between Ed Simpson and Stephanie
11 Bostos-Demers regarding the hire of Vanessa
12 Stout?

13 A. Involved in conversations, no.

14 Q. Were you present during conversations?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you know Mariellen Aranda?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. How do you know her?

19 A. I trained her at the front desk when she
20 came into the office. And she's helped me with
21 various projects when I was on 17, like making
22 spreadsheets for me, you know, phone numbers,
23 that type of thing.

24 Q. And when did you meet her?

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1 A. When she started employment at the AG's
2 office. I'm not -- I mean, years ago? I don't
3 know when she started.

4 Q. Have you ever worked with her?

5 A. Yeah. Yes. I mean, I trained her, of
6 course, at the front desk. And then when the
7 new administration came in, she would help me
8 with making up phone lists for the new
9 administration, putting, like, information
10 binders together so they would know where the
11 sections were, the phone numbers to all the
12 sections, that type of thing. So, yes.

13 Q. Okay. You were an employee in general
14 services at the same time she was?

15 A. No. I actually went to work for Jim
16 Canepa when she came into general services, and
17 I was training her at the front desk -- helping
18 train her at the front desk.

19 Q. Okay. Now, it's my understanding that
20 at some point in October of 2007 she approached
21 you with some issues she was having in general
22 services; is that correct?

23 A. That is correct.

24 Q. Okay. How did she go about approaching

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1 you?

2 A. Honestly, I'm not sure if she called me
3 or she sent me an e-mail, wanting to see me.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. And Charlie followed up with a phone
6 call or e-mail, you can probably check it, and
7 he said, Mariellen's having a hard time. She
8 wants to come up to see you. I said, okay.

9 And she came up on October 10th. It was
10 late in the day. Stephanie wasn't there. She
11 was crying and said that Tony was mistreating
12 her. And I said, in what way? And she said
13 that they were counting the petty cash, and
14 there was a coin machine that they used, and
15 Tony went to get the coin machine, and she said,
16 Tony, I don't think that coin machine works.
17 There's another one. And he got in her face and
18 he said, you shut up and you don't speak unless

19 you're spoken to. And she said, I just can't
20 take it anymore, I can't work around him, he
21 scares me, and he doesn't treat me the same
22 because I'm not young, cute, skinny. And she
23 said, can you help me get out, you know, can you
24 help me get to another section.

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1 And then she disclosed that she was
2 concerned for another employee in general
3 services, which was Cindy Stankoski. And I
4 asked her in what way. And she showed me text
5 messages that were on her phone. And I don't
6 remember the date that was on her phone. And it
7 was Cindy texting her one night, and she said
8 that she called her father and wanted to go get
9 Cindy, because she was at the apartment or condo
10 of Marc Dann, Leo, and Tony Gutierrez, and she
11 was scared, and she called her dad and wanted to
12 go get her, and her dad said, no, I'm not gonna
13 let you drive there to get her. You stay right
14 here. You don't know what can happen, and
15 you're not going.

16 And she also disclosed that -- what else
17 did she tell me? At one point she said she was
18 at Cindy's desk, and she disclosed that Cindy

19 answered the phone, and it was Tony, Cindy
20 sounded kind of funny, and she was like, I put
21 it behind your desk. I put it behind your desk.
22 And when she got off the phone, Mariellen
23 asked -- or behind your seat. I'm sorry.
24 Behind your seat. Let me correct that. And she

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1 got off the phone, and Mariellen asked Cindy
2 what that was about. She said, well, I had to
3 run an errand for Tony, and when I got in his
4 vehicle, he had a gun, and it was on the front
5 seat. I don't know which side of the front
6 seat. And I had to move the gun and put it in
7 the backseat, and Tony was calling to see if I
8 took his gun or where I put it. And Mariellen
9 felt that was an intimidation, and she was
10 scared for Cindy.

11 And I said, well, I think we need to
12 bring Stephanie in, you know. We need to get
13 Stephanie included in this and look into it.

14 So she showed me the text messages, and
15 I said, Mariellen, I said, we need those text
16 messages. You need to get those to us. She
17 said, well, I'm afraid. She said -- she didn't
18 know how to print them off of her phone, and she

19 said, I think that they're monitoring my e-mail.

20 They're probably monitoring your e-mail. She

21 said, I'm scared to send them anywhere. And so

22 I said, send them to my phone. I don't know how

23 to print them, I'll send them to a private

24 e-mail account, and then I'll print them off and

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1 get them to Stephanie.

2 So the next day on the 11th, she did
3 that, she sent them to my phone, and I was able
4 to send them to an old e-mail account. I
5 printed them off and gave them to Stephanie.

6 We set up a meeting. Stephanie -- let's
7 see. That was on Wednesday.

8 On Thursday -- or I called Stephanie. I
9 called Stephanie after Mariellen left on
10 Wednesday. She said to set up a meeting, make
11 sure Charlie's included.

12 So I called Charlie, and I said, we need
13 to set up a meeting. He said, I don't want to
14 have it tomorrow because Tony's in the office,
15 and I'm afraid Tony will know we're meeting, you
16 know. He was afraid of him and afraid he'll
17 lose his job.

18 So Stephanie was out at a conference on

19 Friday, so we set the meeting up for the 15th of
20 October, on Monday morning at 9:00. Mariellen
21 came up. Charlie didn't come in. And I believe
22 the reason Charlie told me was because Tony came
23 into work early, and he didn't want Tony to know
24 he was up there.

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1 So me, Mariellen, and Stephanie went
2 into a room. And Mariellen disclosed all that
3 information to Stephanie. Stephanie took notes.

4 Q. Did you take notes?

5 A. No. No, I didn't. I put, like, the
6 date and the time, and I noticed Stephanie was
7 taking notes, and so I didn't take notes.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. And we had a lengthy conversation with
10 Mariellen.

11 Stephanie said that she would take it to
12 Ed Simpson and Joyce and, you know, we would try
13 to take care of it.

14 And I don't know when -- I can't
15 remember if it was that day or the next day,
16 Stephanie went up to see Joyce Chapple. And
17 Stephanie came back down, Stephanie said that
18 she gave her that information and that we needed

19 to move Mariellen and could I try to find

20 someplace where Mariellen could work.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. I did. Within a couple weeks, I had

23 her -- she was working with Frank Lockhart out

24 at organized crime or BCI. So Stephanie said

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1 she gave that information to Joyce and Joyce was
2 going to take care of it.

3 Q. Mariellen requested a transfer in that
4 meeting, right?

5 A. Yes, she did.

6 Q. Okay. Do you recall when Mariellen was
7 reviewing -- or telling you about -- you and
8 Stephanie about the night that Cindy was out
9 with Tony Gutierrez on September 10th of 2007,
10 do you recall Mariellen ever saying that Cindy
11 believed that she -- her pants had been
12 unbuttoned and unzipped?

13 A. No. And I don't know that Mariellen
14 knew that. I didn't know any of that at the
15 time. And I didn't even know what the text
16 messages meant, you know. So, no.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. No, she didn't disclose that.

19 Q. You said you didn't know what they

20 meant.

21 A. I mean, they're kind of odd. It's like,

22 girl, you know, I need to talk to you. But I

23 didn't know what else was involved until now.

24 Q. How do you know what's involved now?

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1 A. I mean, newspapers.

2 Q. Newspapers?

3 All right. So you assisted Mariellen in
4 transferring from general services?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did you have any conversations with
7 Mariellen after that, after she moved?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Did --

10 A. Well, she -- [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED] And so, you know, I had conversations

12 and would [REDACTED] but

13 that's the only conversations we've had. And I

14 moved. I mean, I moved to special prosecutions

15 by the time Mariellen [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED].

17 Q. So in January of '08, you were in

18 special prosecutions?

19 A. Yes. January 2nd, I believe, of '08.

20 Q. Have you ever spoken to Tony Gutierrez?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. How did you come to have contact with

23 him?

24 A. During the transition, you know, I

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1 worked on the transition team, just kind of
2 helped get everybody in place. That's how I met
3 him, was during the transition. He would come
4 to HR, would ask me to assist in getting
5 somebody hired, or just how do we -- how do I
6 get this job posted, those kind of
7 conversations.

8 But he did come to me in December -- and
9 I don't know the date -- and he said, I know
10 about the text messages. I just looked at him,
11 and I said, what are you talking about? And he
12 said, I saw text messages, and it had your phone
13 number on them, that they were sent to your
14 phone.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. And I said, Tony, I said, I gave that to
17 my boss. I said, I had to do what I had to do.
18 Because I didn't -- I didn't know what he was

19 going to say next. I was kind of scared. And
20 he said, well -- something about, you know, I
21 know that they were sent to you, and this is
22 just all bullshit. And I let it go at that. I
23 didn't say anything back.
24 Q. Did he -- he said text messages. Did

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1 you know what he meant?

2 A. Yeah, I did.

3 Q. You took that to mean the text messages

4 from Mariellen?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Okay. Were you involved in any other

7 text message issues?

8 A. No. Nope, not at all. Just that.

9 Q. He said, this is all bullshit?

10 A. (Witness nods head.)

11 Q. Did you respond at all?

12 A. Nope. Did not respond at all, because,

13 you know, that stuff's confidential. And I

14 didn't want him to ask me any other questions

15 about any investigation. And I didn't know what

16 was going on upstairs on 17. And I did not

17 respond at all.

18 And the other conversation that we had,

19 actually it was before all this came out, I
20 believe he came -- I think it was on 14, and he
21 said, do you know anything about what's going
22 on? I said, what are you talking about? He
23 goes, oh, you know, these girls. These girls
24 trying to get me in trouble. I said, Tony, I

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1 don't know what you're talking about. Because I
2 didn't. I mean, I don't even work in HR. And
3 he said, well -- he goes, they're just trying to
4 get me in trouble. He said, but I talked to
5 Joyce Chapple, and she's gonna take care of it.
6 He says, she told HR not to accept any
7 paperwork, if they bring any paperwork about me.
8 And he said, Joyce has got my back. She's going
9 to take care of me. I said, Tony, I don't know
10 what you're talking about. And that was that.

11 Q. Tony came to the 14th floor?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. Was it to seek you out?

14 A. No. I think he was there for another
15 reason. He was -- like, we built some rooms on
16 14 for special prosecutions, and he just, in
17 passing, like, stopped in my cube and said that
18 to me. And I don't know if he thought I still

19 had connections with HR and somebody would be

20 telling me stuff, I don't know.

21 Q. When did this occur?

22 A. I can probably look at my calendar. It

23 was -- I don't know. I mean, it's been a few

24 weeks ago. I don't know a date, honestly. I

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1 can probably go back and try to figure out, you
2 know, a date, but I don't know a date at this
3 point.

4 Q. But it was a few weeks ago?

5 A. Uh-huh.

6 Q. So it was recently?

7 A. It was recently, yes.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. And, you know, once he said that, I
10 wondered what was going on, because shortly
11 after that, Cindy Stankoski's father works in
12 the building, and he was helping with those
13 rooms that we're building, and I didn't know
14 him, and I was working with some evidence in a
15 room, and he stopped in, and he said -- he has
16 an accent, and he said, do you know my daughter,
17 Cindy? And I kind of looked at him. He said,
18 Cindy that works in general services, Cindy

19 Stankoski? And I said, yeah. He said, can you
20 help her? I said, what do you mean? He said,
21 she's just not happy there. I need to get her
22 outta there. Do you have a position in special
23 prosecutions? Do you have a job here that she
24 could do? And I said, well, I don't think we

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1 do. I said, just tell her, you know, to keep
2 looking on the Internet, you know, on our Web
3 site and see if any positions open up. And he
4 said, oh, she's just not happy there. He said,
5 I just need to -- she just needs another job.

6 Q. And when did you have this conversation
7 with her dad?

8 A. It was, I mean, when they were building
9 those rooms on 14. I -- we probably had those
10 rooms -- let me think. I'm guessing six, seven
11 weeks ago, at least. It's when they were
12 building the rooms, and he was helping to build
13 those rooms.

14 Q. Did you know him --

15 A. No.

16 Q. -- prior to the day you had this
17 conversation?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Did you see him inquire from anyone else
20 around you whether or not they could help his
21 daughter get a job?

22 A. No. Whether he just knew who I was, you
23 know, because, you know, I've been in different
24 sections and I've seen this man come into

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1 different sections to work on something, I don't
2 know. But I'd never had a conversation with
3 him.

4 Q. Did you know that that was Cindy
5 Stankoski's father?

6 A. Yeah. And I knew that because Colleen
7 Brown, I think later -- I don't know, I've seen
8 her have conversations with him, and she
9 mentioned that that was -- his daughter worked
10 in the building, I believe, and kind of put it
11 all together when he said Cindy.

12 Q. You didn't mention anything to him --

13 A. No.

14 Q. -- about anything that you had heard,
15 either through the media?

16 A. No, because that was prior to any of
17 this.

18 Q. Okay. You didn't mention anything to

19 him about the text messages or anything?

20 A. No.

21 Q. He just out of the blue --

22 A. Just out of the blue.

23 Q. Let me finish, for the record.

24 A. Okay.

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1 Q. He just picked you out of the blue?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. You didn't know why, but you knew him?

4 A. Well, the door was open. I'm in there

5 working on evidence, and he was talking about,

6 you know, putting a -- are you gonna move

7 that -- those boxes into that other room? So we

8 were kind of conversing about what we were going

9 to do with all the evidence. And then that's

10 when he asked me. But I don't know him.

11 Q. And it's your testimony here today that

12 he just out of the blue, went up to you for no

13 special reason to see if you --

14 A. Could help her.

15 Q. -- the special assistant in special

16 prosecutions unit could help his daughter out?

17 A. Get another job. He said, she's just

18 not happy there.

19 Q. And what did you tell him?

20 A. Just keep checking the Internet. Keep

21 checking the Web site. I don't know of any

22 positions here right now.

23 Q. When's the last time you talked to

24 Cindy?

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1 A. Oh, I -- I mean, when -- probably when I
2 asked her for -- when I was in general services,
3 she gave me a phone number. But I've never --
4 I've never had a conversation with her.

5 Q. Okay. Well, I don't know how you're
6 defining conversation. But when's the last time
7 you've had any communication with her,
8 regardless whether it's e-mail, phone, text
9 messaging, anything?

10 A. Probably January. And the reason why
11 I'm saying January is I had a parking pass, when
12 I moved to special prosecutions, they took the
13 parking pass, and I was trying to find a parking
14 lot somewhere. And when I was asking Charlie
15 and Tony, hey, where's the best place to park,
16 where's the cheapest to park, and that's when
17 Tony's like, hey, Cindy, where do you park? Do
18 you have a phone number where you park? How

19 much do you pay? And that's the only -- that's

20 the only conversation -- that's the most

21 conversation I've ever had with her.

22 Q. Did you tell anyone that Mariellen

23 Aranda was going to be interviewed this morning?

24 A. No.

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1 Q. No one?

2 A. No.

3 Q. You knew that, though, correct?

4 A. No, I did not know she was.

5 Q. I didn't tell you that on the phone

6 yesterday?

7 A. No, you did not.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. You said you had an interview in the

10 morning and I would be the second one.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. That's all I know. I did not know who.

13 Q. You didn't know who it was?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Okay. Do you have any -- do you speak

16 with anyone at BCI?

17 A. What do you mean?

18 Q. Do you have any -- any people that you

19 speak to on a regular basis at BCI --

20 A. No.

21 Q. -- who work out there?

22 A. No. Like, I mean, like, I called the

23 polygraph examiner the other day to get a report

24 on one of our cases. Other than that, no. Just

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1 if I need something, but not one particular

2 person, no.

3 Q. When's the last time you spoke to anyone

4 who was employed out of BCI? Did you speak to

5 anyone about it last night? Did you speak to

6 anyone that works at BCI last night?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Or yesterday?

9 A. Did I speak to anybody from BCI

10 yesterday? Yes, I did. Heather Williams. I

11 believe it was yesterday. Because we needed

12 pictures of gun ballistics for a -- for a trial

13 coming up next week.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. And I asked her which picture she

16 thought we should have blown up for the trial.

17 Q. Who -- where does she work?

18 A. She works at BCI, I don't know, I guess

19 in the lab. She tests the guns and the bullets.

20 I believe that was yesterday. I'm trying to

21 think if there was anybody else I spoke to

22 yesterday. Let me think.

23 I'm working on the Hocking College case.

24 The team from BCI that is working on the Hocking

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1 College case, they called me yesterday and was
2 wanting some documents scanned and put on our --
3 on the directory so they could view it from
4 there.

5 Q. Okay. And who was that?

6 A. Mike Trout, Ben Zuber.

7 Q. Have you ever had any conversations with
8 Ed Simpson regarding Vanessa Stout or Cindy
9 Stankoski?

10 A. No.

11 Q. How about Joyce Chapple?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Tom Winters?

14 A. No. I don't believe so, no. No, I
15 haven't.

16 Q. And other than what you've testified to
17 here today, how about Stephanie Bostos-Demers?

18 A. Have I had conversation with Stephanie?

19 Q. Yes. Regarding either Vanessa Stout

20 and/or Cindy Stankoski.

21 A. Yeah. I mean, Stephanie, you know, we

22 would discuss -- I can remember Stephanie -- let

23 me think. She would get upset and, like, after

24 she went to Joyce Chapple about maybe what's

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1 going on in general services, she would get
2 upset that Tony would hang out with them. You
3 know, we knew, you know, that they would go to
4 bars or whatever. And I've heard her openly
5 tell Tony, Tony, you're gonna get in trouble.
6 You shouldn't be going out with these people.

7 Q. What was his response?

8 A. Nothing. Nothing, really. He wouldn't
9 really respond.

10 Q. Anything else you can think of?

11 A. I don't think so. I think Stephanie,
12 she was -- she was aware. I think she did the
13 right thing. As far as I know, she took it
14 upstairs and was trying to take care of issues
15 in general services. But, no, I don't have
16 anything else.

17 Q. Going back -- I just want to go back to
18 the text messages that you brought today, I want

19 to label -- I want to grab the one that has

20 November on it.

21 A. November 27th?

22 Q. Yeah.

23 A. And what happened on November 27th was I

24 was off sick, and Stephanie's assistant, Linda,

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1 called and said Stephanie needs to speak with
2 you. Stephanie got on the phone, and she said,
3 Molly, code red. She goes, I can't find those
4 text messages. Do you have them anywhere? And
5 I said, well, I might still have them in the
6 e-mail. She said, can you send those to my
7 private e-mail, because there's been a public
8 records request. I don't know if she said Joyce
9 or Leo needs them. And so I sent them to her
10 private e-mail on November 27th.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. But Mariellen sent them to me on October
13 11th, so some time had passed by.

14 --0--

15 (Exhibit 19 marked.)

16 --0--

17 BY MS. PFEIFFER:

18 Q. I've labeled these Exhibit 19. Tell me,

19 are those the ones you forwarded to Stephanie

20 upon her request November 27th?

21 A. Yes, they are.

22 Q. Okay. I'm going to label this as

23 Exhibit 20.

24 --0--

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1 (Exhibit 20 marked.)

2 --0--

3 BY MS. PFEIFFER:

4 Q. I'll ask you to review these. Are those
5 all of the text messages that Mariellen Aranda
6 forwarded to you on October 10th, I think?

7 A. Yes. There's nine of them.

8 MS. PFEIFFER: I don't believe I have
9 anything else.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 MS. PFEIFFER: I think Ben probably has
12 some questions for you.

13 EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. ESPY:

15 Q. You mentioned before, Molly, that you
16 consider HR matters confidential.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. When you spoke with Mariellen on the

19 15th of October, did she request that it be kept
20 confidential that she was -- that she came to HR
21 and the information she provided to you and to
22 Stephanie?
23 A. I don't know that she said it that way.
24 I mean, she said that she was scared to come to

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1 HR. Did she request for it to be confidential?

2 I don't know. That she actually made the

3 request?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. I don't recall if she made that specific

6 request.

7 Q. How long did that meeting last?

8 A. Gosh. Maybe an hour?

9 Q. Hour?

10 A. I'm guessing. I mean, that's just -- I

11 don't know for sure, but I'm guessing an hour.

12 Q. On Exhibit 11, the last page of that

13 exhibit -- that exhibit purports to be the notes

14 taken at that meeting. Do you see the last

15 sentence in that?

16 A. MEA, Tony must know --

17 Q. The last line.

18 A. She fears his retaliation. Keep

19 confidential.

20 Q. It says, please keep confidential?

21 A. Please keep confidential.

22 Q. Please is underlined twice?

23 A. Right.

24 Q. Which means it was emphasized to

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1 someone?

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. I know you didn't take these notes, but

4 you were there.

5 A. Right.

6 Q. Does that refresh your memory that she

7 said, please keep this confidential?

8 A. No, it doesn't. I don't know that she

9 specifically said, please keep confidential. I

10 mean, if I were taking notes, maybe I would make

11 a note to myself, like she's scared, please, you

12 know, make sure you keep it confidential. I

13 don't remember that.

14 Q. Well, since you did acknowledge that

15 things should be kept confidential, after that

16 meeting, did you discuss anything with Ed or

17 Joyce or Tony regarding this meeting?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Do you know whether or not Stephanie

20 did?

21 A. Stephanie said she was going to, and she

22 went upstairs to do that. I was not there for

23 those conversations.

24 Q. Do you recall her stating -- Mariellen

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1 stating in that meeting that she did not want

2 Tony to know that she was down there?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And how soon after that meeting did

5 Stephanie go to Joyce and Ed? I think it was

6 three days later.

7 A. That sounds about right. Stephanie was

8 trying to get in to see Joyce. She said Joyce

9 isn't here today, I'll try to get in to her

10 tomorrow. I know it was that week.

11 Q. Do you know whether or not Stephanie

12 told Joyce and Ed Simpson that what she was

13 telling them should be kept away from Tony?

14 A. She told me that she did. She told them

15 how -- how fearful Mariellen was. In fact,

16 Mariellen was so fearful that we created -- I

17 mean, the position was there, but we made it as

18 though Mariellen applied for a position so Tony

19 didn't know that we were moving her for that

20 specific reason. Do you follow me?

21 Q. Sure.

22 But you're sure that Stephanie told you

23 she told Ed and Ms. Chapple that Tony's not to

24 know she was down there?

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1 A. Absolutely.

2 Q. At that October 18th meeting?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Assume thereafter -- some date

5 thereafter, Joyce Chapple advised Stephanie

6 Demers that she reprimanded Tony Gutierrez. Did

7 you ever hear that he was reprimanded?

8 A. This is what Stephanie told me, that

9 Joyce was trying to get in touch with Tony, and

10 he wasn't in the building, so she called him on

11 his phone and reprimanded him.

12 Q. Over the phone?

13 A. Over the phone. And Stephanie was

14 concerned. She said, Joyce didn't tell me that

15 she talked to him about drinking and driving a

16 vehicle, you know, and I told Joyce about that.

17 She said, she didn't say that she said anything

18 to Tony about it, and I'm concerned she did not

19 reprimand him for drinking and driving a

20 vehicle.

21 Q. Did you recall Mariellen telling you at

22 that meeting that he also had a gun in the car?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Was that told to Joyce Chapple also, do

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1 you know?

2 A. I don't know if Stephanie told her that.

3 I don't know. But there was even at one point,

4 like, I remember Tony came to HR for something,

5 and Stephanie even made a comment to Tony like,

6 Tony, you don't carry a gun, do you? And he

7 goes, well, I wanna get my CCW. He goes, I'm

8 gonna carry a gun. Stephanie was trying to

9 strike a conversation and lecture him about

10 that, but he didn't give anything up. He didn't

11 say anything about it.

12 Q. Where are those -- do you know where

13 Tony's parking space is in the --

14 A. No, I don't.

15 Q. Do you know if it's in one of the State

16 buildings or not?

17 A. I would imagine that it's underground,

18 but I don't know.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. And I believe John Conley was present

21 when Stephanie said that to Tony about carrying

22 a gun. Because they both came into HR for -- I

23 don't know what they were there for, but John

24 Conley was with Tony. I can remember

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1 specifically standing in the hallway and
2 Stephanie saying, Tony, you don't carry a gun,
3 do you? He goes, well, I'm gonna get my CCW,
4 you know.

5 Q. Did you ever socialize with Vanessa
6 Stout?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Or Cindy Stankoski?

9 A. No.

10 Q. What about Stephanie Demers?

11 A. No. I don't do that.

12 Q. You don't socialize with anyone in the
13 office?

14 A. No. I'm not saying that I haven't in
15 the past; but no, I don't.

16 Q. Did you have any role at all in the
17 transfer of Vanessa Stout?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Were you gone then?

20 A. I was gone then. Yeah, I didn't know

21 anything about it.

22 Q. And Cindy is -- were you ever invited to

23 any functions at the general services section,

24 any birthdays or social functions?

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1 A. No.

2 Q. Did you contact Zach Swisher and tell

3 him you wanted to talk to me about this

4 investigation?

5 A. Yes, because I had those text messages.

6 Q. Okay. You didn't think I had them

7 already?

8 A. No. I didn't know. But I wanted to

9 make sure somebody knew that they were there.

10 Q. That was the reason why you wanted to

11 testify?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. You know, I -- I've been at the AG's

15 office since 2003. This administration came in,

16 and I stayed on 17 for a while, and I'm just

17 going to be perfectly honest about this, I

18 couldn't work up there anymore, the vulgarity,

19 the sexual harassment, everything that was going
20 on.

21 Q. What sexual harassment did you see on
22 the 17th floor when you were there?

23 A. Ed Simpson, Tomi Dorris, you know, when
24 Tomi was still there.

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1 Q. Give me some examples.

2 A. For example, one time Tomi came out, and

3 she had this coat on, and she had it on

4 backwards, you know. Her and Ed's offices was

5 right beside each other and I was at the end.

6 And I said, what are you doing with your coat

7 on? Ed was standing there, and he said, her

8 nipples were hard, so I told her to put a coat

9 on, you know.

10 Q. She actually did it?

11 A. She actually did it. But they're

12 laughing, joking about it.

13 The other thing that upset me was I

14 would help Tomi, and I would help Ed. I can't

15 remember, I was giving her some documents back

16 or something I typed for her, and she had a

17 skirt on, and she had her feet propped up on her

18 desk, and I'm in there, just talking to her

19 about these documents and what needed to be
20 done. And Ed Simpson walks in, and he's
21 standing in the doorway, and she looks up at him
22 and she said, what are you looking at? And he
23 said, your legs. His face turned real red.
24 Q. Her face or his face?

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1 A. Ed's face turned red.

2 Q. He's blushing?

3 A. He's blushing. He said, well, I can't
4 help it. You just look so good, I have to look
5 at you. And he was kind of standing in the
6 doorway, and I ducked underneath his arms and
7 just walked out.

8 He would come out of his office, and he
9 would yell, and he would say, hey, any of you
10 bastards want to go to lunch? It's a
11 professional office. I mean, I just -- the
12 screaming, the yelling, mainly on the
13 administrative side. I -- I couldn't work in
14 that kind of atmosphere.

15 Q. Did you see any sexual harassment by
16 anyone else on the 17th floor?

17 A. Hostile.

18 Q. Who?

19 A. Hostile work environment. I mean, Chris
20 Geidner, you know, at one point, he was in Ed's
21 office, screaming and yelling so bad that I was
22 afraid they were going to get in a fistfight. I
23 knocked on the door, and I said, you guys need
24 to stop, you need to quiet down.

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1 Just a lot of vulgarity, you know, by

2 many of them on the administrative side.

3 Q. Have you heard rumors of personal

4 relationships between coworkers?

5 A. Just Ed and Tomi.

6 Q. On the 17th floor?

7 A. On the 17th floor?

8 Q. I could practically go down each floor,

9 but I'll stop at 17 right now.

10 A. 17th floor, rumors, not factual stuff I

11 know?

12 Q. Right.

13 A. I mean, Tomi and Ed. Marc Dann and

14 Jessica Utovich. That's all I know on the 17th

15 floor.

16 Q. And where is general services?

17 A. 15.

18 Q. 15?

19 Did you ever hear rumors of Vanessa and

20 any other worker?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Or Cindy and any other worker?

23 A. No, I did not.

24 Q. Okay.

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1 A. I knew that -- you know, I'd hear rumors
2 about them going out and partying with Tony, but
3 not rumors of an affair.

4 Q. Okay. Why did you leave HR?

5 A. Well, I left 17, wanted some experience
6 in HR, thought it would be a better place and I
7 could get a lot of good experience. It's a
8 growing field. Once I got to HR, you know,
9 there was just more complaints and still issues
10 of the administration. And I didn't want any
11 part of it. I want -- I want to go to work, I
12 want to be professional.

13 Q. What issues of administration are you
14 talking about in HR?

15 A. Stephanie being upset that the
16 administration wouldn't do anything.

17 Q. About what?

18 A. About Tony Gutierrez, for example.

- 19 Hiring -- their hiring practices, you
- 20 know, not -- you know, hiring people with bad
- 21 backgrounds, not experienced.
- 22 Q. She complained to you about that?
- 23 A. Yes, she did.
- 24 Q. Did she ever complain to you -- you just

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1 mentioned Tony Gutierrez. Was the complaint the
2 fact that she's taken it to the proper people on
3 17 and they never did anything?

4 A. Not that they didn't do anything, but
5 she didn't think they would do anything.

6 Q. The notes from the October 15th meeting,
7 did she complain about nothing being done about
8 those allegations?

9 A. Yes, she did. And she said, the bottom
10 line is, if they're not going to do anything
11 with them, we need to just get Mariellen moved.
12 And she helped me push that through, she would
13 talk to Joyce about getting Mariellen moved. I
14 found a place and Stephanie would convince Joyce
15 that we needed to do it.

16 Q. And you moved her because Tony realized
17 she was the one that came to HR?

18 A. Not so much that she -- because she came

19 to HR, just the fact that --

20 Q. No, that Tony found out she came to HR,

21 is that one of the reasons why you moved her?

22 A. No. It was because she wanted -- didn't

23 want to work in general services.

24 Q. That's the real reason she came to you

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1 in the first place.

2 A. Yes. That's why we moved her.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. Because she was -- she felt she was

5 being mistreated.

6 Q. Okay. How did -- how would -- you and

7 Stephanie in HR, how would you characterize

8 Joyce Chapple?

9 A. She talks -- we would say she talks out

10 of both sides of her mouth. She won't help us.

11 She won't do anything.

12 Q. Do you think she followed Ed's

13 directions and orders most of the time?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Because I'm told she's very

16 knowledgeable on HR matters, since that's her

17 background. But did you get the impression that

18 Ed was directing the show when it came to Tony?

19 A. I think it was both of them.

20 Q. Both of them?

21 A. Both of them. Both of them had

22 knowledge. Both of them knew.

23 Q. Did you have any contact with Leo

24 Jennings at all?

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1 A. No. Just, you know, he might -- he had
2 trouble with his benefits at one time, but that
3 was it. I helped him when I was up on 17, you
4 know. I helped a lot of people up there.

5 Q. But these e-mails were shown to Leo by
6 Joyce and Tony. Do you know of any HR reason
7 why Leo would be shown those e-mails?

8 A. No. Because when Stephanie called me on
9 the 27th and she said there was a public records
10 request, I said, Stephanie, that's private
11 e-mail. Who would even know --

12 Q. On the 27th of what month?

13 A. November.

14 What do you mean, there's a public
15 records request? Who would even know about
16 those? How would Leo know that there -- how
17 would somebody know that there's text messages?
18 Why would there be a public records request for

19 them? She said, I don't know, but Joyce wants

20 them.

21 Q. Was that request from the Dayton Daily

22 News?

23 A. I don't know. I don't know. I was out

24 sick that day. She called me. I sent it. I

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1 don't know.

2 Then I came back in the next day, and I
3 was upset because I said to Stephanie and
4 Aleatha, I said, did you redact my information
5 off of those text messages? And they said yes.
6 But they didn't, because Tony knew that my
7 number was on there when he approached me in
8 December. They didn't redact my information. I
9 was really upset about that.

10 Q. And what was the reason why she sent
11 them to you?

12 A. She -- she didn't know how to print them
13 off of her phone.

14 Q. Why did she contact you?

15 A. I think she knows me. She would have
16 talked to Stephanie, too, but Stephanie wasn't
17 there.

18 Q. How does she know you?

19 A. Just from working with her for a few
20 years. And I think, you know, I have a
21 sympathetic ear. I know several people and they
22 feel comfortable.

23 Q. That public records request, was it
24 specific in terms of those particular e-mails?

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1 A. I did not see it. That's just what
2 Stephanie told me when she called me and I was
3 home sick. I never saw a public records
4 request. She just said, code red, I can't find
5 those text messages. There's been a public
6 records request, and we need them.

7 Q. When Mariellen sent those e-mails to
8 you, do you know whether or not Cindy Stankoski
9 knew she did that?

10 A. I don't know. I don't know. Mariellen,
11 she didn't know how to print them. She sent
12 them to my phone. Didn't want them to go
13 through any State e-mail because she was afraid
14 of Tony.

15 Q. That was on the 11th of October she did
16 that.

17 A. Yes. Yes, that's correct.

18 Q. But I'm saying, after that, on the 15th,

19 did she tell you that she -- that Cindy knew she

20 gave those e-mails to you?

21 A. No, not that I'm aware of. I don't

22 recall her saying that Cindy knew that she gave

23 them to us.

24 Q. So to the best of your knowledge, the

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1 only one who knew about these e-mails was you
2 and Stephanie, Ed Simpson, Joyce Chapple, and
3 Leo?

4 A. Well, the day that Stephanie took them
5 upstairs, when she went up to talk to Joyce
6 about Mariellen, I don't know why Leo would have
7 been involved then. I thought it was just Joyce
8 and Ed. That's who she was going to see.

9 Q. On the 18th?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. That's the only ones in the meeting.

12 A. Yes. So I have -- I don't have any idea
13 how Leo would have known those text messages
14 were out there.

15 And honestly, at the time, I didn't even
16 know what these text messages meant, you know.
17 Mariellen was concerned. But to read them,
18 you're kind of like, okay.

19 MR. ESPY: Well, that's all I have.

20 THE WITNESS: Okay.

21 MR. ESPY: If you think of anything

22 else, you know how to contact us at our e-mails.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 MR. ESPY: Appreciate you coming in.

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1 THE WITNESS: Okay.

2 MR. ESPY: Hopefully, we can get all
3 these facts together in some kind of way.

4 MS. PFEIFFER: As you know, this is an
5 investigation. We just ask that you keep
6 confidential your testimony today.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, I will.

8 MR. ESPY: Thank you.

9 --0--

10 Thereupon, the sworn interview of
11 Molly Taylor, April 17, 2008, was concluded at
12 1:35 p.m.

13 --O--

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1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF OHIO :

 SS:

3 COUNTY OF FRANKLIN :

4 I, Sara S. Clark, RPR/CRR/CCP/CBC, a
Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly
5 commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify
that the within-named MOLLY TAYLOR was first
6 duly sworn to testify to the truth, the whole
truth, and nothing but the truth in the cause
7 aforesaid; that the testimony then given was
reduced to stenotypy in the presence of said
8 witness, afterwards transcribed; that the
foregoing is a true and correct transcript of
9 the testimony; that this interview was taken at
the time and place in the foregoing caption
10 specified.

11 I do further certify that I am not a
relative, employee or attorney of any of the
12 parties hereto; that I am not a relative or
employee of any attorney or counsel employed by
13 the parties hereto; that I am not financially
interested in the action; and further, I am not,
14 nor is the court reporting firm with which I am
affiliated, under contract as defined in Civil
15 Rule 28(D).

16 In witness whereof, I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed my seal of office at
17 Columbus, Ohio, on this day
of , 2008.

18

19

Sara S. Clark, RPR/CRR/CCP/CBC

20

Notary Public, State of Ohio.

21 My commission expires: March 10, 2013

22

23

24

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