

INTERVIEW WITH 02

Q=Sgt. Brown

A=02

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A: Hello?

Q: Can I speak to _____, please?

A: Who's calling?

Q: Sergeant Brown from the sheriff's office.

A: Okay.

Q: Is this

A: Yes, sir.

Q: Hello, sir. How are you?

A: Well, I'm absolutely depressed.

Q: I - I - I - I understand. Uh, my condolences. We're very - very sorry. And, um, I'm hoping, though, that maybe we can - we can talk about it.

A: God, you know, I - I - I'm just - I just now walked in the house...

Q: Mm-hm.

A: ...and I could barely make it up the stairs. I'm not unhealthy, but the feeling that has left me with my good friend...

Q: Right.

A: ...who was - I considered - this is - this is Ruby Ridge all over again.

43 Q: Mm-hm.
44
45 A: This guy was murdered last night.
46
47 Q: Mm-hm.
48
49 A: (Gene) would always defend that little lady to the end.
50
51 Q: Mm-hm.
52
53 A: But he would never shoot anyone without knowing who it was.
54
55 Q: Right.
56
57 A: And if he saw an officer - he saw his own son in the middle of the night come
58 in the front door with a big tall guy he didn't recognize. He had his gun in his
59 hand pointed towards him thinking they were burglars, but he would never
60 have shot anybody.
61
62 Q: Mm-hm.
63
64 A: And if he saw the officer he wouldn't have shot him. He may have had the gun
65 in his hand, but he would never have shot anyone unless he - that - that he
66 couldn't have - he would never shoot an unidentified person and somebody
67 just gunned him down. And - and m- my friend was standin' there, watched
68 how they treated this little lady, stuffed her into a car where she frantically
69 just - she could barely speak a word of English.
70
71 Q: Mm-hm.
72
73 A: And left her in that car and actually took her to jail afterwards. Wouldn't let
74 my buddy even - all - all - he broke through the lines and put - put a blanket
75 around her. He's as closest to her - matter of fact she's at his house right now.
76
77 Q: Are you talking about
78
79 A:
80
81 Q: Yes.
82
83 A: and I are best of friends.
84

85 Q: Uh-huh.
86
87 A: And we were best of friends with her and him.
88
89 Q: Mm-hm.
90
91 A: And - and - and this is just - this is a tragedy.
92
93 Q: Right.
94
95 A: I mean, this is unbelievable what went on last night.
96
97 Q: Right.
98
99 A: And I don't know if you know right from the get-go, but that little girl - they
100 didn't answer the phone because that little girl has been buggin' them for
101 money day in - day - day in and day out. And they're practically broke by - by
102 supportin' her all these years.
103
104 Q: Right.
105
106 A: And that's the only reason she didn't - they didn't answer the phone. They
107 were asleep in their bed last night when all this came to do. And - and what
108 roused out - by the way, the front door - he's not even able to get out of his
109 own house to come out in the front and see what was goin' on. He was waitin'
110 for some guys to fix the - he's got a very expensive front door. The house is
111 loaded with security, you know, he - he - he got paranoid about people
112 breaking into his house. And has heard about all these things happening in the
113 neighborhood. And he said, uh, you know, they're never gonna break into my
114 house. I got a front door that's impen- and lo and behold, he couldn't come out
115 of his house last night. So he came to the back door 'cause he heard somethin'
116 goin' on. I'm sure that was it. I know exactly what (Gene)'s like. I know - I
117 know him like he's my dad or my brother, my cousin or whatever. But (Gene)
118 was a very special person. A patriot to the - to the end America lover guy. Uh,
119 a - a guy that would never hurt anybody unless they tried to hurt him. And he
120 would never have shot that cop, I guarantee you. That cop knows it. He knows
121 that he shot an innocent man. And that's why he was all broken up about it
122 because it was after the fact he realized what he'd done. And - and, uh, that
123 poor little lady was sittin' in that car all by herself basically. And on top of it
124 they took her to jail. I mean what - they could have taken her to some place
125 where some sympathetic women could have been around her trying to console
126 her. And instead she was in that car practically left all alone during the whole

127 thing. I mean, what a heartbreaker. Just thinking about what that little lady's
128 gonna have to be going through until she dies. And she's almost there anyway.
129 And last night I thought she was going to die in that squad car, you know?
130
131 Q: if I can clarify one thing for ya, and - and I know this firsthand,
132 okay?
133
134 A: Mm-hm.
135
136 Q: Um, Mrs. (Craig), she - she never went to jail.
137
138 A: Well, I heard that my friend went, picked her up at jail this morning at 5:30.
139
140 Q: No, no, no, no, no, no. So I - I went out there to (Titus). And I actually spoke
141 to her. And we put her in my, you know, comfortable car. And we brought her
142 back here to - to - to my office, not a jail. We - it's - we brought her back here
143 to a warm - a warm building...
144
145 A: Oh.
146
147 Q: ...a - a - a better environment.
148
149 A: Oh, I didn't know.
150
151 Q: And what we did was we just - we just talked to her for - for - for a while.
152 And, uh...
153
154 A: Oh, okay.
155
156 Q: ...we learned about her and - and Mr. (Craig) and about their life together...
157
158 A: Oh, God yeah.
159
160 Q: ...and - and a lot of things about that. We - we tried very hard to, you know, to
161 - to show her, you know, that, uh, you know, we weren't - we weren't trying
162 to, you know, harm her in any way or - or - or, you know, um, um...
163
164 A: Well,
165
166 Q: ...treat - mistreat her...
167
168 A: (Unintelligible).

169
170 Q: ...by putting her in jail. No, we - we tried - we tried very hard, um, to make
171 sure that she - she was well taken care of. So, you know, please don't think
172 that we - we took her to jail. And then afterwards, um, we - we called
173 and we asked to come pick her up from here.
174
175 A: Oh, yeah, no, I know. At 5.30 this morning picked her up. I didn't
176 realize she was gonna go to jail. But last night thought they were taking
177 her to jail. I called the jailhouse this morning, they didn't know a thing about
178 her, so apparently she never went there.
179
180 Q: Right.
181
182 A: But...
183
184 Q: Yeah. No.
185
186 A: But the thing is...
187
188 Q: She - she did not go - yeah. So please, please, please don't - don't think that.
189
190 A: Well, the way they (unintelligible).
191
192 Q: We would not - we would not do that to her.
193
194 A: You're - you're right.
195
196 Q: She's just a - she's just a sweet - sweet lady. So...
197
198 A: Did tell ya how they handled her when they brought her out of the
199 house?
200
201 Q: Um, well, she told me, actually. And, um, and, uh, so she - she told me all
202 about that. And, um, and we've learned more about that, you know,
203 subsequent to what happened.
204
205 A: Yeah.
206
207 Q: Uh, but she did explain to me, you know, everything that, uh, that, uh, what -
208 how - what happened.
209
210 A: Are you a police officer or detective, or...

211
212 Q: I - I'm - I'm a Sergeant. I'm - I'm a - I'm an investigations sergeant.
213
214 A: Oh, okay.
215
216 Q: I'm - I'm the one in charge of this case.
217
218 A: Oh, gosh. Oh, my God. Well, (Gene) was and my best friend.
219
220 Q: Mm-hm.
221
222 A: You know, we've dined with him every week we dined with him.
223
224 Q: That's what I heard.
225
226 A: And - and, uh, were in (Gene)'s house all the time. You know, he invites us
227 home after dinner. And spent just, you know, years with him. A- and - and he
228 was - he was a guy that would never shoot especially a cop. I mean, he -
229 there's no way. He believes in law and order.
230
231 Q: Right.
232
233 A: And whoever gunned him down was just a - a - a trigger-happy nutbag who
234 saw a gun and - and just couldn't realize that there's some other way of
235 negotiating with a person. Just shot him down. (unintelligible) shots
236 rang out. And it just God - when he to- I called him, and I was on the phone
237 with him. And he said he, "(Gene)'s dead." He knew right then reheard how
238 screaming. He just - it just ripped our hearts out, you know? The
239 second I heard about this the next door are friends of mine also.
240 And, uh, called me, said, "Hey, man, there's somethin' goin' on next
241 door." Uh, uh, and - and so right away I called 'cause he lives close by.
242 And shot over there, and he saw the whole thing. He saw how they drug
243 her out of the house.
244
245 Q: So - so if I could stop you there for one second 'cause you just brought up
246 somethin' I wanted to talk to you about. Um, when called you...
247
248 A: Yeah.
249
250 Q: ...you spoke to a deputy, correct?
251
252 A: A lady, yes, sir.

253

254 Q: A lady deputy, right. What - what - if you could, can you recount that
255 conversation for me a little bit?

256

257 A: Uh, yes, I can. Uh, I - I told her - we - we thought - (Gene) has been - okay
258 we've had some funny feelings about how the end of life was gonna happen
259 with he and his wife.

260

261 Q: Uh-huh.

262

263 A: and I have had suspicions. And the fact that, uh, we always - we didn't
264 know they were on not t- speaking terms with their granddaughter. We had no
265 idea of that.

266

267 Q: Right.

268

269 A: So what's happened is if (Gene) makes a lot of strange comments it bothered
270 and I for a long time because we figured that he was not gonna let that
271 little lady ever end her life all by herself.

272

273 Q: Mm-hm.

274

275 A: Now, if something happened to him we thought he was gonna take her with
276 him. And we were worried about that. So when we heard from that
277 they were basically, uh, no - no response from the house...

278

279 Q: Right.

280

281 A: ...for several days. We thought uh-oh, this is it, man, they're dead in the house.

282

283 Q: So you didn't know previously that - you did or did not know that - that
284 (Gene) was having problems with

285

286 A: No, I didn't know at all, huh-uh. No. I - I thought - that's what surprised me.
287 You know, the fact that she had been trying to call. And then somebody last
288 night mentioned that it was because they had the phone off. They wouldn't, uh
289 - I - I called (Gene) right after I hung up from that police officer.

290

291 Q: Oh, okay.

292

293 A: I called his house and the phone rang. And it sounded like somebody picked
294 up and - and - and then hung up, but I left a message anyway. I said, "(Gene),
295 if you're in the house answer the phone."
296

297 Q: Yeah.
298

299 A: And apparently they were in bed asleep. And so I - I was, you know, I - I
300 realized when - when was there that somebody was in the house, they
301 were okay, they were alive. And next thing you know, heard the shots
302 ring out. And he said he had a gut feeling that (Gene) was - that was the end
303 of (Gene). We were never gonna see him anymore.
304

305 Q: Do you know about what time it was you spoke to that lady, deputy?
306

307 A: Oh, well, uh, not really. It was early on in the evening because it was before
308 they went in the house because I called and he shot down there right
309 away. And then - and he got there right in time for this whole thing to happen.
310

311 Q: Right. That's the way I understand it. Now I - I spoke to that lady deputy,
312 okay?
313

314 A: Oh.
315

316 Q: And she told me that she talked to you.
317

318 A: Yup.
319

320 Q: A- and she told me some things that I wanted to ask you some more questions
321 about because she didn't - she didn't, uh, you know, in my opinion, I - I
322 wanted to get more clarification (unintelligible).
323

324 A: Sure, sure.
325

326 Q: And she told me - she had started to tell me, uh, what you had told her about
327 this previous Wednesday's dinner.
328

329 A: Yes, yes.
330

331 Q: What - what - what happened there?
332

333 A: Okay. Well, we've - (Gene) - and I have observed (Gene)'s public
334 behavior in front of his wife.

335

336 Q: Right.

337

338 A: And he makes these statements that are very, uh, uh, frightening to both of us.

339

340 Q: Uh-huh.

341

342 A: You know, they're total power over this woman type statements.

343

344 Q: Right.

345

346 A: And - and...

347

348 Q: Is that - is this new or is this something kind of how he's always been?

349

350 A: This has been going on for way too long.

351

352 Q: Uh-huh.

353

354 A: will definitely admit to you the same thing. It has been going on for
355 way too long, but (Gene) claims, 'cause we hold - we hold him responsible for
356 this.

357

358 Q: Right.

359

360 A: But (Gene), you know...

361

362 Q: As all good friends should.

363

364 A: Yes. You know like - like, hey man, you are the luckiest guy in the world to
365 have found this woman who has been so loyal to you.

366

367 Q: Sixty years ago.

368

369 A: And you - you're the luckiest guy in the world to have her.

370

371 Q: Mm-hm.

372

373 A: And she's lucky to have you 'cause you've given her a good life here in
374 America. You guys are a great couple, but why don't you treat her a little bit
375 nicer?

376

377 Q: Right.
378
379 A: And - and he just can't help himself.
380
381 Q: Right.
382
383 A: He's so impatient that he - he - he scolds her in front of all of us.
384
385 Q: Right.
386
387 A: And - and - and my girlfriend is very upset about this.
388
389 Q: Right.
390
391 A: I mean, they went out that night. I hadn't finished my meal at the - at the
392 HomeTown Buffet. But I told her, I said, "Please walk outside with them, uh,
393 to the car." And I really said, "Yes, I want you to come to the - to my
394 girlfriend. I want you to come out, uh, to the car." So she - my girlfriend had
395 no idea she had something for her.
396
397 Q: Mm-hm.
398
399 A: She just wanted her to walk out to this, uh, on many occasions to
400 (unintelligible) shares nice things with, uh, my girlfriend.
401
402 Q: Right.
403
404 A: Gives her little presents and very thoughtful woman.
405
406 Q: She's very giving, yes.
407
408 A: Unbelievable. Anyway, she - she walked out to the car. And - and I guess she
409 opened up the trunk 'cause she had something in a bag, in a big bag 'cause I
410 saw the bag. And - and, uh, uh, and she said, "Hurry up, we gotta go." You
411 know, "Get your head out of that trunk or I'll slam the door against your
412 head."
413
414 Q: Oh, man.
415
416 A: And my girl was standing there. And she just went, "God, you know, there's
417 no - that - that's no way to talk to a little tiny helpless woman. No, absolutely
418 no way at all." He makes up for it in so many other ways.

419
420 Q: Right.
421
422 A: But he - but he ruins it all by behaving the way he behaves.
423
424 Q: Right.
425
426 A: A- and - and we're all - and the neighbors, I - I know real well.
427 a buddy of mine,
428
429 Q: Next door, yeah.
430
431 A: Next door. So - so I know real well. And - we - he and I had a
432 conversation, oh, six, eight, ten months ago, uh, about, uh, I take care of his
433 yard. I'm the gardener over there. And I take care of his yard. But, anyway,
434 that's neither here nor there because I know I asked him one day,
435 "Hey, are you hearing a lot of, uh, yak, yak comin' out of their yard
436 over there?" It's, "Oh, Jesus, I hear him yellin' at her all the time."
437
438 Q: Oh, man.
439
440 A: Out in the yard.
441
442 Q: (Unintelligible).
443
444 A: And then later on I - I saw And I said, "Hey, he's always
445 yelling at ya. over there mentioned it. But at the same time" - she said,
446 "Well, he never yells at me in the house because I run over to the - open up all
447 the windows in the house...
448
449 Q: Huh - huh.
450
451 A: ...and that shuts him up instantly."
452
453 Q: Huh - huh - huh?
454
455 A: He can't help himself out in the yard.
456
457 Q: Yeah.
458
459 A: But when he's in the house he realizes that this is all goin' out to the neighbors,
460 like, a big PA system.

461

462 Q: Right.

463

464 A: And he shuts up right away. And it happens all the time. And so anyway
465 (Gene) is pretty hard on this little lady even though he loves her to the end of
466 time.

467

468 Q: Right.

469

470 A: He loves that woman. And - and oh, God, I can't imagine what's happening
471 with her right now.

472

473 Q: Right.

474

475 A: I mean, she's resting calmly at house, but - but I'm not sure where
476 we're gonna take this from there.

477

478 Q: Yeah.

479

480 A: If she don't want - I don't think she wants to see the granddaughter. And
481 (Gene) has ex-communicated the son. I don't know if you heard anything
482 about that.

483

484 Q:

485

486 A: Did you hear anything about that?

487

488 Q: right?

489

490 A: Huh?

491

492 Q:

493

494 A: Yes.

495

496 Q: Yeah. Um, uh, told us about, you know, she - she didn't - she couldn't
497 remember how long it's been. But she did, you know, try her best to tell us,
498 you know, that, you know, some - some of the things that have gone on, um,
499 you know, with, um, and the family. And that they have - have not
500 had contact or spoken in quite some time.

501

502 A: Yeah. He calls her on the phone on the QT and - and she'll answer the phone
503 herself...
504

505 Q: Uh-huh.
506

507 A: ...but apparently (Gene) won't hear of it...
508

509 Q: Right.
510

511 A: ...you know? He - he's really a hard line.
512

513 Q: Right.
514

515 A: And, you know, the other day I asked him if - if, uh, at the t- table, uh. I said,
516 you know, "Her hands are killin' her, (Gene)." I said, "Are you giving her
517 anything for her hands, like, maybe glucosamine...
518

519 Q: Right.
520

521 A: ...and chondroitin or Ibuprofen." He said - and he - he yelled out at me. He
522 said, "Oh, we don't use that stuff in our house." As if he was in control of her
523 pain.
524

525 Q: Right.
526

527 A: I said - and then I asked him, I said, "What's better, (Gene)? That she sit there
528 in pain or - or take a pill and make her feel better?" And he couldn't answer
529 me. He was, like, he was mad at me for asking that question, you know? And -
530 and he told me that was the last time he wanted to see us at HomeTown
531 Buffet.
532

533 Q: So as we speak please understand I - I'm - I'm trying to investigate what
534 happened. I'm trying to get to the bottom of everything. And - a- and...
535

536 A: Yes, I understand, sir.
537

538 Q: ...make sure that I answer everybody's, you know, questions about why certain
539 things happened.
540

541 A: Yes.
542

543 Q: So please, i- if I - i- if I ask a question please - please don't, you know, take
544 any offense to it. I mean no disrespect. But that maybe...
545
546 A: Oh, I know that.
547
548 Q: ...these questions that I have...
549
550 A: Don't - no...
551
552 Q: Yeah.
553
554 A: ...harm meant to you whatsoever.
555
556 Q: Yeah. Did - did - did - did (Gene) have any, um, I don't know, deteriorating
557 mental conditions that - that you know of? Um, 'cause somebody that we have
558 spoken to today said that even though they - they don't think there was any
559 diagnosis or anything, but they had kind of noticed maybe some signs of, like,
560 a dementia setting in. Does this - does this sound, um, accurate or familiar to
561 you at all?
562
563 A: It sounds very accurate to me.
564
565 Q: Do you know if this was, uh, looked into by doctors at all or just something
566 that everybody just kind of noticed?
567
568 A: Everybody just kind of...
569
570 Q: Yeah.
571
572 A: ...noticed it.
573
574 Q: Yeah.
575
576 A: Especially and me.
577
578 Q: Right.
579
580 A: You know.
581
582 Q: And how long has that been goin' on?
583
584 A: Well, not that long.

585

586 Q: Okay.

587

588 A: Actually, uh, recently, very recently (Gene) has been having trouble
589 completing a sentence.

590

591 Q: Oh.

592

593 A: He - he - he tries to recall what he's trying to say. And it really bothers him. I
594 mean, God, he just goes, "I don't know what's going on with me. I - I know
595 what I'm trying to say, but I can't bring it out."

596

597 Q: Right.

598

599 A: And he's really frustrated by it. I know he's got all his marbles, but - but the
600 problem is he - he - he - something's affecting his - his recollection.

601

602 Q: Somebody also mentioned the potential of a recent stroke. Was that with
603 either (Gene) or

604

605 A: You know, I'm not sure. Yeah, something - something may have happened,
606 but I don't remember which one it was. It might have been her.

607

608 Q: I - I had a - I had a (unintelligible).

609

610 A: But she fell down, she fell down herself.

611

612 Q: Yes. I do - I do know about that - yes. And she had a heart, uh, kind of
613 condition, too or was that (Gene)?

614

615 A: Uh, no, it wasn't (Gene) so it must have been her.

616

617 Q: Yeah. I think it was her.

618

619 A: She's on some kind of a - a - a drug of some kind I think.

620

621 Q: Uh-huh.

622

623 A: But - but I'm not sure even about that. My girlfriend's really close to her. I
624 mean, they're - they're real close pals.

625

626 Q: One of the things that the lady deputy mentioned while I spoke to her, um, a-
627 and, again, I'm gonna try to be as sensitive as I can. But one of the things that
628 the lady deputy mentioned was that somebody had talked to her about a
629 potential, um, like, uh, murder-suicide-type scenario.
630

631 A: Well, that - that's a scen- I - I mentioned that to her.
632

633 Q: Okay. Tell - tell me about that.
634

635 A: And and I have been discussing that for - for a long - long time.
636

637 Q: Right. And - and how did that come about?
638

639 A: Well, uh, that's a good question. I - I don't really know because he's never
640 mentioned anything like that. But he told me that he would drown him- if
641 anything happened to her he would immediately go the backyard and drown
642 himself in the pond in the back 'cause he couldn't handle the idea that he was -
643 she was no longer with him.
644

645 Q: Sounds like they were very much in love.
646

647 A: Oh, God. I mean, it - it was - it was sad.
648

649 Q: Yeah.
650

651 A: You know? He - (Gene) - (Gene) is - we love (Gene), you know? Despite his
652 fits of anger that he's...
653

654 Q: So...
655

656 A: ...he's - he's displayed towards his wife. But I think they were all done just
657 figure of speech, you know? I mean, sometimes people just use the wrong
658 words when they're trying to say somethin' and they sound rather radical. But,
659 you know, we - like, just bangin' her head. He would have never banged her
660 head, you know? But he - he - he just talks like that.
661

662 Q: Do you think that maybe his - his - his talking like that might have had
663 somethin' to do with this - this, uh, you know, maybe, or early d- dementia-
664 type stuff? Because it sounds to me like that might have been, you know, not
665 somethin' that he would do and maybe something out of character for him.
666 Does that maybe sound...
667

668 A: Oh, no, it was out of character for him. He - he - he talked like that a lot.
669
670 Q: Ha- ha- ha-...
671
672 A: He bot- he bothered us a - for a long time.
673
674 Q: Yeah. But would never actually do anything.
675
676 A: Never ever do anything.
677
678 Q: Right.
679
680 A: He loves that woman.
681
682 Q: Never hurt her whatsoever.
683
684 A: Oh, God, no way.
685
686 Q: That actually sounds to me and in talking to her that no matter how it was he
687 would speak to her he would go out of his way to protect her.
688
689 A: Oh, absolutely. That's why he had a gun in his hand.
690
691 Q: That's what she mentioned to me that he had told her that he was going to
692 protect her.
693
694 A: Yup - yup, absolutely.
695
696 Q: Does that sound like (Gene)?
697
698 A: Absolutely 100%, 100%. (Gene) - (Gene) told me that he gets out of bed at
699 night if there's a, uh, uh, something going on. He's got a gun in his hand
700 because he's not gonna let anybody take that woman away from him. And -
701 and he's just going to investigate. He's not going to shoot anybody. He's just
702 going to investigate. But if somebody's gonna confront him, you know, like -
703 like a bad guy, a burglar, or - or somebody's gonna - 'cause he's a weak old
704 man. You know, he thinks he's a tough guy. But he's a weak old man. He
705 couldn't defend himself any other way other than to shoot a burglar if a
706 burglar was gonna try and attack him. And so the thing is he - he would not -
707 like that cop last night he'd a never shot that cop 'cause he always told me, he
708 always said that - that I have to identify who's there before I would ever think
709 of pulling the trigger.

710

711 Q: Right.

712

713 A: And apparently he had a gun in his hand, the cop saw it and shot him.

714

715 Q: So...

716

717 A: God, that's just horrible.

718

719 Q: So...

720

721 A: And that's why the cop went screamin' back and havin' a fit because he knew
722 he shot an innocent man. That's - just 'cause the guy had a gun in his hand he's
723 got the right to have a gun in his hand in his house to investigate what's goin'
724 on.

725

726 Q: (Gene) - (Gene) sounds to me, uh, from all accounts that his hobby was - was
727 firearms correct?

728

729 A: No, no, heck, no. No, absolutely not. No, he - he - he kept one pistol in - in his
730 bedroom to defend himself in the bedroom or in the house if somebody came
731 in the house. You know, I - I - I don't have a gun anymore, but one time I did
732 the same exact thing. I had a gun in my house and I kept it under my pillow.
733 My wife didn't mind a bit because she knew it'd be safer to have a gun in the
734 house. And - and honest to God, I mean, I don't know about yourself, but
735 personally, I know people who hate guns and I know people who love them.
736 And (Gene) just had a - he - he happened to own a gun, you know, that, that
737 was it.

738

739 Q: Do you know if he owned more than one? Did he just have the one?

740

741 A: Well, you know, I have no knowledge about what else he owned. But the
742 thing is I do know that guns were definitely not his hobby, absolutely not.
743 Patriotism is - is (Gene)'s hobby. (Gene) is a die-in-the-wool American patriot
744 who would die for this country in two seconds.

745

746 Q: Navy pilot, right?

747

748 A: He was a fighter pilot, absolutely. And he - I mean, he's on many missions
749 over Korea during the sec- during the Korean War. And he's - he's a - he's a
750 real talented pilot because he landed that plane in the middle of the night
751 many - many - many times...

752
753 Q: Uh-huh.
754
755 A: ...with 50 foot seas. And a lot of his pals never made it on deck because they
756 were out of gas. And that was the last pass they could make, and they'd crash
757 either into the carrier or into the ocean.
758
759 Q: You know, that's the exact same thing that she told me, too...
760
761 A: Yup.
762
763 Q: ...uh, during my conversation with her. She said that he actually had some -
764 some crashes himself. Does that sound accurate?
765
766 A: Oh, two horrible ones.
767
768 Q: That's what she said.
769
770 A: He went over Los Gatos and parachuted out and tried to miss everybody and
771 went into a farmer's field. It was all over the newspaper.
772
773 Q: Oh, man.
774
775 A: Parachuted out at real low elevation and survived, unbelievable. And then he
776 crashed another time. He was still in the cockpit. And the instructor, which
777 was a guy that had way more - not an instructor. But a guy with way more
778 flight time than him, jumped away and ran away and left him burning in the
779 plane. But somehow (Gene) managed to cut himself loose and get out of the
780 plane before it blew up. (Gene) has got a history of - of, you know, just valor.
781 And - and - and all the people in the military loved him 'cause he was an
782 independent individual person. You know, he had - he - he was in charge of
783 his own self.
784
785 Q: next door, uh, to (Gene), uh, also relayed a story of a - of a few
786 years ago a motorcycle accident.
787
788 A: Yes, a terrible one.
789
790 Q: That's what he said.
791
792 A: Broken bones and everything.
793

794 Q: Uh-huh.
795
796 A: Yup.
797
798 Q: Well, he was a fighter wasn't he.
799
800 A: Yeah. (Gene) was - (Gene) was a - a - he - he was in the hospital for a long -
801 long time on that deal, terrible.
802
803 Q: Oh, yeah, they mentioned a couple months and that - and that they - they
804 actually felt bad for his wife because she seemed to be there by herself and
805 would walk to the store to get herself some food.
806
807 A: Oh.
808
809 Q: And that they wanted to try and offer her some help but they, you know, didn't
810 know if they felt...
811
812 A: Yeah.
813
814 Q: ...comfortable, you know, intruding in her life.
815
816 A: Yeah. Golly, you know, I didn't realize what kind of abandonment she had
817 during that period of time. I thought she was probably at the hospital with him
818 every day.
819
820 Q: Uh-huh.
821
822 A: But I would have expected she would have been, but I was surprised she was
823 at home. Matter - matter of fact, I didn't go by the house today. I heard it was
824 still all roped off. But that house is exposed to vandalism right now.
825
826 Q: Well, let me tell you something so, um, I've been in contact with all
827 day.
828
829 A: Oh, good.
830
831 Q: Um, as a matter of fact, we just spoke to him as recently as - since you and I
832 have been on the phone...
833
834 A: Yes.
835

836 Q: ...he called. I don't know if you heard the phone ring.
837
838 A: I sure did. I heard the phone ring...
839
840 Q: Yeah.
841
842 A: ...a couple days ago.
843
844 Q: That was calling me. I had my partner talk to him.
845
846 A: Uh-huh.
847
848 Q: We are now - so we just left the house...
849
850 A: Okay.
851
852 Q: ...uh, probably no more than 20 minutes ago.
853
854 A: Oh, okay.
855
856 Q: is en route right now to meet one of my partners.
857
858 A: Uh-huh.
859
860 Q: We locked up the house.
861
862 A: Oh, thank God.
863
864 Q: And so is en route right now.
865
866 A: I - I hope that she has the keys to get back in.
867
868 Q: So and, uh, are en route right now to meet one of my partners.
869
870 A: Okay.
871
872 Q: And they are going to give - my partner is going to give them the garage door
873 opener so that she...
874
875 A: Oh, good.
876

877 Q: ...can get back...
878
879 A: Good.
880
881 Q: ...inside the house.
882
883 A: Yeah. That's how she gets in, but she has also have the keys to get from the
884 garage to the house.
885
886 Q: That's open. That part is open.
887
888 A: Okay, good, good.
889
890 Q: Yes.
891
892 A: Yeah. And I'm...
893
894 Q: So...
895
896 A: ...I'm trying to get - get my girlfriend (unintelligible) to come over and stay
897 with her, you know, 'cause my girlfriend's a caregiver all her life. She's been,
898 you know, look - stand by old peoples' side...
899
900 Q: Yeah.
901
902 A: ...till the day they die.
903
904 Q: They should actually probably be at the house within the hour just so that
905 you're aware.
906
907 A: Uh-huh. Okay.
908
909 Q: And the house is released back to her. We are done with our investigation at
910 the house. We - we - we're - we're not longer there. So she's free to - I've
911 informed her and that they are free to go back to the house. She can't
912 wait, you know, to get back to the house.
913
914 A: Of course.
915
916 Q: That's where she lives. And I think she's...
917
918 A: You bet, oh, yeah.

919

920 Q: ...she's anxious to get back home to get some kind of I guess, you know,
921 comfort for herself.

922

923 A: Yeah.

924

925 Q: Um, and - and I don't blame her.

926

927 A: Well, tomorrow's her grocery shopping day, too. (Gene) always took her
928 shopping before we went out to dinner. And so tomorrow somehow we gotta
929 get - get her down to the store and get whatever she wants.

930

931 Q: I'm sittin' here thinking about something that we talked about earlier. You had
932 mentioned that - that (Gene) has - has talked in the past that if anything were
933 to happen to that he just - he - he wouldn't be able to kind of go on.

934

935 A: He wouldn't.

936

937 Q: You know?

938

939 A: He wouldn't deal with it.

940

941 Q: He'd be in the pond or - or something, right?

942

943 A: Yeah. He's gonna drown himself in the pond that's what he told me.

944

945 Q: So i- if I - if I'm understanding correctly it's not necessarily like a - like a
946 murder-suicide type scenario, but, like, if she was to be gone he couldn't live
947 without her.

948

949 A: Yes, exactly.

950

951 Q: Okay, all right.

952

953 A: Yeah, that's what he told me.

954

955 Q: So maybe that was, uh...

956

957 A: And he was sincere about that.

958

959 Q: Yeah. Maybe there was...

960

961 A: He couldn't go on...
962
963 Q: ...uh, maybe a misunderstanding...
964
965 A: ...without her.
966
967 Q: ...on the part of the deputy or something.
968
969 A: And and I have - we have - we - we have been worried about
970 that. We didn't know which one was gonna go first...
971
972 Q: Mm-hm.
973
974 A: ...you know, 'cause she's '89.
975
976 Q: Right, right.
977
978 A: And he had a few years left before he'd catch up to her, but usually women...
979
980 Q: He was trying, though, wasn't he.
981
982 A: Oh, man. This is a horrible tragedy. What's gonna come - this cop that shot
983 him, this guy needs his head examined. I mean, there's no way that - that - that
984 - that (Gene) would have ever shot him. He - he wasn't even in danger, but the
985 guy saw a gun and that was it, bang, bang.
986
987 Q: Yeah.
988
989 A: He could have backed away. Said, "Sorry, sir. I'm a police officer. I'll be right
990 back."
991
992 Q: And that...
993
994 A: And (unintelligible).
995
996 Q: ...that's one of the things that we're lookin' into is everything that happened.
997
998 A: They could have settled...
999
1000 Q: Um...
1001
1002 A: ...that so differently.

1003

1004 Q: You know, you - you are one of very - you are one of a lot of people that I've
1005 spoken to today. But I wanted to make sure, you know, I've been working on
1006 this case since it happened about 8 o'clock last night. And I've been here at the
1007 office talking to people ever since then. And we have yet to go home, but I
1008 wanted...

1009

1010 A: Oh, boy.

1011

1012 Q: ...to make sure that before I left today that I...

1013

1014 A: Yeah.

1015

1016 Q: ...called you and I talked to you specifically because I know that they had
1017 talked to you last night and that you had some information that - that I knew
1018 was gonna be really - really important to me.

1019

1020 A: Yeah.

1021

1022 Q: Um, and, you know, uh, you know, our - we're just - we're just, you know, so
1023 sorry. And - and...

1024

1025 A: Oh, God.

1026

1027 Q: ...our condolences to everybody involved in here. And, you know, and like I
1028 said, I - I spoke to for -for hours last night, you know? And - and
1029 tried my best, you know, to - to - to help her. A- and - and to comfort her.
1030 And, you know, I did have to tell her eventually what did happen. And I was
1031 very, you know, honest with her. A- and I told her what had happened. And,
1032 you know, and - and I tried - and was there.

1033

1034 A: Oh, boy.

1035

1036 Q: Um, you know, while we were doing this. And just to try and - and comfort
1037 and be there for her. A- and it was very hard for her. And I - I won't hide that.
1038 And, um...

1039

1040 A: Oh, God.

1041

1042 Q: ...but I was very glad that was here. Um...

1043

1044 A: I don't think I could have faced what faced out there.

1045

1046 Q: Right.

1047

1048 A: You know, he was - boy, he was just there with her, like, the - the second he
1049 heard about this he was in his car and shot over there. He lived very close and
1050 - and he was there from the whole thing.

1051

1052 Q: Mm-hm.

1053

1054 A: And he watched how they treated her. And - and - and they treated this cop
1055 like he was the guy that was - was assaulted by, you know, like, he was cryin'
1056 and snivelin'. Poor little was all by herself in the squad car.

1057

1058 Q: Mm-hm.

1059

1060 A: Unbelievable, it was, like, she was a criminal.

1061

1062 Q: And that's why I - I took and put her in, you know, a little better, little comf-
1063 little more comfortable surrounding.

1064

1065 A: Oh, thank goodness. Thank you so much, sir.

1066

1067 Q: Mm-hm.

1068

1069 A: I appreciate you lookin' after her because I - I mean, on top of everything I
1070 heard she went to jail. And I thought what on earth is this world coming to?

1071

1072 Q: No, that wouldn't be right, now, would it.

1073

1074 A: God, no. I mean, there were women there, women cops. I - I drove in quite
1075 late. I had to pick up a guy at the bus station. I got there late. The street was all
1076 cordoned off. I couldn't get near the place, but I was in touch with on
1077 the phone. And there was a woman police officer on the street. He might have
1078 been one of the fellows, I don't know. There's two - two officers came in uni-
1079 in, uh, regular plain (unintelligible) clothes that drove through. They let them
1080 through just then. And I thought there's a woman right here why isn't she in
1081 the squad car sittin' with her consoling her, you know? A- and the woman had
1082 no idea even what I was talkin' about, you know, police officer - woman
1083 police officer. But it wasn't the one that - that - that, uh, I talked to on the
1084 phone I remember from later 'cause she was a little tiny thing. But - but
1085 anyway, I'm - this has been just an absolute...

1086

1087 Q: where do you live?
1088
1089 A: I live up in - in - in
1090
1091 Q: Oh. What is your address?
1092
1093 A:
1094
1095 Q: Oh, way up there, okay.
1096
1097 A: Yeah. Yeah. And - and, uh, I've been here for almost 50 years.
1098
1099 Q: How long have you actually known, um, Mr. (Craig)?
1100
1101 A: Well, I started doing the property next door. I - I trim that property once a
1102 year. He's a Japanese guy. And he wants somebody that knows how to trim
1103 Japanese trees.
1104
1105 Q:
1106
1107 A: yeah. And so as long as I've known a few years after I met
1108 him, which is, like, 20 - his kids were babies when I met him. And, uh, they're
1109 all gone, they're 25 years old now or somethin' like that.
1110
1111 Q: Mm-hm.
1112
1113 A: And - and shortly after that (Gene) came around seeing me working on all
1114 these trees and started up a conversation. So I've known (Gene) o- over - I
1115 mean, would know how many years I've been helpin' him over there.
1116
1117 Q: Mm-hm.
1118
1119 A: But I've known (Gene) almost as long as I've known I knew
1120 first 'cause he was my - my customer. But, uh - uh, I've known, uh, uh, (Gene)
1121 just a little bit less time than that, you know, and we've been friends ever
1122 since.
1123
1124 Q: What was it last night after speaking to that - that lady deputy, what was it last
1125 night that prompted you to call to see if he could go over there? Did you
1126 think that could - could help the deputies? Um...
1127

1128 A: Oh, no, no, no. Nothin' like that. I came in at - at - at 11:00 - 11 o'clock last
1129 night.
1130

1131 Q: Hm.
1132

1133 A: I've been on the phone with ever since the - the - the -
1134 called me at 7 o'clock or whenever the first cop showed up. That woman was
1135 askin' if anybody knew if he had a key hidden somewhere...
1136

1137 Q: Mm-hm.
1138

1139 A: ...to the house. And - and, uh, that's why she called me.
1140

1141 Q: Mm-hm.
1142

1143 A: And so ever since the - the whole thing started when said there's a
1144 bunch of cops next door and one of them wants to talk to me. I've been on the
1145 phone with the second I - second I talked to that police officer lady I
1146 was on the phone with He shot over there, like, instantly. And he
1147 watched the whole ordeal. The shots fired, been dragged out of the
1148 house like a wet rag in her nightgown or whatever. And no, you know, it's
1149 cold outside. And nobody tendin' to her. (Unintelligible) it - it was just
1150 heartbreakin' for He - I could tell in his voice that he - he was really -
1151 really - and they wouldn't let him go - the only person in the world that was
1152 there was that knows her, like - like, a mother or a sister or brother, or
1153 you know what I mean. He knows her just like I do. And - and - and they
1154 wouldn't let him come near her. And that was just cold as (unintelligible) kept
1155 yelling oh, this is process. This is part of the process. And what about the
1156 humanitarian end of it, holy mackerel. And was just - he was ravenous
1157 that - that they would treat her like that. And, uh, uh, so anyway she - right
1158 after the husband's shot they throw her in a police car and just - and treat her
1159 real, like - like, she's in danger. They're running her out of the house like she's
1160 in danger of what of a dead husband? Holy mackerel, you know? And they
1161 said for her own good. We - we had to take her out that way for her own good.
1162 My God they should have been cuddled around her and - and - and - a woman
1163 should have been holding her hand and - and nothin' like that was happenin'.
1164 And just thought they wouldn't let him near her. And so - so it was - it
1165 was - it was awful. It was absolutely a- no, I was in touch with right -
1166 right from - you know, the minute he showed up there he called me and told
1167 me what was goin' on. And I just thought, oh, God. You know, please, God,
1168 somebody out there have a little sympathy for that poor little lady, you know?
1169 And, uh, her husband is gone. I heard she screamed, "You killed my

1170 husband." And by God I hope the whole world heard it, I swear to God. Uh,
1171 you know, like, apparently they were - said they were swarmed around
1172 the - the guy, you know, givin' him all the sympathy in the world while they
1173 sittin' there snivelin', you know, knowing he's gonna lose his job. And the
1174 thing is, uh, the - the - the poor little lady was like a second - not even
1175 secondary. I think that said he thought they were gathered around trying
1176 to figure out how they could explain all this, building up a case that they all
1177 were gonna say the same thing. You know, like he tried to come after me with
1178 a gun or meat cleaver or whatever. You know, trying to justify what they just -
1179 what this guy just did. And he knew - the cop knew that he shot an innocent
1180 man 'cause (Gene) would have never hurt - he's an old man. My God
1181 almighty. And he was in his house. I can't believe it. Anybody would go in the
1182 back of his house and shoot him on sight. You know, and - and I don't know if
1183 there was any conversation whatsoever. Whatever they fabricate I wouldn't
1184 believe one word of it. You know...

1185
1186 Q: So that leads me to ask a couple questions, has (Gene) ever talked to you
1187 about people, uh, wandering around his house or trying to break into his
1188 house?

1189
1190 A: No. He told me that a neighbor - a neighbor - he goes - he goes over this a lot
1191 because he shot a blue jay one day that had been sittin' on the - he just put a
1192 new roof on his house. And all this pecking and stuff caused him a fortune up
1193 on the roof of his house.

1194
1195 Q: Yeah.

1196
1197 A: And he shot this blue jay with a BB gun. And the blue jay fell into this guy's
1198 yard next door. And the guy came over and said, "If you ever shoot another
1199 bird anywheres around here I'm gonna shoot you." And - and - and he - he
1200 said to that - he said to (Gene) that face-to-face while (Gene) was still in the
1201 house and far away behind him. And he almost went through the screen after
1202 this guy and - and chased him off the property. The guy called the cops. Of all
1203 things the guy called the cops.

1204
1205 Q: Well...

1206
1207 A: And (unintelligible).

1208
1209 Q: ...do you know neighbor this was?

1210
1211 A: Pardon me?

1212

1213 Q: Do you know what neighbor this was?

1214

1215 A: Behind - the house behind him.

1216

1217 Q: Okay.

1218

1219 A: Yeah.

1220

1221 Q: How long ago was that?

1222

1223 A: Oh, it couldn't have been too long ago p- probably within five years.

1224

1225 Q: Do you know if those neighbors still live in that house or did they move?

1226

1227 A: That I don't know.

1228

1229 Q: Because I - I did go back because, like, I said, I'm - I'm trying to get as much information as...

1230

1231

1232 A: Yeah.

1233

1234 Q: ...I can. And I went to the street behind Mr. (Craig)'s house.

1235

1236 A: Uh-huh, good.

1237

1238 Q: And - and I talked - I tried to talk to the - the two neighbors directly behind him. Uh...

1239

1240

1241 A: Oh.

1242

1243 Q: ...one of them was not home, but their house looks like it had just been redone or remodeled. So I don't think they had lived there very long. I don't know. I will find that out later.

1244

1245

1246 A: Yeah. That - that's the guy right directly behind (Gene).

1247

1249 Q: And then there's another couple it - it's a - it's an Indian couple now. But I also don't know if they had been there very long. Um, so I - I'm just kind of wondering if maybe those people have moved. But I - I will find out because, uh...

1250

1251

1252

1253

1254 A: Yeah. The guy threatened (Gene)'s life and (Gene) was ravenous about it.
1255
1256 Q: Mm-hm.
1257
1258 A: You know, he insulted (Gene) right in front of his wife saying gonna kill him
1259 if he ever does it again.
1260
1261 Q: Uh-huh.
1262
1263 A: And the cops came and told (Gene), "Hey, we really understand." The cops
1264 were really good to - to (Gene). They - they came over and said, "Hey," you
1265 know, "This - this guy, uh, is a wack job."
1266
1267 Q: But other than that incident the blue jay...
1268
1269 A: Yeah.
1270
1271 Q: ...(Gene) didn't mention much about, you know, people trying to break into his
1272 house.
1273
1274 A: No. I think he mentioned that he'd hear the police blotter or somethin' like
1275 that, that there were homes that were broken into in Saratoga. You know, and
1276 so he was - he was - he asked security, you know, everything going on there.
1277 He has cameras.
1278
1279 Q: He does? Do those cameras work?
1280
1281 A: Yeah. Oh, yeah.
1282
1283 Q: Okay.
1284
1285 A: Yup. Yeah, don't take - don't take the thing away if it's recording.
1286
1287 Q: Yeah. The, uh...
1288
1289 A: It'd make a good movie.
1290
1291 Q: Um...
1292
1293 A: not around anymore. But...
1294

1295 Q: Yeah.
1296
1297 A: ...(Gene Craig) isn't either.
1298
1299 Q: Um...
1300
1301 A: Oh, yeah, no, I take that back. is still around.
1302
1303 Q: You mentioned something about and - and a friend of his coming
1304 into the house.
1305
1306 A: Yeah. Late at night snuck out of the house out of his bedroom when
1307 (Gene) didn't know about it. And then he went out and delivered some papers
1308 early in the morning. He had a paper route or somethin' like that.
1309
1310 Q: Yeah.
1311
1312 A: And - and (Gene) had no idea he was takin' over for another guy to earn some
1313 money. And they came home, and they guy was a great big - I think a big
1314 black fella. And - and, uh, they came together in the house at night, and it was
1315 dark. And - and they - they came in. Uh, had a key to the house. So
1316 they actually came in the front door. And (Gene) heard them. And he didn't
1317 turn on any lights. He went chargin' out to where they were with a gun in his
1318 hand. And his house was being broken into. And he said he realized that - that,
1319 you know, it was his son.
1320
1321 Q: Uh-huh.
1322
1323 A: And couldn't figure out why his son would be coming in the house when he's
1324 supposed to be in the bedroom.
1325
1326 Q: Yeah.
1327
1328 A: And that's one of the incidents that kind of, you know, (Gene) kind of uses as
1329 the integrity of that boy. But I don't think that boy was that bad personally.
1330 You know, (Gene)...
1331
1332 Q: He - he had some - some other issues, correct?
1333
1334 A: Well, you know, I don't really know because smokin' some weed to me is not
1335 an issue.
1336

1337 Q: Uh-huh.
1338
1339 A: Do you know what I mean? But to (Gene) it's everything in the world because
1340 he threw the guy out because he was smokin' some weed...
1341
1342 Q: Uh-huh.
1343
1344 A: ...and never wanted to see him again. And that's how hard lined (Gene) was.
1345
1346 Q: Right.
1347
1348 A: He was one of those kind of people.
1349
1350 Q: Pretty straight arrow.
1351
1352 A: And - and if anybody could use some weed (Gene)'s the person I've been
1353 trying to talk him into smokin' some weed here for the last six months.
1354
1355 Q: No - no - no taker, though, huh?
1356
1357 A: Hell, no, not a chance.
1358
1359 Q: Yeah.
1360
1361 A: He - he's so hard lined. He - he won't even give his wife Ibuprofen.
1362
1363 Q: Well, that's true you did mention that.
1364
1365 A: And that - that's terrible.
1366
1367 Q: Um, with the understanding that there are some things that I - I can't discuss at
1368 this time...
1369
1370 A: That's all right, I understand.
1371
1372 Q: ...do you have any questions that maybe I can try and answer?
1373
1374 A: No, I really don't, sir. I just - it just - I'm just - we're just aghast over what
1375 happened. I mean, this is - this is happening to us, you know, as a family. You
1376 know, (Gene) and I really are very close to us. And, uh, we - this is a
1377 heartbreaker. It's a...
1378

1379 Q: I have...
1380
1381 A: ...heartbreaker.
1382
1383 Q: I have provided with the information for the medical examiner's
1384 office. I have asked that the medical examiner's officer call her. I don't know
1385 if they have done that yet. But hopefully they will do it soon. They will help
1386 with the arrangements for (Gene). Um, that's...
1387
1388 A: Oh.
1389
1390 Q: ...something that I - I don't - I - I don't really have a part in. So hopefully they
1391 will do that soon.
1392
1393 A: Yeah.
1394
1395 Q: I have passed that information on to as well. Maybe, you know...
1396
1397 A: Yeah.
1398
1399 Q: ...you can get together with him and something can be worked out because I
1400 know that with her language, you know, barrier that she has I know it'll
1401 probably be you know, difficult for her to understand all that's going on.
1402
1403 A: Yeah, yeah. Oh, (unintelligible), oh, God, yes. She's lost without (Gene)
1404 totally. I mean, he ran the show over there, and he took care of everything.
1405 She - she just total loss with any of this stuff. She - she's a lost person in
1406 America. And (Gene) was the only - only thing that - that held, you know, that
1407 - that allowed her - you know, eat food, and he took her to the grocery store.
1408 And he wouldn't allow Japanese food in the house which was terrible.
1409
1410 Q: Mm-hm.
1411
1412 A: And, uh, I mean, we - that's another heartbreaker of course...
1413
1414 Q: Mm-hm.
1415
1416 A: ...because, you know, we all ate Japanese food and like it. And here this guy
1417 just because she don't - he don't like it he wouldn't allow it in the house.
1418
1419 Q: Wow.
1420

1421 A: And that's - that's pretty bad...
1422
1423 Q: Right, right.
1424
1425 A: ...you know? We tried to take her out individually as - as a, you know, without
1426 him around and (unintelligible) one word of it.
1427
1428 Q: Did, um, (Gene) and (Haruie) ever go back to Japan to visit or anything?
1429
1430 A: Uh, I don't think so, no. I think - no, I don't - she has 'cause she left everything
1431 that she owned back in Japan. It was all finalized.
1432
1433 Q: But I understand her mother lived with them for a while.
1434
1435 A: Uh, (Gene)'s mother.
1436
1437 Q: Oh, (Gene)'s mother.
1438
1439 A: (Gene)'s mother.
1440
1441 Q: Okay.
1442
1443 A: Oh, no. mother was gone, you know, during the war or something.
1444
1445 Q: Oh, okay.
1446
1447 A: Yeah.
1448
1449 Q: All right.
1450
1451 A: No, (Gene) - had nobody left except for (Gene).
1452
1453 Q: (Gene) and but was (unintelligible).
1454
1455 A: Yeah, that was her baby. The only baby she ever had. And he was ex-
1456 communicated from the house for smokin' weed.
1457
1458 Q: And - but then they also had
1459
1460 A: That was the granddaughter.
1461

1462 Q: Yeah.
1463
1464 A: That was his, uh, uh, child.
1465
1466 Q: Yeah, yeah.
1467
1468 A: And apparently I don't know if she's on the outs with or not, but she
1469 was with (Gene).
1470
1471 Q: Uh-huh.
1472
1473 A: And (Gene)'s been bankrupting the family.
1474
1475 Q: So - so that you know, uh, we have spoken to as well because she -
1476 she's...
1477
1478 A: Oh.
1479
1480 Q: ...the one who called, uh, to start this whole thing off.
1481
1482 A: Oh, boy.
1483
1484 Q: Uh, so we have spoken to her, she is aware of what's going on. I - I don't know
1485 what her plans are, I - I don't know.
1486
1487 A: Yeah.
1488
1489 Q: Um, but she's aware. Um, so, um, I don't think wanted to talk to her.
1490 But, you know, she says, you know, if she comes, she comes, you know?
1491
1492 A: Yeah. That phone call triggered the whole thing.
1493
1494 Q: Yeah.
1495
1496 A: She just didn't need to do that...
1497
1498 Q: Yeah.
1499
1500 A: ...you know? Especially since she's been bugging them for money day and
1501 night. And they didn't wanna - (Gene) - they were - they were pretty hard for -
1502 for - for money.
1503

1504 Q: Uh-huh.
1505
1506 A: You know. Things were going - was shaking her head the last time I
1507 saw her. Not this last time, but the week before. She said, "I don't know how
1508 he's paying the bills." She said, "He just had \$300, uh, redo on the car, which
1509 was absolutely totally unnecessary." You know, and she said, "That was
1510 awful."
1511
1512 Q: What do you know about the problems with the door? The front door.
1513
1514 A: Oh, that - that he had some special locks made for the front door. And the key
1515 would go in and not unlock the door. And he had a guy comin' out to work on
1516 the door. And it was gonna take the guy I think he said an all-day job to fix
1517 the door. And I don't think could get out of the house last night
1518 through the front door.
1519
1520 Q: Uh-huh.
1521
1522 A: He was locked in his house.
1523
1524 Q: How long has it been like that?
1525
1526 A: Uh, as far as I know about two weeks.
1527
1528 Q: Uh-huh.
1529
1530 A: You know, at the most. But he told me last week that he hadn't been able to
1531 get out of his house.
1532
1533 Q: Uh-huh.
1534
1535 A: You now, that - that he had a guy come and - to fix the door. And the guy told
1536 him it would take him a lot of money and a lot of time..
1537
1538 Q: Ooh.
1539
1540 A: ...to fix it.
1541
1542 Q: Naturally, right?
1543
1544 A: Yeah, yeah, exactly that front door weighs I think 300 or 500 pounds.
1545

1546 Q: Holy smokes.
1547
1548 A: Yeah. I thought maybe last night I was so fearful that they were gonna try to
1549 chainsaw the front door open to go in the house...
1550
1551 Q: Mm-hm.
1552
1553 A: ...you know. And I thought oh, my God destroy (Gene)'s, you know, door just
1554 to see if he's in the house. Uh, and then instead they go in the back door and
1555 shoot him. That is just - that is - I mean that - that's almost, you know, it - it
1556 couldn't happen. It just could not happen.
1557
1558 Q: If (Gene) thought that, in your opinion, if (Gene) thought that there was an
1559 intruder trying to break into his house, do you think he would arm himself
1560 with that gun?
1561
1562 A: He would do what again?
1563
1564 Q: Arm himself with the gun that he had?
1565
1566 A: Just like last night, sure.
1567
1568 Q: Okay.
1569
1570 A: Heck, yeah.
1571
1572 Q: That doesn't - that - that doesn't sound unusual to you.
1573
1574 A: Oh, not at all. You know, (Gene) just - it - it all has to do with the little
1575 woman.
1576
1577 Q: Yeah.
1578
1579 A: He doesn't want anybody gettin' near her.
1580
1581 Q: Protection of house and property and family.
1582
1583 A: Absolutely. You know all the possessions - they - they have a beautiful home.
1584
1585 Q: Yes, they do.
1586

1587 A: And good God almighty (Gene) doesn't want to see anybody take that away
1588 from him especially his life.
1589

1590 Q: Mm-hm.
1591

1592 A: And her life.
1593

1594 Q: Mm-hm.
1595

1596 A: And that's the only reason he had a gun in his hand he thought it was an
1597 intruder, and he heard somebody in the house.
1598

1599 Q: Mm-hm.
1600

1601 A: And he said, I'm sure he said, I wasn't there, but I'm sure he said to himself
1602 there's somebody in my house. I've gotta go see what's going on. And he grabs
1603 the gun. He always would grab the gun. He - he always talked about grabbin'
1604 the gun if somebody's in his house, but he would never shoot them unless he
1605 saw who it was.
1606

1607 Q: Mm-hm.
1608

1609 A: So last night there was no way and a million if that cop had a uniform on
1610 (Gene) would have never shot him. You know, if it was some kind of a, you
1611 know weird lookin' Muslim or somethin' he - he might have - he might have,
1612 uh, thought differently. But - but the thing is 'cause he's old, and he can't fight,
1613 you know, he doesn't know how to protect himself. And so he would - honest
1614 to God he would have never shot that cop.
1615

1616 Q: You sound like you know (Gene) pretty well. And - if, in your opinion, if
1617 (Gene) - if (Gene) has his gun.
1618

1619 A: His what?
1620

1621 Q: His gun.
1622

1623 A: I'm sorry, what again?
1624

1625 Q: His gun.
1626

1627 A: His gun?
1628

- 1629 Q: Yeah. If (Gene) has his gun, and he's in the house thinking that someone's
1630 coming in...
1631
- 1632 A: Mm-hm.
1633
- 1634 Q: ...and he looks, and he sees, oh, that's a police officer, oh, they say, oh, a
1635 sheriff's department, sheriff's office. And he realizes that tho- that's - those are
1636 the police officers, do you think that he would drop his gun or put it down or
1637 do you think that he would, you know, how do you think he would react?
1638
- 1639 A: (Unintelligible) he didn't put it down quick enough. The - the guy just shot
1640 him before he saw a gun and shot him. I'm sure that's what happened, you
1641 know, or trigger-happy cop.
1642
- 1643 Q: Do - but do you think that (Gene) would, you know, take a stance of you
1644 know, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I didn't know who you were.
1645
- 1646 A: Yes. Oh, yeah. Well, he - he - he may - he may have been pointing it at the
1647 cop, like, you know, like you say, whoa if this is an intruder I got - I got the
1648 goods on you.
1649
- 1650 Q: Yeah.
1651
- 1652 A: But then when he realized it was a cop he would have never pulled the trigger,
1653 ever, never ever, you know? And - and if the police - he realized it was a
1654 police officer and the police officer had a gun in his hand he would have
1655 dropped the gun. Oh, absolutely, you know? I - I don't think (Gene) is, you
1656 know, he's not gonna have a standoff on law enforcement.
1657
- 1658 Q: Mm-hm.
1659
- 1660 A: He respects law enforcement. He always says, thank God there's cops around.
1661
- 1662 Q: Right. He was very pro-law enforcement.
1663
- 1664 A: Oh, God pro - pro, you know, pro-America. You couldn't have found a more
1665 pro-American guy that (Gene). You know, the end of the world is coming in
1666 (Gene)'s mind, you know? If this whichever gets to be president.
1667
- 1668 Q: Just so you know, I just received a message on my phone my partner, he met
1669 He gave them the garage door opener, and they are now en route to the

1670 house in Saratoga.
1671
1672 A: Oh, good, good. Yeah, the phone's been interrupted here a couple more times
1673 recently.
1674
1675 Q: Yeah, I can - I can actually hear it. It's probably trying to talk...
1676
1677 A: Yeah - yeah.
1678
1679 Q: ...trying to call you.
1680
1681 A: I - I didn't - he told me not to call him back until - until he called me because
1682 he was gonna sleep and rest because this thing - whole thing just ate him alive.
1683
1684 Q: Oh, they - they've all been up all night.
1685
1686 A: Yeah.
1687
1688 Q: And, uh, (unintelligible).
1689
1690 A: I know you - I know you have, too, Officer.
1691
1692 Q: Yeah. I did ask had gotten any sleep. He said, "No." Um,
1693 that she hasn't been able to sleep. He was able to get her to eat which I think is
1694 a good sign.
1695
1696 A: Oh.
1697
1698 Q: Um, and that, um, they - they were down in Gilroy and that my partner met
1699 them right here in South San Jose, so they're probably only, ah, I'm gonna say
1700 maybe 15 minutes away from the house.
1701
1702 A: Oh, yeah. is - got closer house than that, you bet.
1703
1704 Q: Yeah.
1705
1706 A: Yeah. Golly, well thank you so much for your interest, officer.
1707
1708 Q: I appreciate your time. And if I have any further questions I - I -
1709 I hope...
1710
1711 A: Any time.

1712

1713 Q: ...it's okay that I give you a call. And, likewise, if - if anything comes up or
1714 any more information that you feel you wanna share. Um, I don't know if you
1715 have my phone number. If it showed up...

1716

1717 A: No, I don't.

1718

1719 Q: ...if it showed up on your phone? Um...

1720

1721 A: No, I don't have one of those kind of phones.

1722

1723 Q: Okay. Well, let me give it to you then.

1724

1725 A: What - what's your name again, sir?

1726

1727 Q: Sergeant Brown like the color.

1728

1729 A: Okay. Sergeant - S- okay, hold on. Okay, phone number?

1730

1731 Q: It's area code 408...

1732

1733 A: Mm-hm.

1734

1735 Q: ...808...

1736

1737 A: Uh-huh.

1738

1739 Q: ...4554. That is my desk line. If I don't answer just leave me a message and I
1740 will call you back.

1741

1742 A: Okay, great - great, officer. I know you guys, uh, right where you're at over
1743 there in - in - on, uh, on De Anza Boulevard. I've - I've had a run-in with one
1744 of the officers here years and years ago who was just doing his job and I got
1745 up, I lost my temper with him. And I felt so bad about it because he was just
1746 doing his job. And I started yelling at him because he was blocking my way to
1747 get into my house. And he was rightfully so because around the corner was a
1748 damn tree down, but I didn't believe him and I started yelling at him. And I
1749 actually went down to the police station to find him and - and - and - and meet
1750 with him to apologize for my, you know, belligerent behavior for a guy who
1751 was just doing his job.

1752

1753 Q: Well, well, done you, sir.
1754

1755 A: Yeah. I couldn't - I - I couldn't live with myself. I felt so bad. That guy was
1756 just doing his job. And here I was yelling at him 'cause I was supposed to be
1757 home with my kids, my wife was waiting for me. I had to go all the way
1758 around, through to get home.
1759

1760 Q: Oh, that's a long trip, too.
1761

1762 A: Yeah. And - and - and we were late for somewhere. And - and so I started
1763 hollering at him and - and - and he was a great guy. He didn't say anything
1764 out, you know, he was totally polite doing his job. And here I was going off
1765 on a guy for no reason at all. And - and I just - I couldn't live with myself
1766 afterwards. I thought Jesus Christ well here's a guy who's doing his job and
1767 you're yellin' at him, man. I need my head examined.
1768

1769 Q: Mm-hm. Yeah, it happens, you know?
1770

1771 A: And he was - we met, and he was a really - really nice fella.
1772

1773 Q: Oh, good.
1774

1775 A: You know, face-to-face. Yeah, but - but anyway. Thank you, uh, Mr. -
1776 Sergeant Brown. And - and, uh, if I do come up with anything or you do or
1777 have any questions you just call me back.
1778

1779 Q: Thank you,
1780

1781 A: I may - I may not be able to answer 'cause I'm in and out. So...
1782

1783 Q: Yeah.
1784

1785 A: ...'cause I just came home, just as I walked in the door the phone rang.
1786

1787 Q: Well, then I have good timing, I guess.
1788

1789 A: Yes, you do, perfect.
1790

1791 Q: Thank you, sir. And, uh, please, you know, try your best to have a pleasant
1792 day.
1793

1794 A: Oh man. I'm so sorry that this - this burden has fallen upon your shoulders.

1795

1796 Q: Well, you know what? That's - that's my job. It's what I do. And, you know,
1797 we're - we're good at what we do.

1798

1799 A: Yeah.

1800

1801 Q: So hopefully we can get some answers.

1802

1803 A: Yup, yup. I - I believe that in total. All righty.

1804

1805 Q: Please - please pass my best on to

1806

1807 A: I sure will. I certainly will.

1808

1809 Q: All right.

1810

1811 A: Yeah, thank you, sir. Yeah, bye now.

1812

1813

1814 This transcript has been reviewed with the audio recording submitted and it is an accurate
1815 transcription.

1816 Signed

1817
