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## INTERVIEW WITH W53 <br> Q=Sgt. Carrasco <br> Q1=Sgt. Brown <br> A=W53

Uh, your name - how do you spell your name?

And your last name?

Okay, so it's 9-3-2015. It's approximately 2005 hours. I'm speaking with Nurse How long have you been employed by - who - are you employed by Santa Clara Valley Medical Center?

Yes.
Q: VMC?
Yes.

Okay, and how long have you been employed by VMC?
Nine years.

43 Q:
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47 Q: 48

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Q:

A:

Nine years. And what's your official title?
RN.
RN. And let's see, how long have you been assigned to the custody?
I've been a - I've been, uh, for nine years - I've been at the...
Oh, okay, so the whole time?
Yes.
Oh, okay.
Yes.
And all at main jail or a little bit at (Elmwood)?
Main jail - just main jail.
Okay. All main jail. All right, and what time does your shift normally start?
3:00.

3 pm 'til...
Eleven.
11 pm - all right - and if you could, just real quick some of your duties and responsibilities?

Giving pills...
Okay.
...doing treatments, answer 'man down.' Sometimes I'm assigned in booking.
Okay, uh, booking?
Yes.

84 Q:
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A:

Okay, how do you guys normally rotate your assignments or - do you have to bid for them, or do you just...?

No, uh, for me, I've been assigned everywhere because I'm just - I'm working as a per diem.

Okay. What does that mean?
Uh, it's just like an on-call, but I have a regular - they gave me regular hours.
Oh, is that - Is that pretty nice?
Yes, of course.
All righty. So nine years here at the main jail. Has it all been night shift, or have you...?

It's just pm shift.
Oh, pm shift.
PM shift. Yeah.
So you've never worked day shift?
No.
Does pm shift get a little more money? Is it like...
A little - just three or four dollars.
Well, that's not bad.
Night shift has more.
All right. So you know why we're here. So there was an inmate death last Thursday - a week from today - that was in Module 6-B. Um, let's see, let's start with, uh, what do you normally do when you first come on shift?

We do the diabetic call, and then we prepare our medicine until the count is clear. And then we gonna go out and give our medicine.

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A:

Okay, and with the diabetic call, do they come down to you, or do you go to them?

We go to them.
Okay, so it depends on - they could be anywhere in the jail?
Yes.
So you start your shift, you do diabetic calls, and then they're clearing count, so you're doing your - your cart?

Yeah.
Okay.
Yeah.
And that's for the pill call, right, you're preparing...?
Yes.
...your cart for pill call?
Yes - yes.
All right. And then once count has cleared, then you - then you start going to the floors?

Yes.
Were you assigned, uh, any - are you assigned any particular floors when you come to work?

Yes, they're gonna assign us either - anywhere.
Okay, so you don't know which floors you're gonna go to when you come on I mean when you come on shift, or you find out when you come on shift maybe I should ask.

I'm gonna find out when I come on shift.

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A:

So it's not the same every day?
No.
Okay. All right. Do you remember what - what floor you started on - on Wednesday, the 26th, I should say?

A: Sixth floor.

That was your first one?
That's my - that's my- that's my assignment.
Okay, so Wednesday $8 / 26$, first - or - the only floor you went to?
Yes.
Okay, so I'm gonna put only floor was sixth.
So if you were in sixth floor, around five - around 4:45 you have to go down to the booking to relieve.

Okay, do you remember what time you got on the sixth floor?
Uh, as far as I could remember, it was around 7:00.
Okay, and when you get up on the floor, uh, do you remember - do you remember which dorm you went to first?

I went to A-Dorm first.

A-Dorm. Okay. And I know sometimes you'll take the cart inside the - inside the unit, and you'll do pill call sort of right by the officer's desk...

Yes.
...and then there's also times where the module door will actually stay closed, and you have that little...

The little slot.

210 Q
..little slot.

Yeah.

Um, is the sixth floor - do you actually go into the dorms or do you stay outside?

On 6-A I went inside.

Okay.

On 6-B we stayed out.
Is there a reason for that?

Uh, because they - it's just easier.
Okay. So you do it through the tray slot?
Yes.
All right. Did anything happen during pill call when you went to the A-
Dorm? Anything in...

Mm, no.
No, uh, 415s or any, uh, inmates...

No.

Okay. So no issues on A side.
On that side there is no issues. Either 6-B or C. That's the only problems...
Okay, well let's go to, uh, do you remember what time you got to the B side?
Uh, probably around - almost 8:00.
So you take, on average, maybe an hour to do each pod? What time did you start on A?

A: I start at seven and then probably about 15 minutes before $8: 00$, I went to BDorm.

Okay. So about 1945 hours?
Mm-hm.
And you said you did it through the tray slot?
Yes.
Do you remember what officer was working, uh, the B - B-Dorm on sixth?
Officer (Lubren).
And if you're not in the dorm when you're doing it through the tray slot, is how does the inmate come to you - how does he know who to pull out?

They open them - they open them.
Okay.
Yeah.
Do you know what kind of order it goes through or is there a certain order that you like the inmates to come...

No, there isn't any.
...like alphabetical order or - okay. So there's no particular order?
No particular order.
So they'll come to the window, you ask them their name...
Yes.
They show you...
Yes.
...their, uh, wristband?

Yes.
And then you go to your cart, you get the appropriate medications, and then they stick their hand out and vavoom? Okay.

We give it - we give it to them in paper cups.
So, okay.
So it wouldn't fall.
And they're allowed to keep the paper cups or do they just throw it away?

They have to throw it away.
Is there, like, a garbage can right there?
Yeah, uh, sometimes they give it back to me.
Okay. Do you remember any incidents during pill call that day - Wednesday?
Wednesday...
Yes.
...is - that's, uh, there was no incident, but there is one particular inmate, uh...

Okay.
...he came to me - I was - I was - I was doing some- and then I gave the medication to him. He pretended that he took it. But I saw him put it in his pocket.

How did he pretend then?
He - he - he drink the cartons - milk carton - there's water in it.
Mm-hm.
He drink it, but at the same time, he put the cups on his pocket. So I called the officer, and I told him, "Officer, so-and-so did not take his medicine. I want

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Q:
him to come back to me, show me if he's going to take his medicine, otherwise, I'm gonna get back the medicine from him."

Do you remember what that inmate's name was?
(Tyree).
So you were able to get the attention of the officer?
Yes.
And what did you tell him?
I told him that the inmate did not get his - took his medicine. He put it in his pocket.

And at that time what was (Tyree) doing? Was he already - was he still standing in front of you or...?

No, he went - he's - he's going to his room.
Okay. So he left?
He left.

Okay, and did the officer - was the officer able to sort of track him down?
Yes, he came back.
With the - with the inmate?
With the inmate.
And then what happened?
And then, uh, he's a little bit upset.
What then?

Then he took his medicine - he took - he put the medicine - he just said, "I took my medicine." But I said, "It's in your pocket." So the - Officer

Q:

A:
(Lubren) said, "Show me your pocket." So he showed it to me, and the cup was on his pocket.

Mm-hm.
And I told him, "Take the medication, otherwise, I'm gonna take it back from you." So he opened the medication, and he took it.

Right in front of you?
Right in front of me.
Did he say anything to you? You said he was a little bit upset.
He was saying something, but I couldn't hear. I couldn't hear it because of the - I'm not - I'm not really inside.

Mm-hm.
I couldn't hear what he had been saying.
That was the inmate.

That was the inmate.
Now when you say he was saying something, was he yelling, was he just talking, was he...

He was talking - he's just talking. He's kinda upset. He was talking.
When you say he was kinda upset, like, what was he doing?
He's been - he's been - he's been looking at me like, "Why do you want me to take my medication?" Something like - he's just looking at me like - agitated to me because I - I let him take his medication.

Could you tell if he was, like, cursing at you or...
I couldn't hear what he was saying.
Would you describe it as, like - like, angry? Like, was he, like, aah?

A: Very agitated?

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Oh, so, okay - agitated.
Yes.
Did he bang his fist on the window towards you or...?
No, he just - he just looked at me bad.
Did he point at you?
He just looked at me and then turned - he turned a- he turned back.
Okay, so you said agitated?
Yeah.
Did you hear him scream?
No.

Yell?

No.
And I know I've sort of asked this a number of different ways - did you - did he ever threaten you?

No.
Okay, and I know - you said you couldn't - did - did he call you names? Could you tell if he was calling you any names?

I guess so, but I couldn't hear it.
Okay. Did you know - could you tell if, uh, he was having any issues with the officer?

No.
Did it seem like he was, uh, following the officer's orders?

Yes.
Okay. Did you see the officer, uh, touch Inmate (Tyree) at any time during the pill call?

No.
Okay. What happened after he took his medication in front of you and then...?
He turned - he turned his back, and then he talked to the officer, and then I think that probably he went to his cell.

Okay. And then you continued with pill call?
Yes.
So you didn't see the officer go after him or...?
No.
Okay.

No.

So it sounded like he just went back to his cell?
Yes.

Uh, do you recall how many inmates did pill call that day? More than 10 ?
No, more than - more than - almost everybody.
So, okay, so there was a lot.
A lot.
Okay. And do you remember where Mr. - Inmate (Tyree) was during - during the pill call? Was he in the front? Was he kinda in the middle? Was he towards the end? Meaning that, you know, the inmates come out, they stand in line, and then...

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They stand in line - they were not coming in at the same time. It's like 10 at a time.

So if the unit has something like 50 - let's say they have 50 inmates, uh, was the Inmate (Tyree) in the first 10 , was he in the second 10 ?

He was in the last 10 .
So he was in the last part of the...?
Yes.
Okay.
Yes.
So close to finishing?
Uh-huh.

Okay, anything else? Any other inmates sort of...?
No.
...have issues during pill call?
No.
How many times had you done pill call on the sixth floor? Had you done pill call on the sixth floor before?

Many times.
Okay. And then are you familiar with the Inmate (Tyree) then? Was he somebody that you were sort of familiar with, or...?

I just - I just, uh, I just work with him probably three times.
When you say work with him, what does that mean?
Just, like, giving the pills.

Q:
A:

Okay.
Yeah.
And those other three times, had you had any other sort of negative experiences with him or...?

No - no. He usually takes his medicine, but he's kinda weird when you call when you ask his name, he just kinda look at you, and he just kinda say, "(Tyree) - (Tyree) who?" 'Cause we do not know which one, because I have one (Tyree) on C-Dorm, and I have one (Tyree)...

Okay.
...in the B-Dorm, and I said, "What is your BFN number?" He couldn't say. And I said, "Where is your wristband?" He just kinda show you like this to you.

Okay. So he understands what you're saying to him?
Yes.
Okay, he's just maybe slow in responding?
It could be, yes.
Okay. Now we've heard the term, uh, 'cheeking medication,' where maybe they put it in their mouth and pretend like they're swallowing it, but then they cheek...

They put it back in their cheek, yes.
Would Inmate (Tyree) be somebody - have you ever had that experience with him?

No - no.
Okay. Um, do you also do, uh, sick calls?
We just give the papers.
Oh, so they turn in the form?

Q:

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A: $\quad$ They turn in the form in the morning.

A: It's - if the inmate was yelling at you or giving you a hard time, he will talk to them.

So he's quick to...

Yes.
...come to your defense?
Yes.
Okay. Have you personally experienced something like that?
Yes.

Tell me about that.
It was - there is one inmate that was, um, very upset and trying to - he'd been yelling at me because he wants something that has not been ordered. I said, "There is no order. We're not gonna give it to them."

Okay.
And he started cursing at me, and then Officer (Lubren) came to my rescue and is like, "The nurse is not giving anything if there is no order. If you want, you can fill out a white card and give it tomorrow morning."

Okay. Do you remember what unit that was?
Seventh floor.
Seventh floor.

Yes.
Do you remember what inmate it was?

Uh, no.
Okay. How long ago was it?
Maybe a year ago.
Uh, have you ever been, uh, in a situation where Officer (Lubren) - you had to witness him use force because an inmate got out of hand?

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| A: | No. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Q: | Maybe during pill call? |
| A: | No. |
| Q: | So you've never witnessed Officer (Lubren) go hands-on with an inmate? |
| A: | No. |
| Q1: | Inmate (Tyree), um, you had, uh, worked with him a couple times before, and was there any problems with him before? |
| A: | No. |
| Q1: | Pretty unremarkable in working with him up until the last time? |
| A: | It's just - it's just a slow - slow responding - that's all. |
| Q1: | Um, and were his medications, uh, do - did you know how many medications he got? Or do you remember? |
| A: | I think it's three. |
| Q1: | And would you say that those medications were more for like, um, special needs or mental illness type medications, or for, like, physical and medical problems? |
| A: | It's for mental illness. |
| Q1: | Mental illness. |
| A: | Yes. |
| Q1: | Um, so did his reactions - or the way that he would speak to you - kind of match the medications that you would give him? |
| A: | Yes. |
| Q1: | Okay. Um - um, is it common for you - like if someone doesn't wanna take their medications, uh, to - okay, if you don't wanna take it, then I'm gonna take it back? Or would you say you more try to get them to take it first? |


| A: | We kinda try and make them take it first, and if they don't want it - usually because some of the inmates - if they say they don't want it - we're not gonna give it to them. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Q1: | For any medication? |
| A: | For any medication. |
| Q1: | Oh, really? |
| A: | Yes. |
| Q1: | Oh. |
| A: | 'Cause they have the rights to refuse. |
| Q1: | Wow. Um, did you know whether or not, um, Inmate (Tyree) was - was a condition of his release that he would take the medication? Like if he took his medication, would they say, "Okay, you know, we can release you because you're taking medication?" Or does that even exist? |
| A: | I'm not really sure. |
| Q1: | You're not sure about that? |
| A: | I'm not sure about that. |
| Q1: | Someone had mentioned that, and I don't know if it's even possible - if we can even do that, um, but I thought I'd ask. Um, Officer (Lubren) - Deputy (Lubren) - um, you said, you know, uh, he would make sure that, uh, nurses were protected, uh, more so than other deputies? |
| A: | Even the other deputies... |
| Q1: | They tried to protect you? |
| A: | ...they tried to protect us, yes. |
| Q1: | So he didn't do it any more than anybody else? |

A

Q:
Q1:

Not that you - not in your experience?
No, because most of the deputies, they - they really protect the nurses.
Q1: Right - right.
Q: That's their job, right?
A: Yes.
Q: Okay.
A: That's their job.
Q: $\quad$ So if an inmate, like you say, gets, uh, maybe gets out of line or starts getting loud or something, the officer's supposed to step in and...

Yes.
...and admonish that inmate...
Yes - yes.
...and say, "Hey, you know, whatever - take it back to your room or tone it down, or..."

Yes.
"She can't do that for you, so don't yell at her."

Okay.
Did you respond up to the sixth floor when there was a man down call?
A: When this happened?
Q1: Yeah - yeah.
A: No.

Q1: No?
A: Because I'm already home.
Q1: Oh, that's right, you were, huh?
A
Yes.

Yeah, I didn't think about that.

Yeah.
Uh, okay.
How about, uh, do you know Officer (Matthew Farris)? Have you ever worked with him?

On sixth floor, yes.
Okay. W- what's your interaction been like with him?
Between, like, workers, I hardly talk to him. He's a nice guy.
And would you characterize him as being the same as far as protecting the nurses when...

Yes - yes.
Q: ...you go into his unit? So you would have gone into his unit, then, on sixth sixth floor?

Yes. I've been to his unit first.
Okay. No issues?
No.

Ever see him use force against an inmate?
No - no.

A:

Q1:

Q1:
A:

Q1:
A:

Q1:

Q1:

Ya know, in - in 6-B, there's a - there's an inmate there who has, uh, some...
The treatment?
Yeah, he's got a broken jaw I think.
Yes.
And, like, stitches in the side of his head?
Stitches over here.
Q1: And he's - yeah, uh,

Did he tell you what happened?
A: No.

No - no.

A: ...that thing on his...
Q1: That thing on his head?
A: Yeah. The stockinette - we call it a stockinette.
Yeah.

A: Yeah.
All right, and he gets some pill call too?

A: Yes.
Q1:
Yeah, probably pain meds, huh?
A: Mm-hm.

Q1: Um, 6-B is normally - pill call is normally conducted through the - through the slot?

A: Not really. We - sometimes we go inside.
Q1: Okay.
A: Yeah.

Q1: Um, when you do go inside - or shoot, even through the slot - are, uh, the inmates usually locked down, and they let a few out at a time?

A: Yes.

Q1: To come get the pills?
A: Yes.

Q1: So they're never really out...
A:
No.

Q1: ...you know, like, program time?
A: No.

Q1: Uh, if - if I was to ask, you know, did you ever have an opportunity to notice, uh, Inmate (Tyree) in any altercations with any of the other inmates, it'd probably be tough to remember? Not that you know of?

A: $\quad$ Not that I know of.

Q1: Is it your job to write mental health referrals or suggestions?
A: If - if the inmate asks us if they wanna see it right away - the officer could call the mental health.

Q1: Oh, I see.
Q
A.

It just is the white slip - the sick call slip.
Oh, I see.

Yeah.

Okay.
So that can be for - for anything?

Yes.
And that gets turned in - in the mornings?

Mm-hm.

Okay. All right. So on the 26th, the only floor that you did pill call for was the sixth floor?

Sixth floor, yeah.
So you just get one floor a shift?

No, if - if you are on sixth floor, you get only one floor, because you're going down to booking to relieve.

Oh, right.

And then if there is a man down, you will answer for the man down.
I see. And if, uh, you're not going down to booking to relieve, how many floors normally do you get?

Two

Oh, two. Okay.

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980 This transcript has been reviewed with the audio recording submitted, and it is an accurate
981 transcription.
982 Signed

Right now I have two.
Okay. I don't think I have any other questions. Thank you for comin' to talk to us.

Oh, you're welcome.
See, we're not that bad.
I'll turn this off.
Thank you.
Oh, you're welcome.

Q1:
Q:
Q1:
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