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INTERVIEW WITH DEP. MICHELLE BROUSSARD

Q=Sgt. Sammy Tarazi

Q1=(Dennis)

A=Dep. Michelle Broussard

Q: September 8, 2015, 9:50 pm. Interview with Deputy Broussard. Oh hello.

A: Hello.

Q1: Have you met Detective Tarazi?

A: I think I did in (unintelligible) class.

Q1: Oh yeah.

Q: The CSI thing?

A: Last year.

Q: Yeah, Sammy.

A: Yeah.

Q: Nice to meet you.

A: Nice to meet you.

Q: You drive your own car down?

A: Yes.

Q: Okay. What's your first name, again?

A: Michelle.

42 Q: Michelle. So, uh, my name is Samy. This is (Dennis), um, we're criminal
43 investigators with the sheriff's office. Our job is to investigate crimes, whether
44 or not they happened, or didn't happen, that's our goal to figure out.

45

46 A: Okay.

47

48 Q: Um, there's a difference between us and Internal Affairs. We're not Internal
49 Affairs. We don't deal with policy violations. We don't deal, uh, with the
50 administrative side. We deal with what the penal code says. If actions are
51 illegal, they're illegal. If they're not, they're not.

52

53 A: Okay.

54

55 Q: Um, that being said, you don't have to talk to us if you don't want to. Um,
56 you're free to leave at any time. The door is closed for our privacy, but it's
57 unlocked. You can just walk out the same way you came in, and you don't
58 have to answer anything that you don't want to.

59

60 A: Okay.

61

62 Q: Does that make sense?

63

64 A: Yes.

65

66 Q: Okay. Uh, do you know why you're here?

67

68 A: Yes.

69

70 Q: Okay. Can you just tell us briefly what - why you're here?

71

72 A: Um, uh, an incident that happened. I work in female processing, had an
73 incident dressing out a female inmate, (unintelligible) I think her
74 name is.

75

76 Q: Okay. What happened there?

77

78 A: Um, she didn't wanna get dressed out. She threw her jacket at me, and I went
79 to put her down - like to sit her down on that little bench area.

80

81 Q: Mm-hm.

82

83 A: And next thing you know, the fight was on.

84
85 Q1: Where are you at when this happened?
86
87 A: Um, in the dress-out area. So there's like, um, there's little partitions, and a
88 little bench area. So I was in the first one - I think the first one, maybe the
89 second one - first or second.
90
91 Q1: First or second stall?
92
93 A: First or second stall.
94
95 Q: Okay. Um, let's start from the very beginning. Like when she - when
96 first got there at processing.
97
98 A: Okay. She came in, um, I don't know if she was under the influence of
99 something. She was a little agitated and tired, more tired probably than mad
100 that she was in general (unintelligible). And she kind of just was saying little
101 random statements, which people do. It's - wasn't a big deal.
102
103 Q: And then what happened?
104
105 A: She was the only one that I had. So...
106
107 Q: And...
108
109 A: She's the only one that I've had to dress out 'cause they don't bring females,
110 uh...
111
112 Q1: (Unintelligible) jail.
113
114 A: Put 'em in jail, detain them (unintelligible).
115
116 Q1: And when the jail brings over, where was she...
117
118 A: She was sitting...
119
120 Q1: ...seated?
121
122 A: ...in the front row. I'm not sure which chair, but she was...
123
124 Q1: In processing?
125

126 A: In processing.
127
128 Q1: Okay.
129
130 A: Yes.
131
132 Q1: All right.
133
134 Q: So she was sitting there, and you had to get her changed out?
135
136 A: Yeah.
137
138 Q: So how did she go from the chair into the change-out room?
139
140 A: She walked - she walked. I - I normally will tell them I will have to pare-
141 prepare them a bag to change, and the clothes are their jail-issue clothes, and
142 they put in their street clothes.
143
144 Q: Okay.
145
146 A: So it's her bag with their name on it, and booking number, and...
147
148 Q: Got it.
149
150 A: ...whatnot on it.
151
152 Q1: About how long did she sit out there?
153
154 A: You know, I don't (unintelligible).
155
156 Q: Did you ask her to get up and move into the processing room?
157
158 A: No, I just told -- which I normally tell 'em, get the bag, and it's time to change.
159
160 Q: Okay, and then what happened?
161
162 A: She was just being very belligerent, and, I mean, I don't remember exactly
163 what she was saying, but she just - I just didn't - I just took it like her being
164 grouchy and tired.
165
166 Q: Okay.
167

168 A: She probably had been downtown for hours that, probably...
169
170 Q: Do you remember what she was saying?
171
172 A: She was saying like how this is so stupid, and something - something, the - the
173 whole process was stupid, and, um, and I don't recall exactly, but something to
174 that effect.
175
176 Q: Okay. Was she being - was she refusing to do what you say?
177
178 A: She was just being - she was doing it, but she was - had took off her shoes. "Is
179 that what the fuck you want me to do?" I mean, she was doing it, but
180 (unintelligible)...
181
182 Q: Reluctantly?
183
184 A: Reluctantly. Little comments, yeah. Yes, sir.
185
186 Q: Okay. So she went into the room, and she sat in one of the benches, 1, 2, 3, or
187 4?
188
189 A: She didn't sit.
190
191 Q: Oh she didn't sit?
192
193 A: She didn't sit. I let 'em sit if they need to sit. But normally, it's just a very
194 quick take off everything, which is from the top to the bottom...
195
196 Q: Okay.
197
198 A: ...to the top. Throw it in the bag.
199
200 Q: So just, uh, excuse me, I'm gonna interrupt you here. I - I just kind of want to
201 get every little minute detail of what happened.
202
203 A: Okay.
204
205 Q: So you guys walked in. Did you guy- did you close that curtain behind you?
206
207 A: Um, I'm sure I did.
208

209 Q: Okay. Do you remember specifically or not?
210
211 A: No.
212
213 Q: I don't want you - I don't want...
214
215 A: I don't wanna hold myself to it - I don't wanna hold my - I'm sure I did.
216
217 Q: Okay, I don't want you to guess. And, uh, if you don't specifically remember,
218 uh...
219
220 A: Okay, I'll say I don't remember then.
221
222 Q: Okay.
223
224 A: But I'm - I'm sure I did.
225
226 Q: So you guys went in there, and then did you hand her the bag of clothes, or
227 did she already pick it up?
228
229 A: She got 'em from the counter.
230
231 Q: At...
232
233 A: When she got up, I'll - I'll tell them, get the back with your name on it, and
234 then walk into the room.
235
236 Q: And what did you tell her to do after?
237
238 A: Take the bag into the back. Which she was making some comments, which I
239 don't recall exactly what she was saying, but she just was (unintelligible),
240 doing it, but had expert comments, and...
241
242 Q: Okay.
243
244 A: ...she thought it was stupid. This is dumb and blah, blah, blah.
245
246 Q: So she's in that room now. And, uh, she said she threw - you - what happens?
247 Uh, well does she start changing or?
248
249 A: Um, so I told - first thing I tell everyone, empty the bag, and so they empty the
250 bag. Then the first thing I tell 'em is take off their shoes, and put that in the

251 bag, and if you have socks, put that in the bag. So she - I wanna say, I don't
252 recall exactly if she put her shoes in the bag. She may have put her shoes in
253 the bag, or she may have left 'em on the floor, but then she was like, "Oh this
254 is stupid." And, you know, "I don't see why I can't have a Sergeant in here
255 'cause this is stupid, and you're just - it's all stupid."

256

257 Q: Okay.

258

259 A: So I was like, "Okay, and you can call the Sergeant, I'll call a Sergeant for
260 you, but I need you to get dressed."

261

262 Q: Okay.

263

264 A: "But you - but you can call the Sergeant, but get dressed first." And my
265 partners, oh, that night, I had two male partners. So they were not able...

266

267 Q: To help you out.

268

269 A: ...to help me.

270

271 Q: Okay.

272

273 A: I mean, it wasn't - the situation didn't require that.

274

275 Q: Sure.

276

277 A: You know, just being a little mouthy, not a big deal.

278

279 Q: Okay.

280

281 A: So she was being, like, just a- like just agitated. She came in like that. I didn't
282 really think that much of it. She - I wanna - I'm not for sure if she put her - end
283 up puttin' her shoes in the bag 'cause I told her to do that. And then she was
284 just - just grouchy and mean. And then I told her - I think I must have told - I
285 must have told her to put her shoes and socks in the bag. I must have told her
286 something 'cause when I told her that, she was gonna take her coat, and she
287 had on like a pea-coat. And I remember that just because it was such a warm
288 night.

289

290 Q: Mm-hm.

291

292 A: And she had on this heavy jacket, and she was - I don't remember exactly
293 what she said, but she turned around, and at first, she was facing me, and she
294 turned around. And normally I have 'em facing me, 'cause I wanna make sure
295 they're not trying to hide drugs or just take off in front of me (unintelligible)
296 sometimes (unintelligible) squat and pop. She - her back was almost to the
297 side of me. She threw it.
298

299 Q: She...

300

301 A: Threw her jacket. She took off her jacket and threw it at me, like, hard.
302

303 Q: Did it hit you?
304

305 A: Yes. It hit me. I don't know if it hit me or kind of brushed -- it didn't hurt me,
306 but I was more shocked 'cause I wasn't anticipating it..
307

308 Q: Okay.
309

310 A: ...going to that..
311

312 Q1: Level.
313

314 A: ...level, yes. She's the last person, end of the night, who knew. And she's a
315 very little person, probably a hundred pounds. I - I outweigh her a lot more
316 than that. And when she did that, I just, my reaction was just to put her on the
317 bench. Just, you know, calm down, lady. And I was talking to her saying, you
318 know, "You - you can't touch me. Don't you fuckin' touch me." "Lady, you
319 can't be throwin' stuff at me. Calm down." "Well I wanna a fuckin' Sergeant."
320 "Okay, I can get you a Sergeant, but you gotta calm down." And that's when
321 the fight -- I don't know exactly what happened, but that's when she started
322 fighting.
323

324 Q: What -- how did she start fighting?
325

326 A: Well she was probably - and it's more my fault because she - I just looked at
327 her being such a small person, and I didn't wanna grab her by the arm, throw
328 her to the ground, and handcuff her. So I was still trying to talk to her because
329 I didn't wanna - I know I'm a lot bigger than her.
330

331 Q: Sure.
332

333 A: So I didn't want to throw her to the ground, handcuff her, sit on her. I didn't
334 really wanna do that. So I don't know exactly - like I said, I don't know
335 exactly what happened. I mean, I don't know - I don't know exactly what she
336 did, but she's - she's fighting. She wasn't hurting me, but she was - well and
337 kicking. The fight was on, and somehow - so I'm - she's sitting like this, and I
338 kind of back up, and then (Simpson) comes into the dress-out area, and...
339

340 Q: How did (Simpson) get there?
341

342 A: I had called her earlier 'cause we had, um, I had brought some cheesecake, and
343 I called her earlier. We were eatin' it, and I called her, and she visits me. She's
344 my friend. We visit each other. And I called her earlier to come by - and - and
345 she may be bringin' an inmate, I don't know, but she wasn't in there working. I
346 don't remember. So I called her. Mmm, okay, I did call her.
347

348 Q1: On the radio?
349

350 Q: For...
351

352 A: No.
353

354 Q: For cheesecake or?
355

356 A: I did call her for cheesecake.
357

358 Q: Okay.
359

360 A: To come over and get some cheesecake 'cause we had - I had brought some
361 cheesecake in.
362

363 Q: Okay. Um, did - is that why she was there for the cheesecake?
364

365 A: Yes.
366

367 Q: Okay. Did you - so you brought her...
368

369 A: But I don't - I don't think - I don't - I'm not sure if I saw her when she came in
370 or not.
371

372 Q: Got it. So...
373

374 A: I'm not sure.

375

376 Q: ...when the inmate asked to...

377

378 A: But she was not there initially when arrived.

379

380 Q: So I'm just gonna kind of demonstrate on the Sergeant here. So she throws
381 jacket at you, hits you, and then she's just kind of being belligerent. You grab
382 her by the shoulders like this?

383

384 A: No, I kind of - she turned 'cause she's supposed to face me, and threw it at me,
385 and I was like, "Hey."

386

387 Q: Oh so she whipped it at you?

388

389 A: Yeah, she took...

390

391 Q1: Oh.

392

393 A: Hey, and I was like oh wait, calm down, lady.

394

395 Q: So she's standing right in your face?

396

397 A: Yeah.

398

399 Q: Okay.

400

401 A: I was calm it down, take it down a notch.

402

403 Q: Okay, and then did you get her to sit back down?

404

405 A: Yeah, she sat. She was -- I was holding her, though. I wasn't holding her like
406 tryin' to (unintelligible).

407

408 Q: But just like this?

409

410 A: Probably a little 'cause she was movin'. She wasn't sittin' there (unintelligible).

411

412 Q: Yeah. She's flailing around.

413

414 A: Exactly.

415

416 Q: So she - her...
417
418 A: And she was moving...
419
420 Q: Okay.
421
422 A: ...but she's so lightweight.
423
424 Q: Yeah.
425
426 A: So I just went, "Calm down. We'll get the Sergeant, madam, but get dressed.
427 You can talk to whoever you like."
428
429 Q: Okay. You...
430
431 Q1: You didn't have her by the face or anything like that?
432
433 A: No. Just settle down.
434
435 Q1: (Unintelligible), you know.
436
437 A: I don't - that's why I was, "Calm it down, lady. Calm me down. Like, calm
438 down. Calm down."
439
440 Q: Okay, so...
441
442 A: And, you know what, I may have at one point, 'cause, "Lady, calm - lady, look
443 - look at me."
444
445 Q1: And I do it to my kids. So you look in them eye, calm down.
446
447 A: I may have 'cause...
448
449 Q1: You know.
450
451 A: ..."Lady -- 'cause I don't wanna hurt you." That's, "I don't wanna - I don't
452 wanna hurt you. I'm - I outweigh you by 50 pounds. Calm down, sit -- you
453 know, calm it down. That's - if you wanna get to whoever you wanna
454 complain, call IA, call whoever, but I mean just calm down, get dressed, you
455 know don't - we - I don't want to escalate this."
456

457 Q: Sure.
458
459 A: It doesn't need to be escalated.
460
461 Q: Okay. So she calms down?
462
463 A: No.
464
465 Q: What happens?
466
467 A: I wanna say, at some point, one of my partners was like, "Are you okay?" And
468 I'm like, "I got her." She's a very small stature person.
469
470 Q: Mm-hm.
471
472 A: She's very short and petite.
473
474 Q: Yeah.
475
476 A: I got it, you know. And then (Simpson), I'm not sure if they told me when
477 (Simpson) came up, but one of my partners did ask.
478
479 Q1: Male partner?
480
481 A: Male, yeah. They, "Hey, you need help in there?" "No, I'm okay."
482
483 Q: So, um...
484
485 A: And I think at that time, they must called for the Sergeant.
486
487 Q: Let me tell you - I'll tell you, I've talked to
488
489 A: Okay.
490
491 Q: Obviously, we always ask these - talk to these people first, right? And I don't
492 necessarily always believe inmates when they tell me a story 'cause inmates
493 lie. Um, but her story is that you came in, you told her to take off her shoes.
494 She did. You told her to take off her jacket. She did.
495
496 A: No. I never - I always tell 'em from the top to the bottom.
497

498 Q: Okay. So never, uh...
499
500 A: I never tell 'em - I always tell 'em this - this - this. This is always last.
501
502 Q: Okay. She said then there was a dispute over taking off the order of her pants
503 vs. taking off her socks. Do you remember anything like that?
504
505 A: I don't remember us having a dispute. I remember her just kind of wanting to
506 do what she wanted to do.
507
508 Q: Got it.
509
510 A: I mean, she's not really - it's just, the conversation was so routine.
511
512 Q: Mm-hm.
513
514 A: I didn't really recall the particulars, but she just was being like, you know,
515 "This is stupid. Why I gotta undress? Why you got - you gonna look at me?"
516 Just stuff like that.
517
518 Q: And at what point, did she just stop changing?
519
520 A: When she threw the jacket.
521
522 Q: Okay. And then is that...
523
524 A: So I wanna say she still had on her pants.
525
526 Q: Did you ever leave the room after that?
527
528 A: I did.
529
530 Q: And at what point did you leave the room?
531
532 A: As -- 'cause I'm about to give 'em a minute to calm down, just to, hey, take a -
533 let me step away. Calm down. You're upset. Let me take you just a minute and
534 try to cool it off. Come back, let's try this again. Just get dressed lady. So that
535 didn't work out, but that was my intention to...
536
537 Q1: At what point in time did you leave the room and then come back?
538

539 A: Um, it had to be before the coat 'cause she was being all - like, this lady's just,
540 you know, she's a - she's - and I didn't take it personal (unintelligible) but I
541 could see she was upset.
542

543 Q: So I -- we just kinda wanna hammer down the details of it. And I know it's...
544

545 A: Okay.
546

547 Q: ...it's hard to remember sometimes.
548

549 A: Some of it, yeah. I don't wanna say something and that's not...
550

551 Q: Yeah, just to the best of your memory. I know memory can't be - it's not the
552 most accurate thing, and we forget.
553

554 A: Yeah.
555

556 Q: Um, and if you don't remember, just let me know. Don't make things up.
557

558 A: Okay.
559

560 Q: But, um, so I'll tell you what she told us, right?
561

562 A: Okay.
563

564 Q: So she says like, "Hey, you know, I was being..." She's like, "I was being kind
565 of a - a dick for lack of a better word here...
566

567 A: Mm-hm.
568

569 Q: ...to her and being rude. I was asking for a Sergeant, and she wanted me to
570 change, and I didn't wanna change without the Sergeant there." Um, and uh,
571 she says that you went - then went and grabbed her like this and shook her
572 head.
573

574 A: No.
575

576 Q: Did that not happen?
577

578 A: No.
579

580 Q: Okay.
581
582 A: No, but I know later on I was like, "Please, calm down." 'Cause then she was
583 hyperven- just...
584
585 Q: Okay.
586
587 A: No, that's not what - that's not what led up to that.
588
589 Q: Did you ever - but did you ever grab her like this?
590
591 A: At - I know at some point, when we were leaving, I know I did, 'cause I
592 remember I was, 'Cause then, she started acting like she was having
593 like a seizure or something.
594
595 Q: Right.
596
597 A: So I just kind of let her breathe, "Focus on me. Calm down."
598
599 Q: Okay.
600
601 A: Uh, but I did - yeah, at that point, I did.
602
603 Q: Did you shake her head?
604
605 A: I wasn't - I don't think I was shaking her head. I just was trying to get her to
606 focus on me and...
607
608 Q: Calm down.
609
610 A: ...calm down.
611
612 Q: Okay.
613
614 A: Uh, if I did, it wasn't in a way to harm her or anything like that.
615
616 Q: Yeah. So she then said that after you did that, and you shook her, she was like
617 in shock, and she, like, completely, just like, kind of went limp.
618
619 A: Oh.
620

621 Q: And...

622

623 A: Oh no.

624

625 Q: Then I - so I - this is why I have to - I just have to tell you what she says...

626

627 A: Oh.

628

629 Q: ...and to kinda get your story from it, right. Um, and then she says that you

630 just started apologizing to her for doing that and that you had lost your cool

631 and that you were sorry.

632

633 A: No, no, no. I - I told her later - I did tell her I was sorry. And it's calm -- I'm

634 sorry, don't -- I really wanted to go home. That was my last person. I wasn't

635 havin' no more females. I wanna sit down. Hey, I'm sorry about the conflict,

636 but you still wanna call a Sergeant, I'll call the Sergeant, but I just - lady, I -

637 all I was focused on was I need you to dress out and go about your business.

638 Whatever you wanna do after that, please feel free.

639

640 Q: Okay.

641

642 A: Can you please get in these clothes and go wherever you gotta go, wherever

643 housing unit you was assigned to, go about your business.

644

645 Q: Okay.

646

647 A: So I - yeah, I probably comp- you know, whatever. I'm upset with you, but I

648 wasn't ever like calling her out of her name, or cussing her out, or using any

649 type of profanity. I was - I let her, probably, get to me - calm - you know, but

650 I wasn't, "Look, bitch." The way she was talking to me, I wasn't talking to her.

651 She was cussing. I wasn't cussing. I just, you know, "Hey, I'm sorry, let's try

652 this again. I'm gonna step out the room, take a break, get back at it." 'Cause

653 that's all I wanted her to do.

654

655 Q: Okay. And then, um, so she says after that point you shook her, you

656 apologized, she says that you then left for like 10 or 15 minutes?

657

658 A: I did leave about -- yeah.

659

660 Q: Okay. What did you - you left for that long?

661

662 A: I don't think it was 10 or 15 minutes.

663

664 Q: How long do you think it was?

665

666 A: Probably about five.

667

668 Q: Okay.

669

670 A: You know, and sometimes I do that if they get kind of - give 'em a minute.

671

672 Q: To let 'em cool down.

673

674 A: To cool down, and ...

675

676 Q: And what did you do during that five minutes?

677

678 A: I think, at that point, (Simpson) must have been there. 'Cause I - I think I said,
679 "I need her to - I may need you to stand by." But she didn't come in. She just
680 was still where the cheesecake was.

681

682 Q: She was hanging out with the cheesecake.

683

684 A: Yeah, she wasn't with me, and talking to my partners.

685

686 Q: Okay. And then, um, so you said, "Hey, can you stand by with me?"

687

688 A: No, I said, I may - I may - it may be a problem. So I didn't tell her to come in.
689 She didn't come in.

690

691 Q: So where'd she go?

692

693 A: She was staying - she was like staying where she was.

694

695 Q: Kind of towards where, uh, um, (Divine) and...

696

697 A: (Burden).

698

699 Q: ...(Burden) would have been.

700

701 A: Yeah, they were...

702

703 Q: Behind that desk?

704

705 A: Yeah, they were over at the desk.
706
707 Q: Okay.
708
709 A: But she was talking to them, and...
710
711 Q: And then, did you go back in at that point?
712
713 A: Yes.
714
715 Q: Okay. And then what happened?
716
717 A: Again, started the conversation, "Come on, need you to change." She's still
718 just acting up.
719
720 Q: Is she sitting down at this point?
721
722 A: She was sitting down.
723
724 Q: Okay, and then how does it escalate from there? What happens?
725
726 A: Okay. Let's start this again. So get up, and - and I started talking to her, asking
727 her to change her clothes. And she was still being very belligerent and cussing
728 at me and very agitated. And that - that's when she, you know, we're still
729 having this lady, please. I'm still trying to talk her into it. She's still tellin' me
730 about myself and my job and blah, blah, blah. And, "Hey, lady, take off this."
731 And that's when she took that coat off, and...
732
733 Q: So the coat was thrown after you - after you came back in?
734
735 A: The -- yes.
736
737 Q: Okay. Um, 'cause a little bit ago, I think you said that it ori- originally
738 happened earlier, so I'm a little confused.
739
740 A: No, the coat was the one - that - the coat led up to the incident.
741
742 Q: Okay. So you...
743
744 A: That's what led up to the incident.
745

746 Q: So she was just refusing earlier, and...
747
748 A: She was doing it, but she was just - she was yappy.
749
750 Q: Okay.
751
752 A: Not -- you know what, actually, she wasn't doin' it. She was tellin' me - she
753 wasn't saying she wasn't gonna do it. She just was yapping. She was chirping
754 at me.
755
756 Q: Okay. So why'd you step out for five minutes?
757
758 A: Because, normally, they don't do that.
759
760 Q: (Unintelligible).
761
762 A: Like, normally, if I tell 'em to do it, they start doing it. She just was like
763 wanted to fight...
764
765 Q: Okay.
766
767 A: ...like wanted to argue.
768
769 Q: Got it. Okay, so you went out, and you're like, "Hey, (Simpson), I - I may
770 have an issue here."
771
772 A: Yeah, because I had a female, and I didn't want the guys...
773
774 Q: Got it.
775
776 A: ...to come in.
777
778 Q: Okay. Um, so you went back in, she threw that - she whipped that coat at you.
779 And then, what - what was your response? You grabbed her by the shoulders?
780
781 A: Yeah.
782
783 Q: Okay.
784
785 A: And sat her on the bench.
786

787 Q: At what point did (Simpson) come in?
788
789 A: We were already fighting, or she was - I wasn't really fight- I just was trying
790 to restrain her. I wasn't fighting her. I was trying to restrain her.
791
792 Q: And at some point, did you guys change her clothes?
793
794 A: Yes.
795
796 Q: Can you walk me through, you know, from the whipping of the jacket to her...
797
798 A: Um...
799
800 Q: ...clothes being changed?
801
802 A: Okay. So I don't want you guys to get mad, but I think I better get my union
803 rep.
804
805 Q: Okay. Yeah. If you - yeah, if you don't wanna talk to us, it's fine.
806
807 A: What -- 'cause it -- now I'm not really sure the order, and I don't want - this is
808 a criminal investigation, so...
809
810 Q: Okay.
811
812 A: ...this is a serious matter.
813
814 Q: Sure.
815
816 A: So...
817
818 Q1: One of the things is you're not entitled to a union rep in a criminal
819 investigation.
820
821 A: Oh okay.
822
823 Q: Yeah. Uh...
824
825 A: So keep talkin'.
826
827 Q: Um, you're definitely - you don't - like I - I said, you don't have to talk to us.
828 It's all voluntary. Um, but union reps are things that are granted in Internal

829 Affairs investigation.
830
831 A: Okay.
832
833 Q: If you're a suspect in the Internal Affairs.
834
835 A: Okay.
836
837 Q: Um, and this - this is just a criminal investigation to try to figure out the facts
838 of what happened.
839
840 A: Yeah.
841
842 Q: Again, I can understand your point of view. Obviously, the - the use of force
843 thing here...
844
845 A: Yeah.
846
847 Q: ...was between you and the inmate. So I can get your kind of, um, your - your
848 reluctance.
849
850 A: Well I never been in trouble like this before, so.
851
852 Q: Again, you're...
853
854 Q1: You're not in trouble, and that...
855
856 Q: Michelle, please.
857
858 Q1: That was - was completely explained before.
859
860 Q: This...
861
862 Q1: This is the...
863
864 A: I've never been in trouble before.
865
866 Q1: This is the process to determine whether this is a criminal complaint or it's
867 completely unfounded.
868
869 Q: So...
870

871 A: Okay.
872
873 Q1: We are the ones that make the decision. Or if we determine there's
874 administrative violations, and policy and procedure violations, then it needs to
875 go to Internal Affairs.
876
877 A: Okay.
878
879 Q: So Michelle.
880
881 Q1: So we are kind of either the beginning or the end of this whole thing.
882
883 A: Okay.
884
885 Q: So given the current state of investigations going on over at the jail...
886
887 A: I understand.
888
889 Q: ...you can kind of understand...
890
891 A: Okay, that...
892
893 Q: ...the thorough - the thoroughness of it.
894
895 A: Okay, let's wrap it up.
896
897 Q: So what happened between, um, you want to continue talking?
898
899 A: Yes.
900
901 Q: Okay. What happened between the whipping of the jacket and the changing of
902 the clothes?
903
904 A: You know what, it was - it -- she caught me, like I - by surprise 'cause I'm
905 thinkin' - I wasn't expecting her - I wasn't expecting the situation to go there.
906 Normally, I can talk. I have difficult inmates. I got drug, drunken inmates. I
907 got weirdo inmates. I can talk to 'em. I didn't expect her to go - I knew she
908 was mad. I didn't expect her to go there.
909
910 Q: Okay.
911

912 A: And she threw that jack- "Hey, lady," you know, "you done went too far." At
913 some - I'm not exactly sure when (Simpson) came in because I guess she must
914 have heard. I didn't call for her, but she must have heard...
915
916 Q: The ruckus?
917
918 A: ...the commotion, yeah.
919
920 Q1: Let me ask you this. When you pushed her down, did you hit one of the
921 partitions maybe? Or did she...
922
923 A: You know what, it's (unintelligible), it's very small.
924
925 Q1: ...hit one of the partitions, and make a thud? Yeah.
926
927 ((Crosstalk))
928
929 A: It's very small.
930
931 Q1: Yeah.
932
933 A: It's like one, but...
934
935 Q1: I know.
936
937 A: ...they're like four - yes, very...
938
939 Q1: My fat ass wouldn't have fit in between. I know, I've tried.
940
941 A: No, it's very - perhaps. I mean, but she wasn't thrown into the...
942
943 Q1: No, I'm not sayin' that, but...
944
945 A: ...wall, but perhaps, you know, 'cause it was a very small area, and it has the
946 partitions...
947
948 Q: Yeah.
949
950 A: ...like this, and they're very thin.
951
952 Q1: Okay, and I can't remember, are the benches that they sit on...
953

954 A: They...

955

956 Q1: ...are they wood, as well?

957

958 A: They're wood.

959

960 Q1: Okay.

961

962 A: But the partitions are like real flimsy.

963

964 Q1: Yeah, they're flimsy particle board.

965

966 A: Yeah, yeah.

967

968 Q: Okay. So how did you guys - did you guys end up putting the floor at some

969 point?

970

971 A: Because then that was, uh...

972

973 Q1: Actually, let's not go there. Let's go - once you got her - once you got her

974 down, let's go from there.

975

976 A: Okay. So she, la, da, da, da, da, da, and, you know, I'm still talking to her, but

977 she's still on the chair. And I guess, like I said, I don't know what - I don't

978 know if she - I don't know what exactly led up to, but I know she was kickin',

979 fightin'. Wasn't hurting me. So I wasn't trying to really fight her back. You

980 know, I was still talking to her, and tryin' to just - just hold her down and

981 restrain her. At that point, (Simpson) came in, and okay, we gotta dress her

982 out. And she...

983

984 Q1: Who - you said that or (Simpson) said that?

985

986 A: I don't know if she said it, or I said that. I don't recall.

987

988 Q1: Okay. That's fine.

989

990 Q: Yep.

991

992 A: I may have said it. I probably said it 'cause I was the processing officer, so I

993 probably said it.

994

995 Q: Okay.
996
997 A: So she took - and I could hear them already calling for the Sergeant, one - one
998 of my partners. I don't know which one of them.
999
1000 Q: You heard that from, uh...
1001
1002 A: I could hear them.
1003
1004 Q: The...
1005
1006 A: You can hear everything.
1007
1008 Q: Okay.
1009
1010 Q1: And how was the - who was the Sergeant that night?
1011
1012 A: (Stefiano).
1013
1014 Q: Okay.
1015
1016 A: I could hear them calling.
1017
1018 Q: Do you remember who called?
1019
1020 A: I didn't - I don't know which -- it was a male voice.
1021
1022 Q: Okay.
1023
1024 A: I don't know which male it was.
1025
1026 Q: So it was either (Divine) or, uh...
1027
1028 A: Yeah.
1029
1030 Q1: Or (Burden)?
1031
1032 A: Or (Burden).
1033
1034 Q: So you said we gotta dress her out, and then what happens after that?
1035

1036 A: We just started dressing her out. So we - we did have to put her down on the
1037 floor, not in a forceful throw down, just put - 'cause she's so light, we just...
1038
1039 Q: Sure.
1040
1041 A: You saw (Simpson), and you've seen me.
1042
1043 Q: How did - how did you get her down on the floor?
1044
1045 A: Just - literally, just put her on the floor, and nobody trowed her on the floor
1046 and sat on her face. We just laid her on the floor 'cause she - now she has to
1047 pull off her pants. She still had her pants on.
1048
1049 Q: Okay.
1050
1051 A: Um, she's pulling off her pants.
1052
1053 Q: She's pulling 'em off or?
1054
1055 A: No, (Simpson) is.
1056
1057 Q: Oh (Simpson's) pulling off the pants.
1058
1059 A: Yeah, 'cause I have...
1060
1061 Q1: Oh, okay.
1062
1063 A: I have her top part.
1064
1065 Q1: So you're holding her by what?
1066
1067
1068 A: I'm not sure if I had her like this - I - I had her somehow like this on her chest.
1069 She's on her back.
1070
1071 Q1: On her chest?
1072
1073 A: Like on her chest, like trying to...
1074
1075 Q1: So like - like right here, you'd be holding somebody down?
1076

1077 A: No, no, so I know - I know I had her arms in some kind of way, but not like
1078 even a control hole 'cause she was so light. I think I just had her more like
1079 pinned 'cause she - 'cause she was still kicking her.
1080

1081 Q: Do you remember, specifically what you were doing?
1082

1083 A: Mmm, not really, no.
1084

1085 Q: Okay. Um, did you grab her arms?
1086

1087 A: I probably did.
1088

1089 Q: Do you remember...
1090

1091 A: At some point.
1092

1093 Q: Do you remember, specifically?
1094

1095 A: I'm assuming I did 'cause she was swingin' and kickin'. I'm - I'm assumin' I
1096 did. Tryin' to bite. I was tryin' to...
1097

1098 Q: She was trying to bite you?
1099

1100 A: Yeah.
1101

1102 Q: Oh did she bite you?
1103

1104 A: Not really. Just a little. 'Cause I wasn't letting my body get that - my skin get
1105 that close to her face. When I saw her bitin', I kind of..
1106

1107 Q: So she - did her teeth ever make...
1108

1109 A: She was fighting. She was very strong. She wasn't hurting us, but she was - I
1110 was surprised how long this chick was fighting.
1111

1112 Q: Okay. Did her teeth ever touch your skin?
1113

1114 A: It grazed. It left a little mark.
1115

1116 Q: Okay. Did you take pictures or anything like that?
1117

1118 A: No, I didn't - I didn't even...

1119
1120 Q: I'm just -- don't - please, don't take offense to my questions or...
1121
1122 A: No, no, no, I just didn't think...
1123
1124 Q: I'd...
1125
1126 A: ...that big of a deal of it.
1127
1128 Q: Okay.
1129
1130 A: You know, for such - it wasn't even like a big thing. Just like a little graze,
1131 like you could see, a very little...
1132
1133 Q: I don't know.
1134
1135 A: (Unintelligible).
1136
1137 Q: I'd be pissed if someone bit me. I don't -- I can't see a, uh, a bite, no matter
1138 how little being, uh, not that big of a deal.
1139
1140 A: Well - well I get little bruises, and that's what - our job.
1141
1142 Q: Right.
1143
1144 A: We don't have no stick. We don't have no gun, so.
1145
1146 Q: Were you wearing long-sleeve, or...
1147
1148 A: I was wearing long-sleeve.
1149
1150 Q: So the bite went through the shirt, and you had a...
1151
1152 A: Yeah. And I didn't notice it then.
1153
1154 Q: When did you notice it?
1155
1156 A: I think the next - when I went home, and to like, uh, to take off my shirt. I
1157 didn't...
1158
1159 Q: So the bite went through? You had a mark through the shirt?
1160

1161 A: Yeah, but it wasn't like a deep, you know, I saw, oh, that, that chick bit - I
1162 didn't even feel it.
1163
1164 Q: Okay. Did you tell anyone...
1165
1166 A: No, I didn't.
1167
1168 Q: ...about it? This is the first time you're mentioning it?
1169
1170 A: Yeah.
1171
1172 Q: Okay. Um...
1173
1174 A: And I didn't even think about it 'til now.
1175
1176 Q: Was your uniform ruined or anything?
1177
1178 A: No.
1179
1180 Q: Okay. Um, so she bit you, and she was kind of flailing about.
1181
1182 A: Mm-hm.
1183
1184 Q: And...
1185
1186 A: She was still - she was still fight- she was still kickin' and fight- she was
1187 going, screaming. She was goin' for it. Very strong.
1188
1189 Q: Okay. So where, uh, where was the decision to change her out, um, rather than
1190 restrain her there?
1191
1192 A: In hindsight, that probably would have been the smart thing to do. In
1193 hindsight, that's what I would've done. My mind is this is the end of the night.
1194 I just wanna get her dressed and on her way, and I should have - and I did talk
1195 to Sergeant about this. I should have waited for the Sergeant to come, and I
1196 should not have proceeded with that.
1197
1198 Q: Okay.
1199
1200 A: You know what, I -- that's what -- but normally, honestly, that's what we do.
1201 Yes, that is a policy, you need to call - you need to do blah, blah, blah. But

1202 normally, we just do - finish it. Do what we do. "Hey, Sarge, I need you to
1203 come by. I had an incident." Blah, blah, blah. And write an ER.
1204
1205 Q: Have you ever done this before?
1206
1207 A: Not a dress-out like that, no.
1208
1209 Q: Have you ever forced someone to dress out, a female, if she was reluctant to
1210 do so?
1211
1212 A: Yes.
1213
1214 Q: Okay.
1215
1216 A: But I had a Sergeant there, I think.
1217
1218 Q: Is this the only time you've done it without the Sergeant there?
1219
1220 A: No, I may have done that another time. Not - no, no, no, maybe - maybe one
1221 other time, but not like this where she was...
1222
1223 Q: Fighting.
1224
1225 A: Yeah.
1226
1227 Q: Okay. Um, at any point, did you put your boot on the inmate's chest?
1228
1229 A: I don't think so. The only thing I was tryin' to do - at a certain point, (Rivera)
1230 came in.
1231
1232 Q: Mm-hm.
1233
1234 A: And I don't know exactly where she - when she came in. When she came in,
1235 now I had to let go. And she came to grab -- she must have had this side 'cause
1236 I was on - or I had her like this. So I was trying to hold her down. She's still
1237 kickin', and (Simpson's) still tryin' to remove - remove her clothes.
1238
1239 Q: Mm-hm.
1240
1241 A: As well as put 'em on. Takin' 'em off and puttin' 'em on, too. So at one point, I
1242 did kind of go - this is the -- 'cause it was an awkward way that we were
1243 situated.

1244

1245 Q: Sure.

1246

1247 A: I wasn't - with little area, had her like that. I went like this to try to hold - just
1248 let me try to hold you down if I can let - loosen that grip, get you over here.

1249

1250 Q: Okay.

1251

1252 A: Because I wasn't anticipating (Rivera).

1253

1254 Q: So do you - do you think you put your boot on her?

1255

1256 A: Oh I know I did.

1257

1258 Q: Do you know where?

1259

1260 A: But it wasn't on her chest. I - I think it was like on her hip.

1261

1262 Q: Okay. So like right here?

1263

1264 A: Yeah.

1265

1266 Q: Okay. And that was just to keep her pinned down?

1267

1268 A: That was to keep her pinned down, so I could let her grab the other -- I don't
1269 know if she grabbed her arm, but she definitely got on that side.

1270

1271 Q: Okay. At any point, did you put your hands around her neck?

1272

1273 A: I think when she was tryin' to bite, but not like - not in a choking, but like she
1274 was trying to bite me.

1275

1276 Q: Okay, so...

1277

1278 A: But not in, like, no, not like that.

1279

1280 Q: So how would you describe it?

1281

1282 A: Prob - like trying to keep her from, you know, not in a - not like this.

1283

1284 Q: Got it.

1285

1286 A: More like just tryin' to keep her jaw...
1287
1288 Q: From biting you?
1289
1290 A: Yeah.
1291
1292 Q: Okay. Um, so after you guys - how - who removed to her top?
1293
1294 A: I don't know if we - I don't know. I might have done it. I don't remember.
1295
1296 Q: Okay. Do you remember who removed the bra?
1297
1298 A: I don't remember. I don't even remember if she was wearing one.
1299
1300 Q: Okay. Do you remember who put the - her jail top back on or on?
1301
1302 A: I wanna say that me and (Rivera) were more holding her, but we may have put
1303 her - I'm -- I don't know. Honestly. I don't know.
1304
1305 Q: Did, um, did you say anything to the inmate while the struggle was going on?
1306
1307 A: I - the whole time, "Calm down, lady. Calm..." And I still wasn't using
1308 profanity. I wasn't even upset. I just wanted her, "Lady, you're gonna hurt
1309 yourself." And (Rivera's) -- if you've seen her, she ain't no lightweight either.
1310
1311 Q: Yeah.
1312
1313 A: You're gonna hurt yourself doing all this.
1314
1315 Q: So I - I think this is gonna come down to why. I think you said you kind of
1316 regret doing the - the stripping thing, right? The stripping her down?
1317
1318 A: Yes.
1319
1320 Q: Uh, rather than backing out. But I -- where was that decision made? At what
1321 point?
1322
1323 A: You know what, after the fact, because not just...
1324
1325 Q: No, no, no, that's not my question. When did you decide, like, hey, she threw
1326 the - you know, after she threw the jacket at me?
1327

1328 A: You know what, it wasn't even a decision. It was just -- this lady. I was more,
1329 what? I was more -- like I said, her size and being so little, and I'm like, this is
1330 a little - this little -- well just calm it - take it down, ma'am. It's not that
1331 serious.
1332
1333 Q: Okay.
1334
1335 A: Yeah. But it wasn't like...
1336
1337 Q: So you're saying it was kind of like just automatic?
1338
1339 A: It was - when she threw that jacket, it was automatic.
1340
1341 Q: Just to take her clothes off, and get - get it done?
1342
1343 A: At that point, I wasn't even thinking.
1344
1345 Q1: Was it more of like a knee-jerk reaction?
1346
1347 A: It was - yeah, I wasn't even thinking. Like I was just like, I gotta get her -
1348 that's all I was - that's what I gotta do.
1349
1350 Q: Would you describe it tunnel vision or?
1351
1352 A: I would say that 'cause you're asking me, specific. I don't remember.
1353
1354 Q: Okay.
1355
1356 A: You know what- I just don't...
1357
1358 Q: Were you pissed off that she threw the jacket at you?
1359
1360 A: I was more - no, I was more shocked. I was more like this little lady, you
1361 know, I was more shocked.
1362
1363 Q: Okay. Do you remember what day of the - what day this was?
1364
1365 A: I don't remember. It must have been at the end of my work week I don't know
1366 if it was a three-day week or a four-day week.
1367
1368 Q: Okay. Let me ask you this. Do you, uh, are you friends with (Simpson)?
1369

1370 A: Yes.
1371
1372 Q: All right. Do you guys hang out, out- outside of work or?
1373
1374 A: Yes.
1375
1376 Q: Okay. Uh...
1377
1378 A: And (Rivera) and I are academy mates.
1379
1380 Q: Okay.
1381
1382 A: And we've hung out in the past.
1383
1384 Q: Have you talked to (Simpson) about this since?
1385
1386 A: No, not -- because...
1387
1388 Q1: Or (Rivera) or anybody?
1389
1390 A: No, I -- (Rivera) doesn't work with us. She works on a different team. So we
1391 don't see her, but I know she's been talking to other officers about it.
1392
1393 Q: Okay. How...
1394
1395 A: But we haven't - I haven't - you know, I work with (Divine) and (Burden), we
1396 haven't talked about it.
1397
1398 Q: What do you think, uh, (Rivera's) talking...
1399
1400 A: Oh I...
1401
1402 Q: ...to other people?
1403
1404 A: Well I was told she thought we were - I don't know if she thought it was me
1405 heavy-handed or (Simpson) (unintelligible) was heavy-handed, or both of us.
1406
1407 Q: Got it. Who told you that she had, uh...
1408
1409 A: Uh, various people.
1410

1411 Q: Do you wanna tell me who those people were?
1412
1413 A: No.
1414
1415 Q: You don't wanna tell me?
1416
1417 A: I'll just have to eat this shit sandwich by myself.
1418
1419 Q: Okay. Um...
1420
1421 A: But she told various people on her team. Then it - of course, it got back to our
1422 team.
1423
1424 Q1: Was she tellin' people or more - more asking people for advice, do you think?
1425
1426 A: Well she's an officer, as long as I have been. We're academy mates.
1427
1428 Q: And do you have a good relationship with her?
1429
1430 A: At one time, yeah. We - we've hung outside of work.
1431
1432 Q: Okay. Is there any - outside of a difference of opinion on this specific
1433 incident, is there any reason she would've said...
1434
1435 A: We never talked about that. We - she and I have yet to have a conversation
1436 about it.
1437
1438 Q: Does she have anything against you that you know of? Like, have you guys
1439 had any beef, grudges...
1440
1441 A: You know what?
1442
1443 Q: ...that she would say - like she would make up something about you?
1444
1445 A: You know what, I - I - my coworkers, they - some of them are very nice, some
1446 of 'em are different and have different agendas. I would call her an opportunist
1447 and the kind of person that does things for her own benefit. Would I think
1448 she'd say this about me? Never. Or anybody else? Never, but I - I do think she
1449 is an opportunist.
1450
1451 Q: So you - you heard (Rivera) say that you were heavy-handed to...
1452

1453 A: No, I've never heard her - I've never...
1454
1455 Q: No, no, you heard - other people told you.
1456
1457 A: Other people.
1458
1459 Q: Um, do you agree with her?
1460
1461 A: No.
1462
1463 Q: Do you think that what you...
1464
1465 A: No, I do not.
1466
1467 Q: ...what you did...
1468
1469 A: No, I do not.
1470
1471 Q: Okay.
1472
1473 A: The difference is (Rivera) has worked in the jail, but she hasn't worked with
1474 inmates. So (Simpson) and I have worked with inmates. So she's like a rover,
1475 or controlled person, or clarification person. So it's not like you can tell them -
1476 sometimes she doesn't - I don't think she understands that - how you have to
1477 deal with people.
1478
1479 Q: Got it.
1480
1481 A: And I don't think she understands, sometimes, like I worked in 4A, which is,
1482 um, different inmates, different levels, level force, special needs inmates.
1483 They scream, they holler. She doesn't really have the patience for that.
1484
1485 Q: Mm-hm.
1486
1487 A: But that's just sometimes what they do, sometimes just - just, you know, they -
1488 I don't think she has the - she got the time, she doesn't have the - she don't
1489 have a full range.
1490
1491 Q: Okay. Um, how long have you worked at the Sheriff's Office or?
1492
1493 A: For 14 years.
1494

1495 Q: Fourteen years?
1496
1497 A: Yeah.
1498
1499 Q: And how long have you worked in, uh, in processing?
1500
1501 A: Um, it must have been maybe January or February.
1502
1503 Q: So nine months-ish?
1504
1505 A: Yeah, more or less.
1506
1507 Q: And are you a JTO?
1508
1509 A: No.
1510
1511 Q: Okay. Have you ever been a JTO?
1512
1513 A: No.
1514
1515 Q: Okay. Ever wanna be?
1516
1517 A: No.
1518
1519 Q: No? Okay. Um, I guess what - so we have what the inmate's saying...
1520
1521 A: Mm-hm.
1522
1523 Q: ...what saying? I've talked to (Rivera). I think you might have seen
1524 (Simpson) walking out.
1525
1526 A: Yeah, I didn't say nothing to her.
1527
1528 Q: No, I know, but so we - we've talked to everyone kind of involved, and
1529 everyone has their own version of what happened, right.
1530
1531 A: Oh yes.
1532
1533 Q: A lot of it's similar, a lot -- some of it's different. Um...
1534
1535 Q1: But that's expected.
1536

1537 Q: That's expected, but I just kind of wanna -- you said that (Simpson) was there
1538 for the cheesecake. Is that true?
1539

1540 A: Yes.
1541

1542 Q: You sure?
1543

1544 A: She came - she came -- I did call her, and I did - sometimes if I have an
1545 inmate that's difficult, I may tell her to come by. I don't know if I called on
1546 that day.
1547

1548 Q: Okay.
1549

1550 A: Sometimes I do. Hey, and not because she's my buddy, it's just on that team.
1551 Why should I call her and another person? And she and the other person are
1552 not my - the other person not my close friends, but I just feel, she knows how
1553 to handle herself. She ain't gonna get upset. She's calm. She's cool. You know
1554 what I'm sayin', I think it's...
1555

1556 Q: You're comfortable working with her.
1557

1558 A: I'm comfortable with her, and I know she - she's not gonna be trying to jack
1559 nobody up. We don't want no paperwork. We just wanna go home.
1560

1561 Q: So but you're not sure if you called her that day?
1562

1563 A: I'm not sure.
1564

1565 Q: Okay.
1566

1567 A: But I have in the past called her -- actually, a couple of people that I do call, if
1568 I say, no, I may, you know, I may have a issue, or I may need your help, you
1569 know. Just I need you to stand by. But normally, even then, I don't have 'em,
1570 come in the room. I just, "Hey, stand by." Just because I have male partners.
1571

1572 Q: Do you remember telling (Simpson), saying, "Hey, we may have to cut her
1573 clothes off"?
1574

1575 A: At some point, yeah. I did say - because this has happened before.
1576

1577 Q: Okay.
1578

1579 A: But I didn't wanna cut her clothes off because I wanted her to have some
1580 clothes when she leaves.
1581

1582 Q: Did you tell the inmate that, "Hey well you better change, or I'm gonna cut
1583 your clothes off"?
1584

1585 A: Well I think, at a point, I did say -- that does sound familiar. I did say that, but
1586 I don't - if I cut her clothes, which you can do, she don't have no clothes. She'll
1587 have to wear whatever we have in the back. So I didn't wanna cut her clothes.
1588

1589 Q: Okay. Um...
1590

1591 A: I didn't wanna fight her either. I don't want her fighting, but I didn't wanna cut
1592 her clothes.
1593

1594 Q: Got it. Any questions?
1595

1596 Q1: Anything else you can think of that maybe, uh, we haven't covered, but
1597 happened or was said?
1598

1599 A: Um, no. I mean, I know at a certain point I was - she did - after she was
1600 dressed, and we were taking her out, and we actually just like, kind of pulled
1601 her up 'cause she was pretty light...
1602

1603 Q: Yeah.
1604

1605 A: ...for all three of us to carry. She just went limp, and she was breathing hard.
1606 Like, she was hyperventilating. And I did - I know I did, " , you know,
1607 calm down." I was calling her by her name. You know, I don't want this
1608 woman to go into a heart attack or, you know. And after that she sat there. She
1609 ended up being rehoused. She sat in there for about two hours.
1610

1611 Q1: Did you ever hear her say like, stop, I can't breathe, or anything like that?
1612

1613 A: She may have s- said something like that. I said, " , you can talk to me.
1614 You can breathe. You know, you can breathe. Calm down. You're - but you're
1615 working yourself up. Calm down." And shortly after that, as we were break -
1616 walking out, it happened really quick. After we were walking her out, that's
1617 when the sergeant came in, and probably five minutes after that, the nurse was
1618 there.
1619

1620 Q1: Did you guys put her in waist chains?
1621
1622 A: Um...
1623
1624 Q: Or did you handcuff her? Or nothing?
1625
1626 A: I think -- no, no. I think (unintelligible) I don't know if (unintelligible)
1627 (Rivera) said - she told one of the guys to come over. I don't remember who
1628 came over. And I don't - I - I think they had waist chains, but I'm not sure. I
1629 think she told them to bring it.
1630
1631 Q: Okay.
1632
1633 A: But I don't remember...
1634
1635 Q: Um...
1636
1637 A: ...which guy it was.
1638
1639 Q: Let me ask you this. At any point, do you think that you constricted her
1640 airway?
1641
1642 A: No.
1643
1644 Q: Okay. No. And, uh, you said she was rehoused...
1645
1646 A: Because...
1647
1648 Q: ...or she was reclassified.
1649
1650 A: She was reclassified 'cause now you're - you're - th- she was going to be a
1651 level one inmate, which is like, the...
1652
1653 Q: Lowest.
1654
1655 A: ...lowest. But after that behavior, if you're assaulted like that, you can't be just
1656 running around, running a muck in that kind of - 'cause it's not really for that.
1657 It's where people (unintelligible) rehoused...
1658
1659 Q: Did you write a rehousing thing or, uh...
1660
1661 A: I did.

1662

1663 Q: Okay. And then did you write, uh, what did you write in there?

1664

1665

1666

1667 A: Just something about what happened, what - what the incident was.

1668

1669 Q: The same thing you're telling us now, or...

1670

1671 A: Yeah.

1672

1673 Q: ...was it something different?

1674

1675 A: Um, it was similar to that.

1676

1677 Q: Okay.

1678

1679 A: It was similar to that.

1680

1681 Q: And then the ER you wrote, was that the same that you're telling us now?

1682

1683 A: Yes.

1684

1685 Q: Okay.

1686

1687 A: And that the ER was similar to the rehousing was pretty much on this...

1688

1689 Q1: Cut and paste.

1690

1691 A: Something like that.

1692

1693 Q: I hate to be a stickler on this question here. The cheesecake thing. Um...

1694

1695 A: I know I did call over at one point because we did have cheesecake, and I remember that specifically 'cause I had brought some.

1696

1697 Q: Okay.

1698

1700 A: And we were eating it.

1701

1702 Q: Okay.

1703

1704 A: And so I remember. But I do call her from time to time, but I call other people
1705 too on the team. Hey, I have another person. Hey, I may need you to stand by.
1706

1707 Q: Okay.
1708

1709 A: And I only do that just because I have male partners I'd rather not if I - unless
1710 the situation has to go there, I really do not see a naked female if I can help it.
1711

1712 Q: Got it. No, that makes sense.
1713

1714 A: Yeah.
1715

1716 Q: Um, well so Michelle, I have, based on that, I've talked to everyone.
1717

1718 A: Right.
1719

1720 Q: I'm gonna kind of hash out what I think happened.
1721

1722 A: Okay.
1723

1724 Q: Tell me if it is correct. You know, stop me if I say something that's incorrect.
1725

1726 A: Okay.
1727

1728 Q: Because some of it's based on what the inmate is saying.
1729

1730 A: Okay.
1731

1732 Q: Okay? So inmate gets transported there, from main jail.
1733

1734 A: Mm-hm.
1735

1736 Q: She's sitting on that, one of those seats. You say, "Hey, inmate, get
1737 up. You gotta go change in the changing room." She says, "Okay." She gets
1738 up. What -- she's exchanging words with you, rude or not.
1739

1740 A: Yes.
1741

1742 Q: She goes inside. She sits down. You tell her, "Hey, start taking off your
1743 clothes." At some point there, she starts getting mouthy with you?
1744

1745 A: Sh- yeah.

1746
1747 Q: And, um...
1748
1749 A: Even before when I told her - even before that, when I was telling her empty
1750 the...
1751
1752 Q: There's...
1753
1754 A: I just said to empty the bag.
1755
1756 Q: Is there any physical contact between you two at that point?
1757
1758 A: No.
1759
1760 Q: Okay. So...
1761
1762 A: But it is a very close...
1763
1764 Q: It's a very small room now.
1765
1766 A: ...area. It's a small area.
1767
1768 Q: And so you walk out at that point, and you're out for about five minutes?
1769
1770 A: Yeah. Just 'cause I'm like, oh, you know this thing...
1771
1772 Q: (Simpson-Hogan) is already there?
1773
1774 A: I don't, uh, I'm not sure exactly when she came in. Probably.
1775
1776 Q: Okay.
1777
1778 A: I'll let you -- go ahead.
1779
1780 Q: So (Simpson-Hogan's) there or not. Um, but you tell her - at some point she
1781 arrives...
1782
1783 A: Yeah.
1784
1785 Q: And you tell her, "Hey, um, I may have to force this person - I may have to
1786 take this person's clothes..."
1787

1788 A: Yeah.
1789
1790 Q: Do you remember what you said there?
1791
1792 A: I don't remember. I don't remember exactly. I - I may have said, "Hey, I got a
1793 dif- I may have a difficult one. I may need you to stand by." Uh, something to
1794 that effect.
1795
1796 Q: Okay. And she - so she hung out with the guys...
1797
1798 A: (Unintelligible)...
1799
1800 Q: Up...
1801
1802 A: And she was still...
1803
1804 Q: Up front. And then...
1805
1806 A: Yeah.
1807
1808 Q: ...you, uh, you walk back in.
1809
1810 A: Yes.
1811
1812 Q: And then you're like, "Hey, you need to take off your clothes." That's when
1813 she whipped the jacket at you.
1814
1815 A: Yes.
1816
1817 Q: You grabbed her...
1818
1819 A: Yes.
1820
1821 Q: ...um, by...
1822
1823 A: No, no. Not that - this - this was still here.
1824
1825 Q: Okay.
1826
1827 A: Yeah.
1828

1829 Q: When did you do this one?
1830
1831 A: I know I did it for sure when she was saying she can't breathe. Which -- 'cause
1832 she was not saying she can't breathe. I don't recall her saying that. But I know
1833 she was hyperventilating. And I know at some point I was just trying to get
1834 her to focus on me and breathe, and calm down, just calm down...
1835
1836 Q: You don't remember what point that was at though?
1837
1838 A: I know for sure I did that. At some point - I don't remember - I remember it.
1839 And I'm talking to you, and it's - I remember it like, oh yeah, that's what
1840 happened. But it's...
1841
1842 Q: Okay. Well any chance that was before you left the room?
1843
1844 A: No.
1845
1846 Q: Okay. Um, so you grabbed her by the shoulders-ish and...
1847
1848 A: Yeah.
1849
1850 Q: ...kind of help her to the ground.
1851
1852 A: Not that - at - not at that point. At that point, I just sat her on the little bench.
1853
1854 Q: Okay.
1855
1856 A: And I was still trying to...
1857
1858 Q: And, uh...
1859
1860 A: ...I was still hoping we can...
1861
1862 Q: And (Simpson-Hogan) came in at this point?
1863
1864 A: No. She came in already was, um, we were already involved...
1865
1866 Q: On the ground?
1867
1868 A: Yeah.
1869

1870 Q: Were you already on the ground when (Simpson-Hogan) came in?
1871
1872 A: I think so. I'm not sure. We - we could have been.
1873
1874 Q: Okay. But you don't remember?
1875
1876 A: I don't - I don't remember.
1877
1878 Q: Okay. Um, let ask you, do you norm- uh, use of force is one of those things,
1879 adrenaline's pumping and stuff and...
1880
1881 A: Yeah.
1882
1883 Q: ...you don't remember the details. It's hard...
1884
1885 A: I don't remember anything that...
1886
1887 Q: It's real- I...
1888
1889 A: Um, I...
1890
1891 Q: We've been in the same thing. We've been in use of force stuff, and then
1892 you're like, oh man, did I grab the right hand or the left hand? I don't...
1893
1894 A: Yeah.
1895
1896 Q: I don't remember. Right?
1897
1898 A: Yeah. I don't remember.
1899
1900 Q: Um, but is this common for you when you're in the use of force, and you got
1901 like, right in ER, do you like constant - like, do you...
1902
1903 A: I don't remember nothing. I'm the one that takes my keys home. So you know
1904 what I'm s- that - I don't remember exactly - I like, put her right down, and I
1905 did her l- I don't really...
1906
1907 Q: Okay.
1908
1909 A: Yeah.
1910

1911 Q: So at some point, you're hands-on with her, and you don't remember if
1912 (Simpson's) in there with you when you pull her to the ground...
1913

1914 A: I don't remember if she - I don't - I - uh, she must have came in when we were
1915 all on the ground at some point. I don't remember going on the ground. We
1916 must - I just - we put her - I don't remem- I don't recall.
1917

1918 Q: So when you're on the ground, you put your - your boot on her hip at some
1919 point?
1920

1921 A: That's when (Rivera) came in.
1922

1923 Q: Okay.
1924

1925 A: And that was only because he came in, and now I ha- I want to loosen - I had
1926 it like this. So we're kind of - I was kind of straddling her.
1927

1928 Q: Mm-hm.
1929

1930 A: And I was kind of hol- holding her down. And then when she came over, I let
1931 go.
1932

1933 Q: So you said you're straddling her. Does it mean you're sitting on her or?
1934

1935 A: I wasn't sitting on her, but I was kind of like, le- leaning over kind of, almost
1936 straddling her. Not completely sitting (unintelligible)...
1937

1938 Q: Are you on your knees, or are you on - are you standing, or are you just...
1939

1940 A: I was on my knees.
1941

1942 Q: Okay.
1943

1944 A: I wasn't standing.
1945

1946 Q: So you're on your knee - your knees are on the floor or on her?
1947

1948 A: They had to be on the floor.
1949

1950 Q: Okay. So you're on the - you're on your knees. So...
1951

1952 A: I may have one foot down and one...

1953

1954 Q: So you're kind of like this?

1955

1956 A: I was like that. 'Cause I was like - yeah, I was like this.

1957

1958 Q: Okay. And then you're pushing - just...

1959

1960 A: I wasn't - I just was holding her.

1961

1962 Q: Holding.

1963

1964 A: Like I said, she was - she wasn't hurting n- she wasn't - but she just was
1965 moving. She was just very, very feisty.

1966

1967 Q: Okay.

1968

1969 A: That's all I could recall, her being very feisty.

1970

1971 Q: And (Simpson) was pulling pants off.

1972

1973 A: Pulling her pants, uh, holding her. You know, I started p- you know, I know I
1974 started talking about may have even held her legs down at a certain point. I
1975 don't recall.

1976

1977 Q: Okay.

1978

1979 A: Before (Rivera) got in there. I don't know...

1980

1981 Q: Okay.

1982

1983 A: ...where she was in the dressing out point. But at some point, I know I'm
1984 trying to take her - 'cause she's still fighting, and I kind of - and I was
1985 awkward. So I needed to let go of one, but I still wanted her pinned.

1986

1987 Q: Okay. Um, so after that point she's - you're pinning, pulling pants off.

1988

1989 A: Yeah. Pants (unintelligible)...

1990

1991 Q: And you don't remember the...

1992

1993 A: She...

1994

1995 Q: ...how the - the shirt came off?
1996
1997 A: I feel like I may have taken it off. I mean, 'cause it was just - it was trying to
1998 be quick. I don't think put any underwear on the woman. Um...
1999
2000 Q: How long do you think this whole thing took?
2001
2002 A: J- a few minutes, maybe less than five.
2003
2004 Q: And do you think that, uh, was hurt?
2005
2006 A: Well, the nurse said she wasn't. And I didn't see any (unintelligible)...
2007
2008 Q: And you don't think anything that you did would have hurt her?
2009
2010 A: No.
2011
2012 Q: Okay. Do you think anything that (Rivera) or (Simpson) did would have hurt
2013 her?
2014
2015 A: I don't think so, no.
2016
2017 Q: Okay.
2018
2019 A: I don't - the only thing that b- (Simpson) did was take off her clothes. And
2020 (Rivera) may have taken off her clothes. I don't recall. She may have taken, or
2021 she may have just held her down. I'm not sure. But she didn't do anything...
2022
2023 Q: Outside of the - the decision to change - to change her then and there versus
2024 going out and getting a sergeant and all that...
2025
2026 A: Yeah.
2027
2028 Q: ...that policy stuff, do you feel that you did anything wrong?
2029
2030 A: No. I should have, of course, hindsight...
2031
2032 Q: Yeah. Outside that - outside that part, just the use of...
2033
2034 A: Yeah.
2035

2036 Q: ...force part, just...

2037

2038 A: No.

2039

2040 Q: You think it was all just necessary?

2041

2042 A: It was - and it wasn't over the edge. It wasn't me - like I said, I was more - I'm
2043 very cognizant of - that I'm not a small person. So I don't need to use all my
2044 strength on her, which probably causes me more problems because I'm not
2045 using all my strength and I would have been all awkward. If I would have just
2046 taken her to the ground, handcuffed her, secured her, that's what I should have
2047 did.

2048

2049 Q: Mm-hm.

2050

2051 A: But.

2052

2053 Q: Okay.

2054

2055 A: Yeah.

2056

2057 Q: Um, do you have any questions for us?

2058

2059 A: Well what happens now?

2060

2061 Q: Um, I still have to do some investigating, talk to some people. And, um,
2062 ultimately I write a report, and other people review it to decide whether or not
2063 there'll be anything criminal or not. Um, ultimately, also administration will
2064 get my report, and they will most likely at some point do a internal affairs
2065 investigation. I don't know that for sure. I don't work upstairs. Uh, but
2066 normally in these kind of cases, that's what happens.

2067

2068 A: Right.

2069

2070 Q: Uh, the criminal always comes before. So I have to determine, do I think a
2071 crime occurred? Um, and if so, what was the crime?

2072

2073 A: Yeah.

2074

2075 Q: If not, then it's done on my end.

2076

2077 A: Okay.

2078
2079 Q: Um, so that's kind of, that's why I'm kind of trying to get into those details
2080 of...
2081
2082 A: Uh-huh. Yeah.
2083
2084 Q: You know what I mean?
2085
2086 A: Yeah.
2087
2088 Q: Uh, 'cause it's - can be very gray on what's a crime versus what's a policy
2089 violation versus what's perfectly...
2090
2091 A: I - I have...
2092
2093 Q: ...okay in a jail.
2094
2095 A: I have to eat it because that - that's exactly what I should have done.
2096
2097 Q: Got it.
2098
2099 A: I had - I can't...
2100
2101 Q1: And if that's the case, it's not for us.
2102
2103 A: I - I - I gotta eat it. I have to eat that.
2104
2105 Q: I mean, do you know what, um, obviously, you know, kind of the IA stuff and
2106 - and what the policy says, and, uh, breaking policy can, you know, that's the
2107 admin side. But do you know what the law specifically says in this?
2108
2109 A: No.
2110
2111 Q: Have - did - did they go over it in...
2112
2113 A: No.
2114
2115 Q: ...the academy or in your training?
2116
2117 A: No. No. Well they may have, but...
2118

2119 Q: Yeah. So I know it was a long time ago, but...
2120
2121 A: But we haven't - I've never been involved in s- well something like this before,
2122 and I don't know anybody else...
2123
2124 Q: Got it.
2125
2126 A: ...that has.
2127
2128 Q: Do you know what an assault is? Just like, the actual legal term of it?
2129
2130 A: It's like, um, unwanted touching.
2131
2132 Q: So, uh, sort of. So there's assault and battery, right?
2133
2134 A: Okay.
2135
2136 Q: Assault can kind of like - if I punch you, but I miss, that's an assault.
2137
2138 A: Okay. An attempt.
2139
2140 Q: Yeah.
2141
2142 A: (Unintelligible)...
2143
2144 Q: The attempt, right? The, uh...
2145
2146 A: Okay.
2147
2148 Q: ...an assault is kind of an attempted use of force.
2149
2150 A: Okay.
2151
2152 Q: A battery is when you actually, kind of punch someone or go hands on and do
2153 something, right.
2154
2155 A: Okay.
2156
2157 Q: In our - in our line of work, use of force, uh, we can use it to overcome
2158 resistance to our lawful authority.
2159
2160 A: Okay.

2161
2162 Q: Would you agree?
2163
2164 A: Yes.
2165
2166 Q: Um, but if you - for- the use of force goes beyond what the reasonable person
2167 would do to overcome that resistance...
2168
2169 A: Yeah.
2170
2171 Q: ...then that becomes criminal.
2172
2173 A: Okay.
2174
2175 Q: Right? So that's kind of what I'm getting at here with these questions.
2176
2177 A: Okay.
2178
2179 Q: I have to figure out was the force that you used in the situation, regardless of
2180 the reasons you were there or whether or not you were there in policy...
2181
2182 A: Right.
2183
2184 Q: ...is a crime.
2185
2186 A: Okay. Well, uh...
2187
2188 Q: Um...
2189
2190 A: ...if (Rivera) tells the truth, then she will have to admit that woman, the entire
2191 time she was there, that woman was kicking and trying to break...
2192
2193 Q: Oh no. (Riv-) (Riv-)...
2194
2195 A: ...free. Until she - until we found out her dress, that's when she stopped, and
2196 she went limp and was hyperventilating.
2197
2198 Q: Oh, no. (Rivera) didn't...
2199
2200 A: Yeah.
2201

2202 Q: ...(Rivera) is very consistent in what...
2203
2204 A: Yeah.
2205
2206 Q: ...you're telling us.
2207
2208 A: Yeah.
2209
2210 Q: Um, I think her opinion -- 'cause she - she came in later...
2211
2212 A: Yeah. Well...
2213
2214 Q: ...is different than your opinion. And that's why we...
2215
2216 A: Yeah.
2217
2218 Q: ...talk to you before we make any decisions.
2219
2220 A: Yeah.
2221
2222 Q: And obviously, we tell you you're not in trouble 'cause we want to hear your
2223 side of the story.
2224
2225 A: Yeah.
2226
2227 Q: Um...
2228
2229 Q1: But kind of imagine, it's like, when you see on the news, or you see they're, of
2230 course, they're always gonna play the worst portion of what they say the cops
2231 shoot somebody or the cops beat somebody. They don't show you the video
2232 that led up to that.
2233
2234 A: Yeah. Well I don't know...
2235
2236 Q1: ...that's how we get it.
2237
2238 A: I understand. But I don't...
2239
2240 Q1: So...
2241

2242 A: ...my uncle used to be a police officer in LPS (unintelligible) police and
2243 (unintelligible) so (unintelligible)..
2244
2245 Q: And family is...
2246
2247 A: And I know the climate is - I get it.
2248
2249 Q: ...family of law enforcement.
2250
2251 A: I get it.
2252
2253 Q: Yeah.
2254
2255 A: You know.
2256
2257 Q1: Okay.
2258
2259 A: But of course, I'm a little like, oh, you know.
2260
2261 Q: Yeah. So that's - that's why we're interviewing you to figure out...
2262
2263 A: Yeah.
2264
2265 Q: ...uh, w- I don't know if a crime occurred. I don't know.
2266
2267 A: Yeah.
2268
2269 Q: That's - it's a hard question to answer, right?
2270
2271 A: Yeah.
2272
2273 Q: Um, but I kind of want to get your take on that.
2274
2275 A: Yeah.
2276
2277 Q: What do you like - given that like, do you think your - what you did was...
2278
2279 A: Well, you know what, now that I think about it, (Rivera) did tell one sergeant
2280 told me before for something, you know, the policy. But I said, she's never,
2281 she worked at the jail. She ain't worked in (unintelligible).
2282

2283 Q: Mm-hm.
2284

2285 A: And she was - told sergeant on me, 'cause I had doors open. Yes, it's against
2286 the policy, but that's what we do 'cause it's - 'cause that's just what we do in
2287 that area. So I told her, well, who go to sergeant, but I wish she would've
2288 talked to me first, and you and I could have worked it out. You're only
2289 working here one day overtime. You know, you don't have to, you can talk to
2290 me. You - if I do something you say, hey, this is a policy, why not do it when
2291 you're here. Y- you know, I underst- I'm not saying you're gonna do it my
2292 way. Okay. You here one day, one day only.
2293

2294 Q: It got it. I got it.
2295

2296 A: That may feel comfortable me breaking the policy. I get that. So I wouldn't do
2297 it. So that's the - the only other incident that I've had with her.
2298

2299 Q: Okay.
2300

2301 A: And she apologized, and said, "I should have came to you before I went to the
2302 sergeant."
2303

2304 Q: So, uh, my question for you is given what was doing, do you feel
2305 that what you did was okay?
2306

2307 A: Yes I do. I should have did more b- since she was fighting. But I - like I said, I
2308 was more thinking of her size.
2309

2310 Q: So you think you were holding back?
2311

2312 A: I was - oh I know I was holding back. Like I said, I should have thrown her to
2313 the ground, handcuffed her. Not thrown her, but just took her forcefully. But
2314 I'm trying to be gentle and put you down. I don't want to hurt you, 'cause she's
2315 all little. Well you've seen her.
2316

2317 Q: Mm-hm.
2318

2319 A: And so you see me, you see (Simpson), you see (Rivera).
2320

2321 Q: Mm-hm.
2322

2323 A: So I wasn't using my full s- I don't want to, because if I do that, I'm gonna hurt
2324 you. If I...

2325
2326 Q: Okay.
2327
2328 A: ...put you like that, put you down.
2329
2330 Q: And said she had a swollen lip. Is there any reason...
2331
2332 A: I didn't say that. I didn't see that.
2333
2334 Q: Okay. There's no reason why she would?
2335
2336 A: No.
2337
2338 Q: Okay.
2339
2340 A: I don't recall anybody hitting her in her face. And I don't recall her hitting her
2341 face. She was on her back. So I don't see her face hitting anything even hard.
2342
2343 Q: Okay. (Unintelligible)?
2344
2345 Q1: You said she went limp at one point in time.
2346
2347 A: Yeah, after we had dressed her, she just limped - she just was d-...
2348
2349 Q1: She didn't lose consciousness, did she?
2350
2351 A: No. No.
2352
2353 Q1: Okay.
2354
2355 A: She was still like, talking, but she just - she stopped. The fight was over. I
2356 think she just - she spent her little self, and she just went woo. Then she
2357 stopped...
2358
2359 Q1: She's like I'm dressed. Why fight anymore.
2360
2361 A: I - I don't know.
2362
2363 Q1: I give up, basically (unintelligible)...
2364
2365 A: She's just, uh, and she, like I said, she fought for - I was surprised at her
2366 strength. And she just fell out...

2367

2368 Q1: Crazy strength. Yeah.

2369

2370 A: Yeah. Crazy or drunk strength. I don't know. High strength. And we picked
2371 her up by her sh- her clothes and was walking her out like that. And she was,
2372 you know, can't br- and I know at some point I was, s- s- stop. You
2373 know, you're gonna hurt yourself. Look at me. Breathe." You know, I was just
2374 trying - trying to get her to calm down.

2375

2376 Q1: At what point was that? Was this - this was after she was dressed or?

2377

2378 A: This was after she was dressed. Well she was (unintelligible) mar-, y- and I
2379 was, you know, "You're - you're hyperventilating. It's not that big a deal. Calm
2380 down. It's - it's over. Please." Y- you know, not - I know I was telling her to
2381 please, just calm down. So I w- I didn't want her like, to have a kind of
2382 medical emergency.

2383

2384 Q: Michelle, are you surprised you're here talking to us about this?

2385

2386 A: I sure and the fuck am.

2387

2388 Q: Okay. Um...

2389

2390 A: I really am.

2391

2392 Q: Okay. Why do you think you're here?

2393

2394 A: Oh, I know because of (Rivera).

2395

2396 Q: Okay. So you just think it's what (Rivera) said that got you here, or?

2397

2398 A: I think - I think so.

2399

2400 Q: Okay. Um, are you mad about that?

2401

2402 A: No. I'm - I'm mad she didn't talk to me. If sh- whatever her opinion was. I
2403 wish she - like- like before, why didn't you come and talk to me?

2404

2405 Q: Got it.

2406

2407 A: You know, it's a why didn't you...

2408

2409 Q: Why don't you think she does?
2410
2411 A: I have no idea.
2412
2413 Q: Okay. 'Cause or- originally you had said that she's kind of opportunistic.
2414
2415 A: Oh she's opportun- she...
2416
2417 Q: What does that mean?
2418
2419 A: That means, like, she's gonna try to get out the spots that I have to work. She
2420 don't work where I have to work.
2421
2422 Q: Got it.
2423
2424 A: She doesn't have to do what I have to do. She gets more...
2425
2426 Q: Uh, then you...
2427
2428 A: So you may think my tone is harsh because you're not used to dealing with
2429 inmates. I may have - my tone and the whole demeanor is different because I
2430 have to...
2431
2432 Q: Yeah.
2433
2434 A: ...I have to deal directly with them, and you don't. So you can talk to - okay,
2435 how you doing today? Where I have to be more - giving you instruction about
2436 what I want you to do.
2437
2438 Q: So I - I was - maybe, I'm implying this wrong. It sounded like maybe she -
2439 you thought she may have exaggerated something to get something out of you
2440 getting in trouble...
2441
2442 A: I wouldn't - I wouldn't put that past her ass.
2443
2444 Q: Like, would she - would she get anything for you getting in trouble...
2445
2446 A: I wouldn't, you know what - honestly, I wouldn't want to put that on
2447 somebody, but in her case I wouldn't - I wouldn't put it past her.
2448
2449 Q: Okay.
2450

2451 A: I definitely wouldn't put it past her. She's that type.
2452
2453 Q: Do you think, like, uh, she would tell on you just to get you in trouble. Like,
2454 would it benefit her in some way she before...
2455
2456 A: She would 'cause she did that before.
2457
2458 Q: Does it benefit her in some way though at all?
2459
2460 A: Um, sometimes - sometimes people tell sergeant stuff 'cause maybe get a
2461 better position, or they can maybe curry some kind of favor with them, or p-
2462 some people do, you know. That's...
2463
2464 Q: Do you think that's what she's doing?
2465
2466 A: It's possible. She's that type. I wouldn't put it past her.
2467
2468 Q: Okay.
2469
2470 Q1: Okay. So I have to tell you that actually came to us with this.
2471
2472 A: Okay.
2473
2474 Q1: And she was - (Rivera) was just one of the people we brought in because she
2475 was involved in - wrote paper, like everybody else.
2476
2477 A: Right.
2478
2479 Q1: And all she did was tell her side of the story.
2480
2481 A: Okay.
2482
2483 Q: Are you surprised complained?
2484
2485 A: No, Uh, I've had complaints. I've had - I've caused miscarriages, and they
2486 reviewed the tape. I didn't even touch the person, or even talked to 'em. So I -
2487 that comes with the job.
2488
2489 Q: Yeah. So just...
2490
2491 A: (Unintelligible)...
2492

2493 Q: In the - in the future going forward, interactions with , um, my
2494 professional advice is just dot your - dot your Is, cross your Ts. Uh, make sure
2495 you do everything. 'Cause she's ultra sensitive at this point. Uh, I think
2496 anytime you have to forcibly change someone, that person's gonna...
2497
2498 A: Of course.
2499
2500 Q: ...have an emotional response to it.
2501
2502 A: Of course.
2503
2504 Q: Yeah.
2505
2506 A: And that's why I wanted - if I had a problem, if I thought it was a problem, I
2507 would rather wait for a female to assist me.
2508
2509 Q: Mm-hm.
2510
2511 A: Than rather than have some guy. 'Cause actually, I can call a guy in.
2512
2513 Q: Mm-hm.
2514
2515 A: Hey, I got - she's - she's fighting. They're supposed to come in. But I would
2516 rather not put another woman through that.
2517
2518 Q: Okay.
2519
2520 A: Yeah. I'll take off your clothes and I saw you naked. I was gonna do it
2521 anyway. I don't want this person, this other man to see you naked.
2522
2523 Q: One last question, did you call (Simpson) when you left, and like, hey, I think
2524 this lady's giving me problems come down and help me?
2525
2526 A: When I left?
2527
2528 Q: Well you say you went in to (unintelligible). Then you left for five minutes. In
2529 that five minutes did you call?
2530
2531 A: I might - (unintelligible) I might have been - it might have been that and the
2532 cheesecake, too. The only thing I can think of.
2533
2534 Q1: I thought it was a good-ass cheesecake.

2535

2536 A: It was from Marie Callender's.

2537

2538 Q: And she brought...

2539

2540 A: But I might - I might...

2541

2542 Q: She brought cheesecake in yesterday, right?

2543

2544 A: ...have, um, huh?

2545

2546 Q: She brought in cheesecake yesterday.

2547

2548 A: No, she did. I might - if - I might have. I might have. Because I saw she was

2549 gettin' - like I said, I rather you're an inmate, but you're female. I would not

2550 want somebody - you know, if I could help it I would rather have a female just

2551 roll another woman.

2552

2553 Q: Okay.

2554

2555 A: Just - just, hey. Just heads up.

2556

2557 Q: And, uh, I know earlier you had, okay, I want my union rep.

2558

2559 A: 'Cause I'm kind of, like, I've never been in a situation before. So it was kind of

2560 - I've had a lot of allegations.

2561

2562 Q: Sure.

2563

2564 A: But a lot of them I'd love if it happened on tape. So when we review the tape

2565 it's...

2566

2567 Q1: Is there - is there - there's no cameras.

2568

2569 A: There's no camera in there. But there's been several serious allegations. They

2570 review it. I didn't do nothin' at all. So I...

2571

2572 Q: Why do you think you get so many allegations?

2573

2574 A: Because I have a very stern tone and I work in direct supervision units.

2575

2576 Q: Got it.
2577
2578 A: So I'm gonna catch all the cases because I gotta deal with 'em.
2579
2580 Q: Got it.
2581
2582 A: (Unintelligible).
2583
2584 Q: So you're just in more high risk.
2585
2586 A: I'm -- yeah. I gotta deal with them. So if I was in different places I wouldn't be
2587 havin' that kind of interaction with them.
2588
2589 Q: Okay. Have you been upstairs to talk about other previous things?
2590
2591 A: No.
2592
2593 Q: You've never been in the IA on the previous ones?
2594
2595 A: No.
2596
2597 Q: Okay.
2598
2599 A: No.
2600
2601 Q: Um, all right.
2602
2603 A: (Unintelligible) make complaints. I've never been (unintelligible).
2604
2605 Q: So that's never even gotten to this point.
2606
2607 A: No.
2608
2609 Q: This is the first time you've ever been...
2610
2611 A: Yeah.
2612
2613 Q: Okay.
2614
2615 Q1: In your opinion what's your fuse life like?
2616
2617 A: It's big.

2618
2619 Q1: Your temper?
2620
2621 A: It's - it's big. Because of where I had to work. So a lot of stuff kind of rolls off
2622 my back. Until you try to physically do somethin' now you got my attention.
2623 But this - that's what I hear all day. Not a big deal. Screamin', hollerin', not a
2624 big deal. But physical now you got my attention.
2625
2626 Q: Okay. Are you good?
2627
2628 Q1: I'm good.
2629
2630 Q: All right. Thank you for your time. Um...
2631
2632 Q1: Any more questions? You can laugh, that's fine.
2633
2634 Q: (Unintelligible).
2635
2636 A: It's that nervous crazy laugh, you know? Okay.
2637
2638 Q1: Well hopefully you will be hearing from us.
2639
2640 A: (Unintelligible).
2641
2642 Q: Michelle, before you leave I'm gonna give you my card.
2643
2644 A: I don't wanna call you.
2645
2646 Q: I know. You don't have to. But if you think of anything else, um, or you
2647 remember something more specific please feel free to call me and leave me a
2648 message. I'll call you back when you're workin'. I'm not gonna make you
2649 come down here on your day off.
2650
2651 A: Okay.
2652
2653 Q: Um, at least you're getting paid.
2654
2655 A: I appreciate that.
2656
2657 Q: Yeah. You're getting paid to do this, right?
2658
2659 A: I'm gonna Ante up.

2660

2661 Q: Okay. (Unintelligible).

2662

2663 A: (Unintelligible).

2664

2665 Q: I got it, don't worry about it.

2666

2667 A: Okay.

2668

2669 Q: Um...

2670

2671 Q1: That - you know, in overtime sometimes you remember things, you know, it's
2672 delayed response. Happens to me all the time.

2673

2674 A: Yeah.

2675

2676 Q1: So...

2677

2678 Q: And, uh, just as a favor to us, please don't talk about what you talked with us
2679 with Simpson or (Rivera) or, uh, (Nagara) or anyone else.

2680

2681 Q1: (Divine) or anyone.

2682

2683 A: Okay.

2684

2685 Q: All right? Unless someone orders you to talk about this don't talk to anyone
2686 beside me and Sergeant Owens here.

2687

2688 A: Okay.

2689

2690 Q: All right?

2691

2692 A: All right.

2693

2694 Q1: Thank you for your time.

2695

2696 A: Thank you.

2697

2698 Q1: I'll walk you out here.

2699

2700

2701 This transcript has been reviewed with the audio recording submitted and it is an accurate
2702 transcription.
2703 Signed
2704 _____