

MAINE STATE POLICE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION I
TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW

1805

INCIDENT #: 20-4-35897

CASE: Homicide
(BORTNER, KASSIDY)

NAME: NICHOLE HARVEY

DOB: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: 43 Mile Hill Road, Belmont, NH 03220

TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

EMPLOYMENT:

OFFICER: Det. ANGELA BLODGETT

I.D. #: 0292

DATE: 11/09/00

TIME START: 2200 Hours

TIME END: 2215 Hours

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Kittery Police Department

Approved: *MJS*

Present during the interview:

NH NICHOLE HARVEY

AB ANGELA BLODGETT, Detective, Maine State Police, CID1

See attached transcript from New Hampshire State Police.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE
CONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATION REPORT 1806

1. CASE NO. MCI-00-216	2. INVESTIGATING TROOPER Sgt. James White	3. I.D. NO. 650	4. TOWN OF CRIME Rochester	5. TN. CD. ****	6. DATE OF REPORT 11-09-00
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INTERVIEW OF NICHOLE HARVEY

AB Ah this is Angela Blodgett and I'm meeting with Nichole Harvey, um Chad's sister, at Kittery P.D. and it's ah 10 p.m. on the 9th November 9th. Um Nichole what is your date of birth?

NH [REDACTED]

AB And where are you living?

NH I live in Belmont, New Hampshire.

AB Belmont?

NH About 45 minutes from Rochester, (inaudible).

AB What would your mailing address be?

NH 43 Mile Hill.

AB Mile Hill?

NH Mile Hill Road.

AB Hm, hm. And the zip? Zip code?

NH Oh 03220.

AB And your phone number?

NH 5 [REDACTED]

AB Yep

NH [REDACTED]

AB Okay. Um do you work these days?

NH Yep I'm a. I work in a resource room. I'm a special Ed assistant. At an elementary school in Belmont.

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1807

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AB Is it um younger kids?

NH Yeah, elementary school

AB Elementary.

NH Kindergarten through fourth grade.

AB Um how much contact have you had or how well did you know Amanda?

NH (Inaudible) Amanda?

AB Yeah.

NH Um I knew Amanda pretty, well I've been going to some money management classes with her on Thursday evenings.

AB Okay.

NH So ...

AB You guys went this week? I think she had told me she went this week.

NH Yep.

AB Ah, before she started dating your brother, you didn't really know her?

NH I didn't know her at all.

AB Okay.


NH I didn't know her at all.

AB And they've been together maybe like 6 months or so?

NH Yeah about. Yeah. Like this summer. Sometime in the summer.

AB How long has she been living with your brother? Do you know?

NH Um, I don't know really because she just seemed to always be there when ...

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1808

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AB Be there more and more?

NH Yeah, yeah. Like when I'd go up to see him or whatever she would be there so I'm really not sure.

AB So it wasn't a ...

NH Right. Right.

AB ... Amanda's moving in on Tuesday sort of thing. She was just ...

NH No. Yeah she was just there.

AB ... Spent more time up there?

NH She was just there all the time.

AB Um did you have much contact with Cassidy?

NH Um not that much. She came over our house on Sunday, and ah, we're actually renovating a home, and um, she came over with Chad and I watched her for the day. But other than that just when I would go pick Amanda up from classes she would be there and I'd play with her a little bit but ...

AB Could have Chad ...

NH ... I didn't really know her that well.

AB ... um drop her off and then you baby-sat for the afternoon?


NH No. No. I was ...

AB Oh, he just stopped to visit?

NH Yeah. I was, I was there and he stayed for a little while and then I watched her while she was there.

AB Okay.

NH Made sure she didn't get into any ...

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AB While you guys were socializing?

NH ... we're renovating.

AB Okay, but you weren't like baby-sitting?

NH No.

AB Her sole supervisor?

NH No, not really.

AB Did you notice any bruises on her face or anything then?

NH Yeah, she did have a bruise on her cheek.

AB Like down around ...

NH Yeah, like a little like touch mark.

AB Anything else?

NH No I, I didn't at all, like I, she slept on me for a little. She fell asleep in my arms, but ...

AB Did she seem, I mean ...

NH She seemed kinda disoriented. I don't know because she just always kinda seemed like that. Like she just sat there for a long time at the table and didn't say anything. Like I was singing songs with her. I was a preschool teacher before. I was playing games.


AB Just not real responsive?

NH Not responsive at all, and she didn't say hardly anything.

AB Did, some people have told me that she seemed, or they suspected, um that she might be a little delayed?

NH She seemed mentally delayed. Honestly from working with ...

AB That she wasn't as verbal ...

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NH I work with L.D. children and, yeah, she definitely seemed delayed in some sense, yeah.

AB Um, nothing ah ...

NH She was really clumsy, and she wouldn't, like when I put her on the floor she, she would fall down, but she wouldn't put her arms down. She would just fall down and then instead of ...

AB Like without bracing herself?

NH Yeah, without bracing herself. And then she'd just put her arms like this, and I would pick her up, but she didn't, she didn't cry. She didn't make any noises. She just wasn't really responsive. Actually, after she fell asleep on me for a little while too, she um, she ah just laid there, you know? Most kids would be like, I have a niece, I have two nephews, you know, they're all like up and you know after their nap, they're ready to play.

AB Go nuts?

NH Yeah.

AB Um, have you seen her and, ah, had enough contact with her to know if that's her usual state or if that's different?

NH Yeah. Um, I haven't honestly had a lot of contact to see, just from when I when I saw her in passing, like you know, when Amanda was going to class with me or ... other than that ...

AB Yeah. So you haven't really gotten to spend time interacting with her to know?

NH Yeah. I didn't spend that, that much time with her.


AB Okay.

NH But yeah. She always did seem kind of dazed. Like just, you know, alot slower to, to grasp things. And to ...

AB Yep.

NH You know?

AB Um, has your brother or Amanda talked to you about any problems that they were having or concerns that they were having?

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NH No. Not at all.

AB No?

NH Not at all. She seemed like always extremely in love with him and always talking about him and I was always talking about her with him, and so yeah, no I wouldn't have suspected any problems with them at all.

AB Um, did you ask your brother about the bruise on her face?

NH Yeah I did. Yeah. I've always ask him because I saw on one her before to.

AB In the same place or?

NH No. It was it was on her forehead I think. Oh, no, wait there was something on her foot because we were jumping on the trampoline one day when I was over. It was like a, some kind of ring.

AB Did he always have logical explanations?

NH What's that? Oh, that time because I never, I always asked her the other times, I was like, what happened to her?

AB Okay.

NH She's like, oh, she fell down or she was at the babysitters and, and ah you know, she turned her head for a second and Cassidy was on the floor, but she wasn't crying or anything so, I don't know what happened.


AB So reasonable excuses?

NH Yeah, yeah definitely.

AB Nothing that red flagged?

NH Right.

AB Um, and when you asked your brother about the face did he have a response on for that on Sunday?

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NH He really didn't have an idea. He said I don't know. She's just always bruised. She bruises really easy and, uh, ...

AB Hm.

NH ... she's always falling down and stuff.

AB Um, have you known either your brother or Amanda to have temper problems or frustration problems in dealing with their kids?

NH Oh, definitely not with their kids. Neither one of them. Ah, Chad has two boys and he's wonderful with them and that he, ah, he adores them and spends all of the time in the world he can with them. And as for, as far as Amanda, I never, Cassidy didn't really seem to be with her a lot. Like when I, I see Amanda a lot more than I would see her. So I didn't really see her interacting with Cassidy very much because I just, just seen her more often that I would with her, so, like she came down to my parent's once and she came up to our apartment once and ...

AB So you've never seen Amanda or Chad do anything that concerned you or they never expressed ...

NH No.

AB ... any sort of frustration or ...

NH Definitely not.


AB ... like, I'm at my wits end or anything like those sort of things?

NH No. No. Chad, Chad cries if he has to put Kyle in time out. You know, he really has a hard time with it. Um, definitely not any kind of.

AB Okay. Is there anything in either of their backgrounds, um, either Amanda or your brother, as far as physical abuse, sexual abuse, or any sort of unresolved problems that maybe this might stem from?

NH No. Chad, Chad was always like the kind of person that, at 10 years old ...

AB Yup.

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NH ... um, this guy was sitting at the table eating all by himself and he would bring his lunch over and eat with him. You know?

AB Hm-hum.

NH He was just always like, really compassionate, like and an awesome brother. You know what I mean? And Amanda I didn't know very well. I know that she does have a um brother I think who's epileptic. I don't know. I don't know. We kinda talked a little bit on the way to class.

AB Yeah.

NH But she seemed to always be really compassionate towards him and so I can't think of anything in the past that I've ever, you know, heard of.

AB Yeah, um, what, and I ask this for your opinion and I know that he's your brother so I'm looking for ...

NH Right.

AB ... explanations, but if people are telling me that you know that he would get frustrated with her crying and Amanda wouldn't really respond in any way to this, but he would grab her face and um, like this, and yell at her and swear at her. I mean would that surprise you? Is that out from the ordinary for your experiences with him?

NH That would extremely surprise me.


AB Okay.

NH Extremely. Because I've never heard him swear in front of either his boys. So I can't imagine him swearing at, you know, someone who wasn't his. You know?

AB Okay.

NH I mean, which he did treat, like in the short time that they were together, like, he really did seem like his dad. Even my father-in-law was like, like, oh, you know, and my father-in-law's, um, dad was like, thought that that was her daughter, his daughter, you know, because he seemed like such a good dad to her.

AB Hm-hum.

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NH But no. Definitely.

AB Okay.

NH Definitely. I could never fathom that.

AB Is there anything else that you can think of that would help us? No?

NH I mean just talking about, I know how wonderful my brother's always been, you know.

AB So you've never had any concerns with either Amanda or him?

NH Never.

AB And they've never confided in you about concerns either with each other or with other caretakers or family members or anything?

NH No. My brother and I are pretty, pretty close.

AB Um, I mean, would you expect them to confront someone that, I mean, if the child is coming home with bruises and ...

NH Yeah, yeah I would.

AB ... and, you know, dizziness and ...

NH Yeah, I know that she had very like ...

AB ... things like that?


NH Yeah, I know that she had like a lot of sitters, you know what I mean? Someone always different was watching her.

AB Hm-hum.

NH And, yeah they, they definitely would confront I think and you know.

AB Okay. Um.

NH Anything that I would know would be hearsay as far as like ...

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AB That's all right.

NH I know that, um, you know he has confronted other people and you know and he would say on the phone like one time that, that he asked the baby-sitter.

AB Yeah.

NH But I know she had so many that, you know, I didn't really stay in contact because I was more, you know, in contact with my nephew.

AB Yeah.

NH I mean she was kinda like a niece but I didn't know her for very long. You know what I mean?

AB Yeah, it was the beginning of a relationship.

NH Yeah. Exactly. She was a sweetie though.

AB Um, with her youth, I mean, did you have concerns about her coping ability with, you know, dealing with a child that obviously maybe needed a lot more supervision and, and in working with a ...

NH Yeah, definitely.

AB ... um, a baby so young.?

NH Definitely.


AB Hm.

NH That she, she, you know, even said I'm 19 and I was way too young to have a child.

AB Yeah.

NH And, you know, she realized how fast it was going to make her grow up, but, you know that it (inaudible) her responsibilities and, you know.

AB Yeah, so at least from the outside it seemed like a good match for the two of them that maybe he was a stabilizing influence?

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NH Exactly.

AB Yeah.

NH Yeah, because, I mean, he really has a lot going for himself, you know? He's very smart, like he sent her to these classes you know ...

AB Yeah.

NH ... on money management so she could start an IRA and a college fund for Cassidy. You know and it's like he encouraged, you know, doing these things for her daughter like he did for his sons. And kind of teaching her in a way to be a good parent, you know, because ...

AB Yeah.

NH ... she didn't really know.

AB To think ahead?

NH Yeah. And I don't really know what she's had to role model after.

AB Yeah.

NH You know, she's talked about family issues and how she lives. She really likes my family because, you know, we're really close and my parents are married and we all do everything together and, you know what I mean, and I think she sometimes felt she doesn't really know about parenting and it was kind of a rough thing to, you know what I mean?

AB Hm-hum.


NH Like an awakening, and I don't think she's really realized there were any signs that she need to be looking for and thought about like taking her more regularly for checkups and things.

AB Hm-hum.

NH You know? It's like, I reminded her one day to put a jacket on her.

AB Hm-hum.

NH You know what I mean? And I'm not a, I don't even have children.

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AB If, if your brother saw Amanda, um, mistreat Kassidy, I mean hit her enough to leave bruises and leave her, you know, disoriented and this sort of thing ...

NH Right.

AB ... do you think that he would confide that in you or confront her or?

NH Yeah, I think he would do something of that nature. Definitely. Because he cares about her a lot, but I know he cares a lot about Kassidy, too. You know what I mean?

AB Um, I think the only other thing, if you had had suspicions, um, or concerns about the bruises ...

NH I never really did because, you know ...

AB Yeah.

NH ... I've seen her fall and you get a bruise, and I know how little iron and people can bruise real easily.

AB Yeah.

NH You know and I, I thought maybe developmentally she was delayed and you know that's why she wasn't like reaching out when she fell and ...

AB Yeah.

NH ... you know what I mean? It's, there's kinda, the concepts were a lot slower and things that she needed to learn because she didn't really speak very much either.


AB Okay.

NH And like I, I just, you know, those things you would look for.

AB Yeah. But being a teacher, I mean, I just want to make sure that should something happen in the future I mean, you know ...

NH Right.

AB ... who to call, to call like the social services to do like a well-baby check sort of thing.

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1818

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NH Right.

AB Okay. And just make people have the services they need.

NH Right.

AB Okay, um, I can't think of anything else. I didn't want to leave you guys out. Um, especially since you're here and just make sure that we could talk to you now.

NH Thank you. Right.


AB It would be a lot easier than when you guys are trying to deal with the impact of this tomorrow and the next day. And have me knocking on your door.

NH Definitely.

AB Um, I'll bring you, ah, back out to your sister-in-law and I'm sure Jeff will be through with your husband momentarily. I'll turn off the tape and it's ah quarter past ten.

NH Okay. Thank you.

END OF INTERVIEW WITH NICHOLE HARVEY

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