

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE
CONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATION REPORT

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1. CASE NO. MCI-00-216	2. INVESTIGATING TROOPER Sgt. James W. 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 TRACEY FOLEY

JW: It's Wednesday, November 7th, 10:30 a.m. Ah, my name is Sergeant James White, New Hampshire State Police, Major Crime Unit. Also present is, ah, Detective Jeff Linscott from the Maine State Police and Tracey Foley. We're at, ah, the Progressive Technologies building in Wells, Maine. In, in a conference room there. Tracey's date of birth is [REDACTED]. Her first name is spelled T-R-A-C-E-Y. Her last name is F-O-L-E-Y. Tracey, we're tape recording this conversation, do you, do we have your permission to do that?

TF: Absolutely.

JW: Okay. The reason we're here today Tracey is just to get a little bit of, I wanna start with some background on Amanda Bortner, Amanda Conley, however you know her. And, ah, just a little bit of what your relationship with, with her was, ah, both prior to Cassidy's death and, and after Cassidy's death, any contacts that you may have had with her. Can you, can you tell us where you met Amanda and what, ah, what your relationship was with.

TF: I think we met at Shane's, Restaurant, a little ice cream parlor in Springvale, which was close to the house that I was living in at the time. Um. We were relatively new to the neighborhood and we were looking for babysitters, my husband and I. And then Amanda started babysitting for us, shortly thereafter.

JW: Okay.

TF: At least once a month if not twice, sometimes more. Um. I have a stepson and a daughter.

JW: Okay.

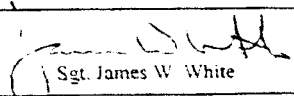
TF: That she would babysit for.

JW: How old was Amanda then, do you remember?

TF: About sixteen. Sixteen.

JW: Okay and then, I, I know that, ah, she became pregnant with, with Cassidy some time around that age.

TF: Hm. hm.

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JW: Was, ah, was she pregnant at that time or was it?

TF: No.

JW: Later?

TF: She got pregnant later. She had already been babysitting for us for a while, she may have been fifteen. When I met her.

JW: Okay, and, ah, can you just tell me a little bit about Amanda, what she was like.

TF: Quiet, very pleasant. Jordan loved her, my stepson loved her. And Chandler was just a baby but she was a great babysitter, I mean, we loved having her around. But she worked a lot, I mean she was working then when she got pregnant she was working more. And, um, I didn't see her a whole lot. But she still babysat even after Cassidy was born. Her and Gabe. (Unintelligible).

JW: And Gabe was?

TF: Her boyfriend who I thought was Cassidy's father, at the time. We all thought that Gabe was Cassidy's father at the time. Um, they would all come over to babysit. Gabe and Cassidy and Amanda. And, ah. Spend some time, I didn't spend a lot of time with Amanda but enough that I knew her, you know.

JW: Okay.

TF: I talked to her.

JW: Does she confide in you?

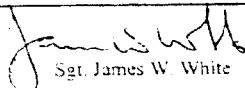
TF: Yes. About her relationship with her stepfather.

JW: Okay. So she was pretty comfortable with you and had no problem talking with you?

TF: I would say yes.

JW: About different subjects. okay.

TF: I would say yes.

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JW: Um. You said she continued to babysit for you even after Kassidy was born, was it as frequently or did that drop?

TF: No.

JW: (Unintelligible)

TF: It dropped. She was busy. They were both busy, working. Um, and then I lost contact with her. Um. I'm trying to think, my husband and I separated. So I didn't have a need for a babysitter quite as often you know.

JW: Hm, hm.

TF: Um. And, I remember she was living with some friends after her and Gabe split up. This is going back a ways. I was on a bowling league, and I needed a babysitter on Thursday nights. But she was working, I could never find her, I could never get in touch with her, and I think at that point, now I think that's when Kassidy was staying with her mom. And I think there was a point where, hm, her mother was taking care of Kassidy quite a bit, and I think that's when it was after her and Gabe split up.

JW: And she was staying with friends?

TF: And I think she was staying with friends in Sanford. And, um, I think she might have been working at Pizza Hut. But I didn't have a lot of contact with her, and then she kinda disappeared.

JW: Okay.

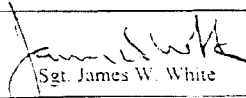
TF: And then there was nothing. And then. Last October? Sometime in the beginning of October, I went to the Y to pick my daughter and walked into the daycare room and Amanda was there, with Kassidy. And my daughter was all excited and, I was like wow. stranger. And Melissa and her were friends. And I didn't realize that. Melissa works at the Y.

JW: Melissa is?. Melissa?

TF: Chick.

JW: Chick? Okay. And, this was October of 2000?

TF: Hm, hm.

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JW: Okay. Now what transpired there and what, what happened after that?

TF: How were things you know catching up whatever, um, and then we all went over to my new apartment on Railroad Ave. where I live now. Amanda and Kassidy and Melissa. And, ah, we spent a couple hours there, visiting, the kids were playing, I had Jordan and Chandler and, um. You know just hangin' out really we didn't do anything we were just visiting cuz we hadn't seen each other in so long. And she came back the next day. With Kassidy. And, ah, I think she'd gone shopping for Chad's birthday, I think that was the day she came by with, some neckties and a Patriot's jacket or something she had picked up for Chad's birthday. They were gonna be celebrating it the next day or something. And, ah, they ended up spending the night, Kassidy spent the night with the kids.

JW: Did Amanda stay as well?

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Okay.

TF: They all stayed.

JW: Ah, did she tell you at all, did she tell you about Chad?

TF: How wonderful he was, yeah. Yup, how he had a house and a great job and, he was older and. I had asked her about the bruises on Kassidy's face. The, the first time I saw them at the Y. Kassidy had multiple bruises across the bridge of her nose and her cheek area.

JW: Okay and you're, because we're on tape we can't see but you're indicating, you're pointing to your, your cheek and your.

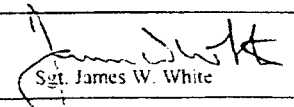
TF: The cheeks.

JW: Your nose area.

TF: Which, yeah.

JW: And.

TF: The middle of her face. And Amanda told me, um, Kassidy fell off a trampoline. That Chad was with Kassidy and he had to catch her so she wouldn't fall and caught her by her face.

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JW: Okay and you just indicated again because we're on tape that you just kinda reached your hand out, is that how Amanda, did she demonstrate that to you? Or do you recall?

TF: I don't recall.

JW: Okay. But they, she did tell you that, he said, or she said that, ah, he had to grab her by the face.

TF: Yes.

JW: To keep her from falling.

TF: Falling on the ground.

JW: Okay.

TF: Off the trampoline, yes.

JW: So. Just to be sure I'm clear, you, you saw her on Friday at the YMCA?

TF: Hm, hm; hm, hm.

JW: And you noticed bruising then on Cassidy.

TF: On Cassidy.

JW: And that's what you just described that bruising.

TF: Yes.

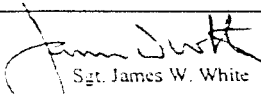
JW: And that's, that's what she tells you is about, ah, Chad grabbing her by the face.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: To keep her from falling off.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: The trampoline.

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TF: Yes.

JW: Okay, and then the next day you said she came to your house.

TF: They came back. And that night I questioned her about a bruise on her own face.

JW: On?

TF: On her jaw, on Amanda's.

JW: On Amanda's face?

TF: Yes.

JW: Okay.

TF: You know I said something like what the hell happened to you. And she stumbled for an explanation this time. She didn't have a story, you know, um. Something just wasn't settling right with me at, about the whole thing, like immediately I didn't, I didn't like it and, she said oh you should have seen me I fell into a door. You know klutz that I am, that kind of, thing. And I just kinda looked at her like, hm, alright. That's what you're gonna say. Later on that night, she said I can't believe that you actually think that I would be with somebody that would hit me. I said I'm just making sure, that's why I asked you about it. You have a place to stay, if you need to get away from him. And she didn't say anything for a while. Then she said well maybe I could get Kassidy into the Y, but I don't think they have room. Or she's too young. You have to be a certain age to get into the daycare at the Y and I think she said Kassidy's too young I can't get her into the Y yet. And, ah. I said well I have three bedrooms you know I have room for you here. And that was all.

JW: Okay. When you saw Amanda at the Y, what, was she there with Melissa or Missy?

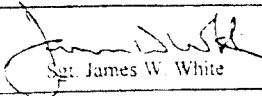
TF: Melissa works there.

JW: Was she there to see her?

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Did, so she didn't have Kassidy there for daycare or anything?

TF: No, no, no, no, no, she just came in to see Melissa.

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JW: Okay. Um, and then, and I'm jumping ahead to Saturday.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Ah. When you had that conversation later on where she says I can't believe you would think I would stay with somebody who, who hit me.

TF: She, yeah, she was kinda being you know like I'm too much of a bitch to put up with that. That was her, ah, that was her quote, unquote, I'm too much of a bitch to put up with that.

JW: Were you, were you talking about that? It sounds like you, you had asked her initially about that but.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Was there was a conversation as the evening went on where you asked her more about that or? I guess what I'm.

TF: I think I, I think I questioned her on her relationship with Chad. What kind of relationship they had. He's a lot older, you know when I was eighteen I was with an older guy so I kinda, what are you doing, you know you're just a kid. You don't, you don't need to be with a thirty year old man. Go stay with your mom. (Laughs) To, come stay with me.

JW: Okay.

TF: Something you, I didn't, I.

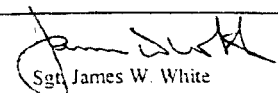
JEFF: Tracey you called today, ah, ah, story when, ah, um, Amanda told you about the bruise on her face, you suspected it was a story.

TF: Hm, hm, immediately.

JEFF: How about, how about the day before when she told you about bruise on Kassidy falling off trampoline. did you think that was...?

TF: Didn't question it. didn't question it.

JEFF: Okay.

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TF: It was different, you know and. Maybe in retrospect it's because she had been questioned so many times on the bruises on Cassidy's face that she had the, she had the comeback that she needed, I mean this is all in retrospect, you know I didn't think that initially, but now I'm like that makes sense, if so many people, I mean you can't miss the bruises on Cassidy's face. I'm sure people questioned her on it. She had to have something to tell them, right? (Unintelligible).

JW: So she was prepared for that but not prepared.

TF: But not prepared for the.

JW: For herself.

TF: Yes.

JW: Okay.

TF: I didn't see the bruise on her ff, on Cassidy's. I mean on Amanda's face, that Friday night. I don't know if it was there or not. I didn't see it until Saturday. So I don't know when it happened. I don't know when she got it.

JW: Okay.

TF: And I don't know how she got it. She said it was a door. I.

JW: Okay.

TF: It was a big bruise.

JW: A big bruise you're saying?

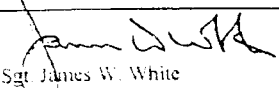
TF: Oh yeah.

JW: And that, ah, across her face?

TF: I wanna say a good, three, four inches round on the bottom of her jaw. Right side of her jaw.

JW: Okay. And you're indicating the, the right side.

TF: Hm, hm.

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JW: Do you remember if it was the right side?

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Yeah. So you can picture that pretty clearly?

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: In your mind.

TF: And, we were standing in my kitchen I have an island, she was leaning on the island and I looked over. That's when I saw it.

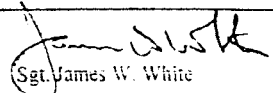
JW: Okay, um. What happened after that Saturday, did you guys stay in contact?

TF: Hm, hm. Um. Mostly phone contact, the following weekend. (Sigh) and I'm not clear on dates. We were gonna try to get together again. I, I wanted her to spend more time with me and the kids. I had an uneasy feeling. I can't explain that, I just. Eh, she didn't say that they were fighting or anything I just, I didn't like it. Maybe it was the mother hen in me or something I'm, come stay with me you know and the kids can do, we can take the kids shopping or we can do this or we can do that and. she was suppose to come to my house, on a Friday night and she didn't. And I didn't hear from her until, I wanna say Sunday. And at the time I didn't have a home phone. But I used my neighbor's phone, all the time. And she finally, I finally got in touch with her on Sunday. I said what happened to you. I never heard from you, you were supposed to come over, I was worried. And very sarcastically she said well what did you think I was getting beat. I'm like well I was a little worried, you know, she's like no I just had a lotta work to do. Some computer survey thing she was doing. I'm like alright so everything's fine, she's like everything's good. And then. I don't know a week and a half later Kassidy's dead.

JW: Okay. Um. Had, had Amanda given you any hint, I mean other than your own suspicions about the bruising on her face, had she given you any, ah, sense of what the relationship was like with Chad between she and Chad?

TF: She told me that he could get a bit, aggressive, sexually. And I think she was looking for my, of not opinion but, um, a little bit of help dealing with that you know like. what would you do, some advice on. ah. how to deal with that. I think he was, a little aggressive sexually.

JW: Ah. did she, did you take that to mean rough or, or frequency, ah, did she, did she explain what she was talking about?

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TF: I think rough, at, at least that's how I would interpret it. You know not mister tender (laughs) that's not the vision I get. Um.

JW: But she didn't describe anything to you?

TF: Eh, hm.

JW: In particular?

TF: Eh, hm.

JW: Okay. How did you find out about Cassidy's death?

TF: Newspaper, at work, here.

JW: Can you tell me about that a little bit?

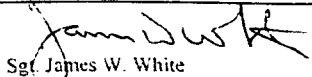
TF: Um, I came to work Monday morning. And I had already spoken with a couple of my co-workers about Amanda. And my suspicions that she was being abused. And looking for some opinions on how to deal with that. And, when I came to work Monday morning, my co-worker Chris asked me what my friend's name was. And she handed me the newspaper, that had a picture of Cassidy, it said toddler's death suspicious. And. It took me a few minutes to, get a grip cuz I didn't expect that. If anything I expected to see Amanda's face on the newspaper, or on the news one night. And I called Melissa at the Y. And told her. And, I went and picked her up and we went to the police department, in Kittery, to give our statements. And that was, that was it, until Thursday.

JW: Ah, what Thursday?

TF: Thursday after I found out about Cassidy's death, when Amanda came to my house.

JW: Okay, what happened then?

TF: (Sigh) Amanda walked in my, kitchen door. Cried and hugged me and said "and you knew". "And I didn't listen", that kind of thing. And we both cried. And we sat at the kitchen table. And again my daughter was there so it was a little difficult, um. She told me that Chad had been arrested, she told me that she was there, that they had come in and arrested Chad. And she left and came to Springvale. I don't think she should have been driving, she was a wreck. Um, and she stayed with me that night and she told me bits and pieces of, ah, the relationship she had with Chad and his

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abuse of Cassidy. And, ah. How she looked at Chad like her, her knight in shining armor, her savior. And, um. I think she really wanted a better life for her and Cassidy. And she saw Chad as her way to get that. I don't know why. I don't know. (Laughs) Um. She told me about an incident that Chad threw Cassidy on the bed, in their bedroom. She didn't say why. She told me that Chad was jealous of Cassidy. And that anytime Cassidy would try to get Amanda's attention, Chad would get upset. He would get agitated, he would get, angry if Cassidy was trying to get between them. I think he was threatened by her which seems ridiculous but.

JW: Is that what Amanda told you?

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: Or is that what you're surmising?

TF: What that it was ridiculous?

JW: Yeah.

TF: That's me.

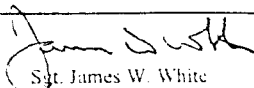
JW: Okay.

TF: That's me. Um. Amanda told me that he was jealous. And would want Cassidy to be quiet. And, like push her like up against the wall to get her to be quiet.

JW: What do you mean?

TF: Like grab her by the shirt, by the clothes and push her or. The one time that she told me that he threw her on a bed. Um. She said he would, he would lose control, if Cassidy wouldn't be quiet, if Cassidy tried to get Amanda to hug her, like if she came to her mom for a hug or a kiss, Chad would get jealous. But again we were both upset, I mean the night that she came to my house we were both crying and, so the story wasn't like this, we didn't sit down and go in chronological order, it was just kinda bits and pieces, like and he did this and then she would cry again and then she was like and you knew and why didn't I just come stay with you and that kind of thing it was, it was crazy, it was incoherent, a lot. (Laughs) Um. But I, I had no, there was no question in my mind that she was telling me that, that Chad did this.

JW: Did, ah, so she's kinda. she told you that he was aggressive, he could be aggressive toward.

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TF: Hm, hm; hm, hm.

JW: Cassidy.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: And describes the grabbing and.

TF: Hm, hm. Hm, hm.

JW: Forcing her into a wall.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: And pushing her.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Into a wall. Did he say anything, ah, or did, excuse me, did she say anything to you about any of, any of the bruising specific bruising to either Cassidy or herself? You described the one bruise to her. did she tell you anything about that at all?

TF: Not that I can recall. No.

JW: Okay.

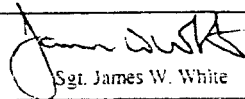
TF: Eh, ah, I wish I could but I can't, there's nothing. Specific.

JW: I'm just wondering I guess what I'm getting at that Tracey you said that she told you words like you knew and I didn't listen to you. So, what did you take that to mean when she said that?

TF: I felt like she was saying you knew that Chad was doing this. And I didn't listen to you. I didn't come stay with you. I mean I couldn't force her to come stay with me.

JW: Right.

TF: But I certainly made it very obvious to her that I wanted her to. And that she's more than welcome. She's like well you know I work all the way in, in Kittery and if the Y can't take Cassidy yet and. I think. part of her knew that she should you know at least that's the impression I got like part of her wanted to do that, part of her wanted to come stay with me. Because I had the room and we were friends and I think she

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felt like she could trust me. And. I had a hard time with the fact that she didn't contact me, when this happened. I had to find out through the newspaper and then I didn't hear from her. When she finally came to the house, I think her bigger, the biggest part of her coming to my house for me was that she had to face that like guilt and by her saying you knew and I didn't listen to you is a big thing for her.

JW: Okay, had, ah, was that the first contact you had with her since Cassidy's death?

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: So you didn't see her.

TF: Yes.

JW: At the police station the night you were there?

TF: No.

JW: Okay. Did she, ah, did she tell you anything, um, at all, I know you, you talked about the, ah, trampoline story that she told you.

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: Ah, she does tell you anything more about that? Either about that, you know, how it had occurred if that actually had occurred or anything?

TF: Eh. hm. No.

JW: Okay.

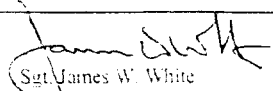
TF: Not that I can recall.

JW: Um. Did she say anything and again I'm just trying to get as much as I can out of you here.

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: She talked about the, him being aggressive with Cassidy and, and getting jealous of Cassidy.

TF: Hm. hm.

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JW: When she showed, ah, wanted Amanda's attention.

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Anything else at all that you can recall that she talked about that, that Chad, how Chad dealt with Cassidy, did she talk anything about, ah, um, well let me ask you this. Did Amanda discipline Cassidy? Did you ever see her discipline Cassidy or? Did you ever see Cassidy misbehave and Amanda have to deal with it?

TF: Amanda was wrapping Chad's birthday presents at my kitchen table. And, Cassidy went over to grab the wrapping paper. Amanda, Cassidy no you don't need that and took it and set it down on the floor and off Cassidy went. Works for me I mean that was great you know she's not even two and she listens pretty good. My daughter probably would have grabbed it and ran away you know. So, that's really the only the incident that I can think of, you know.

JW: Okay. Did she ever tell you about, ah, any, any, anything at all when Cassidy misbehaved with Chad?

TF: No. Not that I can recall, not. Not that I can recall.

JW: Okay.

JEFF: Tracey had you ever met Chad?

TF: No.

JEFF: Before?

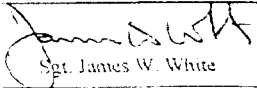
TF: No. She said she would like for me to meet him. I wasn't really all that interested. That, I mean, maybe eventually I would have but again we had just ran into each other this all happened within three or four weeks. Um. It may have happened. Sooner or later. I don't know.

JW: How would contrast Amanda the night she showed up at your house versus the way she was normally?

TF: The night she showed up at my house after Cassidy's?

JW: Thursday.

TF: Oh.

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JW: After Cassidy's death?

TF: She was a mess. She was a mess, her hair was a mess and. I don't think I'd ever seen her with her glasses on. She was crying she. Oh, she was distraught for sure. Definitely not typical Amanda you know she was always pretty easy going. Quiet. Um. If that's what you mean. Yeah she was, very emotional, that night.

JW: Okay.

TF: As was I.

JEFF: Tracey I don't wanna words in your mouth but, um, when she came and said you were right, you knew all along and all that, did you take that to mean to kind of vindication that your like previous conversation when you questioned Amanda about the.

TF: That is absolutely how I felt. When, that was the first thing she said to me when she walked in the door, we looked at each other and she was crying and she said and you knew and she hugged me. And that's to me was. I knew what was going on. I knew. About Chad, that's absolutely how I took it.

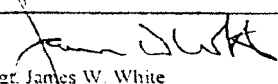
JEFF: Was there anyone else that. ah, she mentioned to you and I, I know there was problems with her stepfather. Did, did she ever say anything about, ah, about whether, um, Cassidy was around her stepfather or if she was even having contact with her stepfather at that point?

TF: No. No, the, the, we didn't even talk about that really. I told her at some point that I didn't think it was good idea if she went to stay with them. And I think she knew that and I think maybe that's why, she jumped into the relationship with Chad like she did cuz she'd been staying with her mother and stepfather and wanted out. But that's just me, that's just me thinking that, maybe she looked at Chad like a way out of her parent's house. It's hard being a single mom. Young.

JW: Hm. hm.

TF: But she never said that. That, that's just my opinion.

JW: After Thursday night when she came to see you, what's been your contact with her since then?

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TF: She stayed at my house that Thursday night. Um. (Sigh) Was that, that must have been the weekend of Cassidy's funeral. Do you know if that's the weekend of Cassidy's funeral? Was Cassidy's funeral that Sunday?

JW: Yeah it was shortly after Chad's arrest.

TF: Okay, so. If, er, I went on vacation. Of all things. That following night, I left for London, that Friday night I left for Boston at like midnight, um, but she stayed at my house while I was gone with Cathy, a girl from Texas.

JW: Okay.

TF: I think it's Cathy, um. So I saw her Thursday night and I had to work Friday and she was in and out of the house all day, I think preparing for Cassidy's funeral as far as I know. And, um, I think Cassie, Cathy flew in from Texas. Again the time frames are a little shaky. I was working all day Friday, got home from work Friday night and she showed up with Cathy, I was getting ready to leave, um. And I left at midnight and I had written her a note, because we were getting ready to leave, and she was gone with Cathy and she got back just as we were getting ready to leave. And. She was a little calmer, smoked a lot. She never smoked before, she was smoking, chain smoking.

JW: You said she was chain smoking?

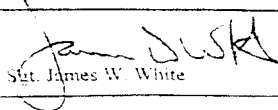
TF: (Laughs) Um. I think understandably so. That Thursday night at my kitchen table. She was smoking. Um. And I, so I left around midnight Friday and she stayed at my house. And when I got back a week later, she had left me a note, um. I think I still have it, somewhere. Something I hope you're not upset with me but I went to Texas with Cathy. I think it's a good idea if I get away for a little while, um, and left me Cathy's cell number so I could get in touch with her. Thank you so much for letting me stay here, that kind of thing. Um. And I haven't talked to her since. I know she came back because she got some of her, stuff from my house, but I haven't seen her.

JW: Okay. So no contact with her at all since then?

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: Alright.

TF: And now I guess I can understand why if she's, if she's with Chad. Then.

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JEFF: You knew it was her who got stuff from your house? Did she leave you a note at that time?

TF: I don't think she left me a note, I think Melissa told me or my next door neighbor. I used to live with my next door neighbor, we were roommates. And she had a key. So I can't remember now if it was like Amanda came by and my neighbor Chris said Amanda was here to get her car and her stuff. Cuz she had left her car in my driveway cuz she left with Cathy. And, ah, just a Rubbermaid thing of some of Cassidy's things and. Cassidy's car seat is still in my basement. Just a few things, not a lot and, ah, some clothes. And, ah. She came by and picked up the Rubbermaid thing, and that was it. She's gone and then as far as I knew she was gonna go back to Texas. at some point, and that she was staying with another friend that lived. um. can't remember it, seacoast area somewhere, I can't remember where.

JW: Okay.

JEFF: Did you ever talk to her in Texas?

TF: No. I think I tried to get a hold of her on Cathy's cell phone once and couldn't get through or something like that I tried to call but, nope I never talked to her.

JW: Anything else you can think about that, ah. Thursday night when she showed up at your house? Any, anything else she might have told you. I, I think when you talked about the trampoline initially you said the trampoline story. I mean.

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: Story to me makes it sound like it's. it's just that it's, it's, ah, made up. Um, is that, did you get that sense when you said that or is it something that, sounded reasonable like a reasonable explanation to you?

TF: (Sigh) maybe I'm jaded now. Initially I didn't question it.

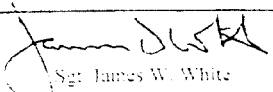
JW: Alright well I don't want you to change.

TF: Now.

JW: If that's the case, I mean if that's what it was said to you initially and.

TF: When she initially told me.

JW: Sounded reasonable to you.

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TF: The trampoline I didn't question it.

JW: Okay.

TF: I didn't question it. But now I, I have, different view on the whole thing I guess so now I feel like.

JW: Okay. Any other, any other behaviors, ah, that she described to you about, ah, the way Chad was toward Kassidy other than what you've already told us?

TF: Not that I can think of.

JW: Okay.

TF: I mean, ah, again I didn't have a whole lot of contact with her. But it was, something made me suspicious, something made me question her relationship with Chad. Enough that I would ask my co-workers about it, you know?

JW: Hm, hm.

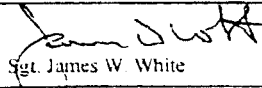
TF: That something wasn't right.

JW: Did you, ah, when you, you said you called, ah, Melissa when you read the paper

TF: Hm, hm.

JW: Um, what was that conversation like or what was it about? Did Meli, ah, did, ah, Melissa already know or?

TF: No. Um. I called the Y and she wasn't at work yet. And I asked them for Melissa's home phone number. And they, of course weren't gonna get, they weren't gonna give it to me and then I told them who I was and that it was important that I get a hold of her, so they did. And she was home, and I said have you read the paper or heard the news or talked to Amanda at all and she's like no why. It was awful, I didn't wanna have to be the one to tell her. And she, like I, was very surprised that it was Kassidy and not Amanda. But I mean I don't think I would have been surprised if I had read the paper and it was Amanda's face and not Kassidy's. The last thing I expected was Kassidy's face. Phew, it was a kick in the stomach that's for sure. Melissa was a wreck. Emotionally, I mean she was very upset. She called work and said she wasn't coming in. And I drove to Sanford and picked her up. So we could both go to police station I said I don't know if we're gonna be able to give 'em

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anything of use but. Ah, at that point I felt like I didn't want Amanda to get in trouble for somebody else's actions, that was my motivation behind it. Now I think my opinion's changed a little bit but.

JW: Okay, was there any. any other bruising you saw on Kassidy for instance you, you described what you saw on Friday, Saturday was it about the same?

TF: Oh yeah, I mean, one day isn't gonna make a whole lot of difference, she had green bruises, on her face.

JW: Anymore talk about those on Saturday?

TF: Eh. hm. No.

JW: Okay.

TF: Like I may have made some comment, I. cuz I was holding Kassidy you know at some point, holding her and I may have said something you know poor thing. It was awful I mean her face looked awful.

JW: Had you, did you have much contact with Kassidy prior to reconnecting kind of in October there?

TF: Did I?

JW: Yeah, when she was first born and during the first year or so of her life?

TF: Um. A little I mean when she came over to the house with Gabe and Amanda. To babysit. I, I picked her up, I picked Gabe and Kassidy up a couple times at their apartment and brought them back to the house I think Amanda was still working, and we needed a sitter before Amanda got out of work so Gabe would come over with Kassidy and then Amanda would come over and meet them after. Um. She was beautiful I mean, she was just an infant. Um. And my daughter thought it was great you know sitting on the couch and feeding her the bottle that kinda thing.

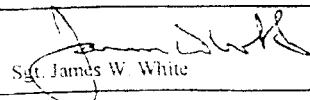
JW: Hm. hm.

TF: No I never saw anything.

JW: Okay.

TF: No.

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JW: Nothing prior to?

TF: (Unintelligible) no, no, no, no.

JW: And then, ah, you said you think she went to live with, ah, with Amanda's mom for a period of time.

TF: I.

JW: Did, did you see her at all during that time?

TF: No. No. Um. No I never saw, I never saw Kassidy after that. But like I can't remember for sure that last time I saw her, um. I wanna say it was winter. I had a baby blanket that was a gift to me when I was pregnant with my daughter and it was cold out and it was late when they were leaving. So I wrapped Kassidy up in that like just take an extra blanket and wrapped her up in it. And, ah. And then I never saw her. That was.

JW: Okay.

TF: I think that was the last time I saw Kassidy until, last October.

JW: Okay. And, and your contact then was pretty much that Friday, Saturday and that was it?

TF: Hm. hm.

JW: Okay.

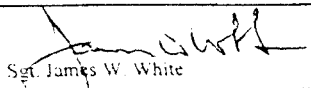
TF: Yeah.

JW: Anything that we haven't asked that, ah, you, you think's important, ah, or anything else come to mind while we've been talking that, ah, you'd like to, share with us?

TF: Hm. I can't think of anything. I can't.

JW: Okay. Nothing else?

JEFF: Um. how about, ah. Amanda's sister, did you know her at all?

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TF: I met Jennifer once or twice. Way before Kassidy was in the picture. Like the year before Amanda was pregnant.

JEFF: Okay. And didn't meet her since, ah.

TF: Eh-ah, ah, no.

JEFF: Kassidy was born?

TF: No.

JEFF: Yeah, the only thing I think about is, um, you say you had I know some co-workers here you had some, ah, conversations about.

TF: Hm, hm.

JEFF: Maybe what's happening to Amanda.

TF: Hm, hm.

JEFF: What's happening to Kassidy.

TF: Hm, hm.

JEFF: How about any of Amanda's, ah, friends, ah, I mean, how, how much did you get into, I know she's a little bit younger than you but how much.

TF: She's quite a bit younger. Um.

JEFF: How much of her circle did you actually other than Gabe who you knew.

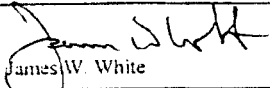
TF: I knew Gabe because they lived together.

JEFF: You knew Melissa.

TF: I didn't know Melissa until.

JEFF: Oh until then.

TF: Until the day that I ran into Amanda at the Y, I'm kinda looking at Amanda and looking at Melissa going, you know each other, I only knew Melissa because my daughter went to the Y.

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JEFF: Hm, hm.

TF: I had no idea she knew Amanda. I didn't, I didn't know.

JEFF: So as far as any of the other circle of friends.

TF: Eh-hm.

JEFF: You weren't in on....

TF: Eh-hm. No I met Cathy, the, I think that's her name from Texas.

JEFF: Yup.

TF: Um, after. I really didn't know any of her friends, I mean I didn't go to Sanford High and I'm twelve years older than her.

JEFF: Right, and then you didn't go to the funeral cuz you were on vacation.

TF: I was gone.

JEFF: So you didn't see.

TF: I didn't meet anybody, um. Horrible timing I. ah. almost cancelled my trip but. She kind of insisted that I not do that and that she said that she felt Cassidy would know, that kind of thing you know, cuz I was upset I wanted to, I wanted to be there for her and she's like no I have you know my mom and Cathy's here from Texas and. Melissa's gonna be there with me. I said okay.

JW: Did. ah, did Amanda ever attribute blame for Cassidy's death to anybody?

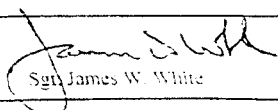
TF: In my opinion yes. Chad.

JW: Did. and, and what do you base that on?

TF: He hurt my baby, he did this to my baby. I mean. That pretty much sums it up to me.

JW: Did she. did she point to anybody else at all as being responsible for the injuries or did she?

TF: No.

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JW: Ex, did, try to explain any of the injuries to you?

TF: No.

JW: Okay.

JEFF: Did she explain or talk about you know the night before cuz you, as you know, ah, Cassidy actually, ah, ah, died in Maine at. at a, a babysitter.

TF: At. right.

JEFF: There.

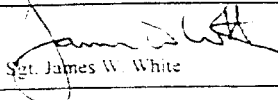
TF: At Jennifer's, right Jennifer's, was it Jennifer's house?

JEFF: So did she explain the injuries or, ah, anything that happened that she thinks, ah, you know was the fatal injuries even though you know there's speculation they were hours. inflicted hours before the actual death?

TF: No.

JEFF: Did she talk about the day, the day of the death or, ah, you know what her actions were that morning or the night before or anything?

TF: Ah, I'm trying to recall that. again. dah. the story was so hard to follow, you know what I mean the bits and pieces it was kind of overwhelming. Something about Chad called her at work. see and I don't wanna say anything wrong I don't wanna, she said something about Chad calling her at work because Cassidy got hit in the face with a baseball. Time sequence I'm not positive about. She said should I come home that kinda thing, no, no, no it was an accident. I think she'll be fine. Um. I guess Chad had picked Cassidy up at Jennifer's the night before. (Sigh) I need a flow chart (laughs), I think Chad picked Cassidy up at Jennifer's and brought her home and then he called Amanda and said there's been an accident, Cassidy was hit in the face with a baseball. Is she okay, dah, dah, dah, dah. Amanda said she got home late that night, and went in, she told me that she checked on Cassidy, I remember her saying that. I checked on her she was sleeping. The next morning, she said she was running late for work. Running around the house trying to get the kids ready, you know trying to get Cassidy breakfast and whatever and she said she remembers when Cassidy woke up, she had really, really stinky diaper, I don't know why she said it was really odd it was just awful. I'm like okay, she said I changed her, and got myself ready and I don't know who the other kid, maybe Chad's, Chad has another

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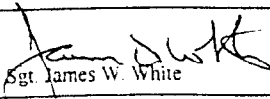
kid or his own, right? I think that kid was at the house too, cuz I think she said had two of 'em trying to get both of 'em ready and she had to be to work early and, dropped Kassidy off at, um, her sister's. And she said the bruise on her eye looked like shit. I remember her saying that. And that was, that was it.

JW: Okay. Anything else Tracey?

TF: Not that I can, not that's jumping out at me, um. And we sat there for like two hours. And then, we were both exhausted, she looked exhausted I said you need to try to get some sleep. I might have given her a Tylenol PM even, to help her sleep and, she slept in my daughter's room that night, and. I felt really motherly I remember thinking this when I was like tucking her in and we were both crying and I was tucking her in to bed and I gave her a kiss on the forehead, and she started crying again. Saying you know this is all I ever wanted for Kassidy, I wanted her to have her own room, and she'll never have it, that just. It was awful. I said well I'm right next door if you need me and then I left for work in the morning.

JW: Okay. Okay. We'll, ah, conclude the interview and it's by my watch about 11:12.

END OF INTERVIEW

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