

SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

(The following may contain unintelligible or misunderstood words due to the recording quality. The witness was very soft-spoken or sometimes almost whispering and could not be heard.)

NK: Detective Nathan King *NK*

CASE #: 22-80828

LO: Detective Luis Ojeda

DATE: 9/24/22

AG: Amy Sims Gregory

TIME: 11:05 A.M.

AM: Amber, Victim Advocate

Start at 02:08:00

LO: Hi.

AG: Hi.

LO: How are you? You doing okay?

NK: Hey, Amy.

LO: Amy, this is our Victims Assistance, uh, personnel here, Amber.

AG: Hi.

LO: And she's here in case you would need her.

AG: Okay.

LO: Do you want her to sit with you, with us, while we're taking care of -- of --

AG: No. That's fine.

LO: -- just a little -- we're having a little interview --

AG: That's --

LO: -- with you.

AG: -- that's fine.

LO: That's fine?

NK: Do you feel better, you feel better with her in here or --

AG: I mean, I'm fine, either way, just --

NK: Okay. It's -- well, it's up to you. It's totally up to you.

AM: Yeah. Whatever makes you comfortable.

AG: You can stay.

AM: Okay.

NK: We -- we see you're upset. We just feel if you could try to calm down.

We're just gonna have a conversation --

LO: (unintelligible) find another chair.

NK: -- with you.

AG: Uh-huh, yeah.

NK: And you'll tell us exactly what happened --

AM: Thank you.

NK: -- and we'll go through all that with you. Okay?

AG: Yeah, yeah.

NK: Um, it -- and, uh, this is a traumatic incident, you know --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- that we try to -- we want -- we just want everyone's --

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: -- you know, your -- your statement as clear as possible.

AG: Okay.

NK: It'll be fine. Okay?

AG: Okay.

NK: She'll talk to you a little about that.

AM: Yeah. And, um, I don't know if they already told you but this is recorded video and audio, and the camera's right up there (indicating).

AG: Okay. (unintelligible).

NK: Okay. Just wanna make sure we get all your information that -- we do have a lot of it. We just -- I don't have phone numbers. So --

AG: Okay.

NK: Um, let me just get this. Is -- is it Amy?

AG: Amy.

NK: A-M-Y?

AG: Y.

NK: Okay. You got a middle initial you use?

AG: Uh, S.

NK: S. Do you have a Florida license?

AG: I do.

NK: Okay. And is it Gregory?

AG: Yeah.

NK: Go ahead and spell that for me.

AG: Well, the lady says it's gonna be under Sims.

NK: Oh, Sims.

AG: S-I-M-S. Yes, sir. And it would Amy M. Sims. Or Amy Margaret on my license.

NK: Not S -- Sims?

AG: No. It's -- yeah. It's still in my maiden name.

NK: Amy M. Sims. Okay. And your birth date?

AG: 10/6/65.

NK: Okay. And, um -- and your phone number we can reach you?

AG: [REDACTED]

NK: Great. Are you full-time here at your residence there?

AG: Yeah.

NK: And go ahead and just state your residence. What's your address?

AG: Uh, [REDACTED]

NK: Okay. Are you working or are you retired?

AG: We're working.

NK: You work. Where do you work?

AG: Um, Bayview Dental Associates.

NK: Is that in Osprey or Sarasota?

AG: It's Sarasota on [REDACTED]

NK: Okay. All right. Amy, just due to the fact that, um, you guys were involved in this incident where you know, you were approached by, um, this -- this person that you know as Steven.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Um, and -- and due to the, you know, the seriousness of it, you know, we're gonna read you your Miranda rights. Okay?

AG: Yeah.

NK: Um, from our -- I understand that when they got on scene, um, you guys had the gun at your home on the -- on the counter outside in the porch, right?

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Okay. And you've been cooperative. Um, so we're gonna read you -- have you ever -- have you ever had that read to you before? Probably not.

AG: Uh-uh. No.

NK: Um, you probably heard it maybe on TV.

AG: Yeah.

NK: You know, you have the right to remain silent. Um, this is something we have to do. Uh, you know, to just advise you of your rights. Okay?

AG: Okay.

NK: Um, it just -- not, you know, you're in the -- you're in the middle of this investigation. You're, you know, the two parties involved with -- with the other man, Steven.

AG: Yeah.

NK: So, um --

AM: Yeah. It's protocol.

NK: Yeah.

AG: Okay.

AM: Basically, yeah.

NK: So I'm gonna go ahead and read those rights to you. And if you have any questions about those, um, and if you don't understand, I can -- I'll -- I'll tell you further if you know, if you need anymore information about it --

AG: Okay.

NK: I'm gonna ask you if you understand them, and if you do, if you're willing to speak to us at the end. Okay?

AG: Okay.

NK: If you can just, you know, provide us your....

AG: Certainly.

NK: I don't have my card with me. or my swipe. Okay, Amy. "You, uh, you have the right to remain silent." Do you understand that?

AG: Yes, sir.

NK: Okay. "Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law." You understand that?

AG: Yep.

NK: "You have the right to talk to an attorney and have him or her present with you before and during questioning." Do you understand that?

AG: Yes.

NK: "If you cannot afford to hire an attorney one will be appointed to represent you at no cost to you, before or during questioning if you wish." You understand that?

AG: Yes.

NK: "You can decide at any time to exercise these rights and not answer any questions or make any statements." You understand that?

AG: Yes.

NK: Okay. "Having these rights in mind, do you wish to speak to us now?"

AG: Sure, yeah.

LO: Okay. Thanks. Thanks, Amy. That's the just the, uh, formality we gotta get out of the way because you're here.

AG: Yeah.

LO: And we wanna take a statement from you.

AG: Yeah, yeah.

NK: Okay. All right. All right, Amy. Just -- just in your own words, can you just tell -- let's -- what -- what we're gonna do is I just want you to tell us what happened today.

AG: Okay.

NK: And then we'll go back and we'll talk about maybe a history if you have that with --

AG: We do.

NK: -- with him. Okay?

AG: Okay.

NK: So just happened today, what -- what -- about what time it was that you -- whatever you guys did.

AG: Um, I think it was about 6:30. Um, we were about to take the puppies out for a walk, and, uh, when we come through, we always take right. So we

just went our normal way, and we're always nervous, 'cause we know that kid lives in those condos. So, we walked past, and we heard one of the other guys that lives in there come around with his dogs. 'Cause they all three started barking. So they came around and we said, Good morning. He started walking the other way, and then maybe a minute later, the kid comes walking down the driveway.

NK: I'm sorry -- I'm sorry. When you say "the kid," who's that?

AG: Uh, the guy that attacked David. Yeah.

NK: Okay. You don't know him.

AG: I don't know him.

NK: You don't know his name, you don't know --

AG: I don't know his name.

NK: Okay. Okay. Go -- okay.

AG: Um, so then he comes walking out and he's -- anytime he's outside, you know he's looking for trouble. So then it was like he was trying to follow the other guy. And then the other guy went around the block. So it's like he turned around to go down the other street, like he was gonna cut him off.

NK: Is that Westview?

AG: I think that's Westview.

NK: Okay. Um, right near your home at the corner --

AG: Exactly.

NK: Okay.

AG: Exactly.

NK: And who's this other guy that you're talking about?

AG: Does Dave -- is his name Steven?

NK: Yeah. The other -- the guy -- so you don't know the guy who was walking the dog. You don't know his name?

AG: I don't know his name.

NK: Okay.

AG: Um, but I know where they live.

NK: Okay. And you didn't know who Steven was until I mentioned it.

AG: No.

NK: Okay.

AG: I didn't know his name at all.

NK: Okay. So Steven's going after the guy you don't know.

AG: Exactly.

NK: Who's walking a dog. Okay. Go ahead.

AG: So then I guess he can't find him going down Westview. So then he turns and he starts heading our way, and that always makes us nervous. So we just keep walking the dogs. So he ends up that time just passing. And he started -- he -- he was just walking down the road. So we just continued going our way, and then you turn around, and then it's almost like he's got his sights on us now. He's turned around and he's walking our way. So we just continue doing what we're doing 'cause we know how crazy he is. And then he -- uh, the -- the only way I can explain it is he's almost like a

buzzard circling, because what he'll do is he'll walk towards you in a huff, and it's almost like he bows himself out. So he'll walk towards you. He got in the middle of us and spit and he passed me, but then he always does his little look around. He does a quick circle. And then each time he passes, it gets shorter and closer. That's -- that's how he's always done it. He did that this morning. And we tried to just walk our dogs.

What I remember seeing, I had Caution [phonetic] in one area. David was with Chewy in the other. Steven walked past David --

AG: -- staring at him the whole time. Then he spits. He goes by me, then he turns around. He goes back by David and he's just staring at him. The next thing I know, I'm looking at Caution, and I turn around, Steven is past David just a little bit, and then does one of his abrupt turns around -- turnaround. And all I hear is, What the fuck? And that's all I hear. And he's walking toward David the whole time. I heard David -- I don't know if he said, Back the fuck off, or something, and then all I can see is the guy. It looked like he was either swinging at David -- it looked like he -- they were facing each other. It looked like he pushed David, but it looked like he was taking his arm to -- trying to go around his neck. Almost like he was gonna try to pull him down. And then that's when I heard the gunshot.

NK: Okay. Okay. Let's -- we're gonna -- we're gonna back up a little bit here.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Um, so you guys -- when you guys step out front from your -- from your -- from your place, you go out into the -- out to the road.

NK: Um, so you guys -- when you guys step out front from your -- from your --
from your place, you go out into the -- out to the road.

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Um, do you -- uh, are you guys walking either direction down, uh, Highland
or are you guys just --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- standing there like near the grass --

AG: No, no, no.

NK: -- with the dogs.

AG: No. We're walking.

NK: Okay. Which -- which direction are you --

AG: So we always, like we live in a little alleyway. So we always -- there's a little
cut-through to get to Highland.

NK: Yep.

AG: So we always cut through there and then we carry the dogs to the right.
Because if we don't carry them, they won't walk far enough. So we --

NK: Okay. So --

AG: -- always carry them down to the corner.

NK: So Highland, I -- I think Highland runs north and south, right?

AG: Yes.

NK: Like, parallel with 41.

AG: Exactly.

NK: Okay. So you turned to go north.

AG: We turn to go north.

NK: Okay. Towards Westview is on the corner?

AG: Yes. Like --

NK: That corner street.

AG: -- when -- at the cut-through at our house, here's Highland like at the cut-through. There's Westland -- Westview right there.

NK: Yes, yes.

AG: So we take a right.

NK: Okay. And where were you at then, when you -- when you seen --

AG: When we saw Steven?

NK: -- Steven, yeah.

AG: So after you take a right, the drive to get into their condos is right there on the right. We had already past that.

NK: Is that the sign -- with the sign? It has, um, a bunch of numbers?

AG: Yes.

NK: The white sign on the --

AG: The white sign.

NK: Yeah. Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: So you're already past there.

AG: We're a little past that. That's when we heard the other guy and his dogs coming down the drive to go for a walk.

NK: And what -- what drive was that?

AG: Their drive. Their -- their gravel drive.

NK: Is it where that sign is?

AG: Yes.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah. So he's walking out that way and we just say, Good morning. And then that guy takes his three dogs and goes the opposite way, just so they don't bark.

NK: Southbound on Highland?

AG: Exactly.

NK: Okay.

AG: So then after that, Steven -- we're -- we had stopped to put the dogs down so they could start doing their business, then we could start our walk. And we looked up and we saw Steven coming down his gravel driveway and it's almost like he was looking for that guy 'cause I know they don't get along either.

NK: I know there are several that go into this gravel driveway, so is Steven coming out of the gravel driveway, just like the man that was walking the three dogs?

AG: Exactly.

NK: Okay.

AG: Exactly.

NK: So he's coming out here. He's heading after the guy --

AG: It looks like --

NK: Okay.

AG: So the --

NK: Does he look at you guys? Does he see --

AG: Not at that point.

NK: Okay.

AG: He did not look our direction that point.

NK: Okay.

AG: He just went and it was like he was beelining, trying to find the other dude.

So when he didn't find him --

NK: You didn't see him after for a few minutes?

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: Okay.

AG: Uh-uh. I mean, we didn't see the guy walking the puppies. Steven, we could see him 'cause we keep our eye on him. He was walking toward the direction the other guy went but the other guy turned the corner. So it looked like Steven wanted to cut him off at the pass, so he came back and started walking down Westview. Because then they would intersect.

NK: Yeah. They would merge. Okay.

AG: For some reason, Steven walked back down Westview, and then he saw us. And I fell like that's when he's like, Oh, okay. Well, I'll fuck with these guys.

NK: Were you guys still heading north or were you still stopped with the dogs?

AG: We were kind of stopped with the dogs. And then at some point, we did start heading south, like heading back home.

AG: We were kind of stopped with the dogs. And then at some point, we did start heading south, like heading back home.

NK: To your -- yep.

AG: On our normal route.

NK: Pass Westview again.

AG: Pass Westview again, and then we got right past Westview and that's when Steven, I guess he just decided he wanted to come fuck with us. So then he started walking this way, and that's when he started kind of doing is he's -- he'll pass.

NK: He walked fast past --

AG: Turn --

NK: -- so he's -- he will end up walking past you guys?

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: He'll walk past --

NK: Did he look at you? Did he say anything?

AG: Um, I don't look at him. We learned a long time ago just don't make eye contact with him.

NK: What was he wearing?

AG: His hoodie -- his normal hoodie, a hat, and --

NK: What color was the hoodie?

AG: I think it was dark gray.

NK: Okay. And, uh, pants, shorts?

AG: Uh, shorts --

NK: What was -- okay. Describe him a little bit more -- more for me.

AG: Um, he's got glasses.

NK: Okay.

AG: I think he had a ball cap on with his hoodie pulled up.

NK: White -- white --

AG: Uh --

NK: -- Hispanic, black?

AG: I think he's white.

NK: Okay.

AG: Only time we see him --

NK: Thin --

AG: -- he's got that hoodie up.

NK: -- thin -- thin, heavy, medium built?

AG: Um, he's a pretty big guy.

NK: Okay. You say "big" --

AG: I would say he's 6 -- 6, 1, 6, 2.

NK: Okay.

AG: Um --

NK: Heavy, muscular, athletic --

AG: Muscular.

NK: He's muscular?

AG: Mucular.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Any tattoos, any identifying marks. You've never seen be like --

AG: He's always covered up.

NK: Covered up?

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Okay. Okay. So he's -- now he's now passed -- walking past you guys --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- faster than you guys or whatever.

AG: Yeah. 'Cause --

NK: So, uh --

AG: -- we're stopped.

NK: -- okay. So tell me what he does once he gets past you.

AG: So once he gets past me, I guess he just decides he wants to turn around again. And I see him go past me, and I'm keeping my eye on him. And he's doing one of his passes where he's getting closer, and then he'll turn, he'll get closer, and he'll turn and he'll get closer.

NK: Okay.

AG: Just to intimidate you. So the last time I saw him turn around is when he came to David and I saw him coming at David.

NK: Okay. So how many passes did he do? So he does one, the initial pass, turns around --

AG: I think that time, he had only passed us that one time on that strip, I wanna say. I know he passed us twice somewhere on the street.

NK: Did you ever get past the, uh, drive that come -- that you come out of to get onto Highland? You -- did you make it down to --

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: -- to the end?

AG: We made it almost to Shoreland.

NK: Okay. Then did you turn around and come back or --

AG: No. We always go -- our walk is heading south on Highland. We get to the end at Shoreland, we turn, and then we go back into our -- our neighborhood that -- our unit --

NK: Okay. Kind of go around --

AG: -- that way.

NK: -- the block. Okay.

AG: Yes. So just --

NK: Gotcha.

AG: -- like a little circle.

NK: Okay, okay. So tell me about when he -- you said that he walked in -- he walked in between you guys.

AG: No. It was like I was here, David was here (indicating).

NK: On the other side of the road you mean. You guys were on opposite sides of the road?

AG: We're on the same side of the road.

NK: But how does he get in between you?

AG: Steven is on the other side. By in between, I mean, kind of when he got in between where we were standing --

NK: Oh, okay. Okay.

AG: -- not in between us.

NK: I -- I just, um, wasn't picturing you guys.

AG: Uh-uh. So we're here, Steven's walking this way (indicating). When he gets about between us, I hear his normal (sound effect), and he spits at us. Or he spits in our direction. I can't say that he spits at us. It's always in our direction.

NK: Okay. How far was that spit, like --

AG: Um, I don't know.

NK: From you or from -- from David?

AG: It was probably in between -- had no chance of hitting either of us. It was just --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- one of his intimidation, I'm here.

NK: Okay. And -- and you made the comment, "have always done this." He's done this to -- this same type of behavior --

AG: I've called the police on him before.

NK: Okay. For doing this type of --

AG: To me.

NK: So you -- you know his pattern of --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- what he does. He, uh --

AG: Oh, yeah.

NK: -- walks by, keeps walking, turns to --

AG: Oh, yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: That's his pattern.

NK: Okay.

AG: I've called the police on him --

NK: I'm just getting the -- 'cause you did say "he always" has done that.

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Okay. Okay. So he spits and then once he does the final -- does he -- he say, What the fuck? And is that when he turns around?

AG: No. What I remember is, 'cause I was looking at Caution, and David and I were still separated. I was looking at Caution, I look up and Steven had turned -- he has passed David, but then he looked around, and he turned around and then he came straight at David saying, What the fuck?

NK: Okay. So how close does -- does he get to David?

AG: Oh, very close. He pushed him.

NK: Like, how far? Like this far (indicating), or is he even closer?

AG: Oh -- oh, he's like --

NK: Face-to-face?

AG: Uh, to -- and yeah. And face-to-face.

NK: To David. Okay.

AG: To David.

NK: And what's happening then?

AG: Um, that's when I heard, I think it was Steven say, What the fuck? And then I think David said something, but then I -- I saw Steven push, and then that's when he went to (indicating) grab around.

NK: Steven grabbed around him.

AG: Steven went to grab around --

NK: Did he get around him, his neck or his body or anything?

AG: I only saw his arm kind of come halfway around and that's when I heard the shot.

NK: Okay.

AG: And then that's when he kind of backed off.

NK: So once you heard one -- you heard one shot?

AG: One.

NK: Okay. And what did -- what did Steven do at that point?

AG: At that point, he just kind of backed off, and he's like, Okay, dude. So I -- and I didn't even know at that time that he was shot. Like, I even asked my husband. I'm like -- David said, I think I shot him. I -- I shot him. And I said, Did you shoot him or did you shoot the ground? Because Steven was walking the other way at that time.

NK: Uh-huh.

AG: But then he ended up falling in the ditch.

NK: Okay. So he was walking past Westview -- walking towards Westview, and that's when he fell in the ditch.

AG: Right there at -- yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: Right there at the --

NK: Was he walking away or was he running? Did he -- what's --

AG: He was just walking. That's why --

NK: Did it seem like he was shot or --

AG: Nuh-uh.

NK: Oh, okay.

AG: And that's why I was like --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- I didn't really know what just happened.

NK: And when you seen that, what was David doing? Did David -- did you see David with a gun?

AG: Yeah. Then I saw the gun. He was getting Chewy, and he was picking up Chewy, and he -- that's when we were like, "Let's get home. We gotta call the police." And then we just walked home.

NK: Did David say anything about shooting him?

AG: He says, "I shot him."

NK: Okay.

AG: He said, "I shot him." He said, "He was coming right at me. I shot him."

NK: Okay. And you said that's when you guys decided to go to your home, then --

AG: And call you guys, yeah.

NK: Okay. Did you see any -- any -- anybody else walking around that might have seen it, or --

AG: So the neighbor -- at the yard I was in, the neighbor, I don't know if she was out before all this happened, or if she heard something. But she popped out. So what I remember is that David came, and we were heading home, and he's like, "We gotta call the police." She was outside her door, so I don't know when she came out, but I looked at her and I said, "Call the police." And then we continued around --

NK: Do you know her name?

AG: Um --

NK: But you're the one that told her to call the police or did David tell her?

AG: I don't -- we both did.

NK: Okay. Is it Dana? Does that sound right?

AG: Dana. That kind of sounds right, yeah.

NK: I just have a report of she was told by David to call.

AG: That's Dana then.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Did she ever come out to you guys?

AG: At that point?

NK: Yeah. Anybody -- yeah.

AG: No.

NK: No? Okay.

AG: No.

NK: Anybody else that was around that you looked around and seen anybody?

AG: No.

NK: Okay. So you go home -- you go to your home. Do you go inside your home? What do you do when you get there?

AG: We went inside the home. David took the clip out. Made sure the gun was empty. Put it down. No. He did that -- I can't remember if he did that outside or inside. But I went in just to get the phone so we could call the police.

NK: Okay. And then --

AG: And then we came back out on the porch to just wait.

NK: Did you call 911?

AG: I did.

NK: Okay. And you made the report.

AG: I did.

NK: Okay. How far away would you say when, um, Steven went up to David, how far away are you at that point? When he approached and they were in each other's face?

AG: So, um, probably from me -- I mean, possibly the other side of the hall.

NK: Okay. So --

AG: We were kind of a ways away. 'Cause he had Chewy --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- and I had Caution.

NK: Okay. And are you -- are you facing the back side of Steven or are you, uh,
back behind David?

AG: Back at David.

NK: So you seen Steven's face looking at --

AG: Yes.

NK: -- David. All right.

AG: Yes.

NK: So -- okay. Just wanted to see where your vantage -- now were you guys
on the same side of the road? Are you on the same side of the road?

AG: At that point, I was on the right side, and they were toward -- more toward
the left side.

NK: Okay. And so is -- if I was David, was -- is David -- then you got Steven
looking at him. Is David looking at Westview or is he looking at the street,
the other street? You know what I'm saying?

AG: No. He would be facing toward Westview.

NK: And the Steven's looking the opposite direction.

AG: Exactly.

NK: So we got David looking north, and Steven looking south. I just wanna get
a picture of --

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Does that -- does that --

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay. Um, 'cause then -- then he like turn -- then Steven turned around and walked towards Westview where he finally fell into the ditch?

AG: Exactly.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Just wanna make sure we got all our pictures right. Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Um, so tell me -- just tell me what about these incidences that you were, like, how long have you known this Steven?

AG: Probably started, um, I don't know, year and a half ago maybe. Our first incident with him, he basically did the same thing. We were out walking the dogs, and, uh, we just saw somebody walking down the street, and you know, didn't pay any mind to him. And then we noticed that like he wouldn't -- he wasn't moving. He was just kind of walking straight at us. And this is our first encounter with him. He's just walking straight at us, and David's like, "Do you think we should move, or do you think -- is this, like, chicken or something?"

AM: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

AG: Do we move? And so Steven waits until he gets probably from you to me --

NK: Uh-huh.

AG: -- and just stares at us and does one of his sharp turns, and goes the other way. Well, then, he comes back out at that -- his gravel driveway --

NK: Yeah.

AG: We had just passed that. He comes back out, starts calling Chewy, like he wants our dog to come to him. And David turned around and he's like, "Man, don't call my dog." So then Steven bowed up to him at that point. He's even bowed up to me asking me if I want a piece of him.

NK: You say "bow up." Describe it.

AG: Like --

NK: What does that mean?

AG: -- like coming at you, like this (indicating).

NK: And does he get --

AG: "You want a piece of me?"

NK: -- how far does he get when he does it?

AG: Um, with me, he didn't get close. He just kind of walk -- like, pushed toward me.

NK: Is this --

AG: Did --

NK: -- is this during your first encounter?

AG: This is the first one.

NK: Okay. He did that to you and to David on the same first --

AG: Yep.

NK: -- encounter.

AG: Yes.

NK: And does -- how close does he get to David when he does that?

AG: About the same. About --

NK: Like, this distance (indicating)?

AG: -- like this.

NK: Okay.

AG: Like this.

NK: So three or four feet maybe.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Does he, uh, say any other words to you, like, other than, You want some of this?

AG: Um, not really. No. Not that first time that I can remember. Um, and then that's when he -- after he did that, he's like, "Come here." He's trying to call our dogs over to him.

NK: Okay. How -- what's your guys' -- what's David's reaction, and what's your reaction to that when he does --

AG: Fear. That's why I went --

NK: You guys don't say nothing to him?

AG: No.

NK: Okay.

AG: All we did was went home, and that's the first time I called the police.

Because like --

NK: And how long ago was that first encounter?

AG: Year and, uh -- a year?

NK: A year ago?

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay. And then how many have you had after this?

AG: This will be probably be our fourth with him, that I can recall.

NK: And they -- have they all been -- did you -- did you report all these to --

AG: No, no.

NK: -- the Sheriff? Have you reported any of them?

AG: I reported the first one.

NK: The first one.

AG: And that first encounter with him is when we decided that -- and just hearing the stories about things he's done, and just a terror to the neighborhood, that's when David thought, You know what? I'm at least gonna be protected in case he tries to do something to you.

NK: After that first time, he started carrying?

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Okay. And what kind of gun is that that -- that David carried?

AG: I think he just had that little -- I don't know what it is. That little gun that he had this morning.

NK: Describe it.

AG: Uh, it's a little green and black handgun.

NK: Okay. And how does he -- where does he usually carry that?

AG: Usually, he'll have it, um, I think in a -- I think in his waist, I believe.

NK: Okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Like, he carries it, like, in a -- in a holster inside of his waistband? Is it in a holster or is it just --

AG: No. I think it's just in his waistband.

NK: Like -- okay.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Uh, does he carry -- how often does he carry it?

AG: Only when it's dark --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- and we're out walking the dogs.

NK: Did he do that before Steven's encounter?

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: Okay. So since the first time Steven had -- he was like, I need to --

AG: I mean, he did it because -- he did a few times because we would have coyotes in the neighborhood. Um, so he would have it with him in case we ran into a coyote walking at night.

NK: Okay. That first encounter, were you -- were -- were you intimidated by Steven?

AG: Very.

NK: Okay.

AG: That's why we went home --

NK: And then today's incident, what -- what would you -- what were you feeling?

Like --

AG: Fear.

NK: Okay. That --

AG: I knew he was gonna do something.

NK: Do something to -- to one of you?

AG: Yeah.

NK: Okay.

AG: It's a given. If he's outside, he's gonna do something.

NK: Yeah.

AG: He's gonna mess with somebody, he's gonna do as much as he can. If he -
- if you see him outside, you need to be afraid. He's pushed his
grandmother down the staircase.

NK: Okay. So you said four -- this is the fourth the first time. What happened
on the other -- the two and third thing?

AG: It's just the basic same old things. The little intimidation as he walks
toward you --

NK: So the other two times he does the same exact thing, with --

AG: Same thing.

NK: -- bows -- bows up?

AG: Bows up.

NK: Gets in your face or her -- his face?

AG: Kind of walks fast towards you, and then when he gets about this far from you, does that quick (indicating), and he'll spit.

NK: Okay. But not at you guys, just --

AG: It's been --

NK: -- toward --

AG: -- toward us. Yes.

NK: Okay. It has been in the past.

AG: Yes.

NK: Okay. Does he say anything?

AG: Um, he'll mumble.

NK: Something?

AG: Yeah. But you can't --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- really make out what he's saying.

NK: What -- what -- what is wrong -- do you know what's wrong with him? Do you --

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: What do you think? Is it --

AG: Uh, he's crazy.

NK: Okay.

AG: He's been taken in and --

NK: Do you know of anything that he's done to somebody else, maybe a neighbor and done the same thing? Or is it just you -- is he targeting you guys?

AG: Oh, no. He targets a lot of people out there. If you talk to anybody in that condo area, you'll find out. The police have been out there numerous times for him.

NK: Okay. Okay. And so you say he talks to himself.

AG: Yeah. He'll --

NK: Right.

AG: -- just kind of mumble to himself.

NK: Anything else about his behavior or any kind of incidents you've had with him? So each of these other after the first time, David started carrying a handgun for protection.

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: Okay. Um, has David ever made any comments about, you know, the encounters you had with him? Like --

AG: No. Just that it freaked him out as much as it freaked me out. You know? I mean, we're 60-year-old people. We don't --

NK: Yeah.

AG: -- need a 20-year-old guy --

NK: No.

AG: -- coming up. We don't know what he's gonna do. We've heard the stories about what he's done. He's not stable. He shouldn't be in that

neighborhood. You have fear walking your own puppy in your own neighborhood. That's not good.

NK: No.

AG: You go out --

NK: No.

AG: -- every time just to walk your puppy and you gotta worry if this dude's gonna come down the driveway?

NK: No.

AG: No.

NK: You don't have to live like that.

AG: No.

AM: No.

AG: No. But nothing's ever done about it. Nothing's ever done about it. And it's sad.

AM: Yeah.

AG: But he's just as fearful as me.

NK: Who's that?

AG: David.

NK: David. Yeah.

AG: Yeah.

NK: What has he said, uh, before about it?

AG: The only thing he said is, Man, I'm a 61-year-old man with a bad neck and arthritis. That kid will kill me.

NK: He's got a bad neck?

AG: Yes. Like, 2 through 6, he needs a -- a neck operation.

NK: Hmm.

AG: Yeah.

NK: He said that -- that man will kill me?

AG: Oh, he's said it before. He's like, "If he hits me, he'll kill me."

NK: Uh-huh. Do you have anything-?

LO: Have you guys, um, ever been outside and not only he brings his -- his gun for coyotes or whatever, but do you guys have your cell phones with you when you go out there?

AG: Not usually.

LO: Not usually?

AG: Uh-uh.

LO: Okay. When he was walking past you, did he say anything this time, or was he just walking past you aggressively, like you were describing it.

AG: He was just doing the walk aggressively.

NK: Is -- is this --

AG: Then like staring right at you as he's doing it.

NK: -- is --

AG: 'Cause he wants to make sure you know he's there.

NK: What was the difference about this -- this incident than it was the last three?

AG: The difference is that the guy actually came up on David.

NK: Uh-huh.

AG: The other times, he's not.

NK: Okay.

AG: This time, he did.

NK: Okay.

LO: You said he pushed David?

AG: Uh-huh.

LO: Has that ever happened before?

AG: No.

LO: Did David say anything to you when you guys -- when he started doing his walk --

AG: Uh-huh.

LO: -- did David say anything to you?

AG: No. 'Cause we were kind of separated. We were both just -- we know to keep our eye on him. Just to watch him, just to make sure -- all we want him to do is just walk past, not say anything. Don't make eye contact. Just let the dude go home. That's all we want anytime we see him.

LO: And has that worked in the past?

AG: I mean, yeah. He's usually -- the last few times, he's just kind of sauntered past and done his look around like he wants to come back, but --

NK: So the other three times were just, like, one approach to intimidate --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- and then leaves. This one was different --

AG: This one was different.

NK: -- because he came back a couple of times.

AG: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

LO: And he actually put hands on your husband.

AG: Uh-huh.

LO: Okay.

AG: From what I saw.

NK: Okay. Is there anything else you can think of about his behavior today or even in the past, that would be important to this investigation?

AG: I don't know. I just -- I know he has mental issues. Uh, I know that --

NK: Is that just from your watching his behavior or --

AG: Watching his behavior --

NK: -- you knew?

AG: -- hearing the neighbors, just hearing what they've been through with him here and how they'll come and take him for three days. I guess the -- however long you can take somebody when you wanna calm them down for three days. He'll be gone for three days, but then he's back. And then the -- the cops are always out there.

NK: What neighbors -- do you the neighbors' names that you're talking about has dealt with him before?

AG: Um, I don't know their names.

NK: Okay.

AG: I know there's, um -- the only two -- the only lady I know is Sherry in that front condo. Um, I don't really know --

NK: Sherry may -- Sherry may have had some incidents with him?

AG: Yeah. I think anybody in that area has --

NK: Do you -- do you know --

AG: -- have run into him.

NK: -- his mom and dad?

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: Any of his family members? His grandma?

AG: Uh-uh. The only thing, um, that we've been told is that's his grandparents' place. I guess they're snowbirds.

NK: Okay.

AG: So he stays in it when they're not there, and I don't know when they go back and forth. I don't. But I do know that he has pushed his grandma down the staircase, he's pulled a knife on his grandfather. So he's not stable.

NK: Yeah.

AG: He's not a stable person.

LO: Has he been physical with anyone else in the neighborhood that you've heard of?

AG: I don't know. Uh, not that I've heard of. I know that they'll, you know -- he's got one guy he was messing with, but I -- the guy's just too much bigger than him. And so the only story we heard about that was when Steven

started messing with the other guy, I guess he came out and he's like, Hey, you big pussy. And then the other guy turned around and he said, Who the fuck are you talking to? And Steven, uh, like, sauntered away, and that's all I've heard.

LO: Okay.

NK: I have nothing further. So -- and the time is, uh, looks like 10 -- um, 10:37. Um, so, yeah. We're gonna, um, talk to -- talk to David now. Um -- um, it's a tragic situation today that, you know, that's -- you know, should never even have happened. But, um, you know, I'm glad you were able to give us your statement, and --

AG: Yeah.

NK: You know, um, you don't deserve for this to happen like this.

AG: Uh-huh.

NK: To be fearful of living in a place and with somebody else and --

AG: I know. We can't -- can't even walk our dogs --

NK: Yeah.

AG: -- without, you know, is he gonna come out? Is he gonna come out? And everybody in the neighborhood is like that. I mean, I don't know if they're fearful like us. I don't know what all their dealings have been with him, but everybody in the neighborhood talks about him and wanting him gone.

NK: Yeah.

AG: Because he's so crazy.

NK: Do you know of any cameras in the area, other than, you know, maybe --

AG: I don't know. Um --

NK: -- that -- that would have captured something, even prior to where you guys were where the incident was? Maybe down the street or, um --

AG: Um, I know there's a, uh -- I think one of those condos might have one of those Ring --

NK: Okay.

AG: -- um, yeah.

NK: I didn't know if you maybe --

AG: But I --

NK: -- knew of like a hidden camera somewhere that we --

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: -- we hadn't seen yet. But --

AG: Uh-uh.

NK: -- uh, we're doing what we can. We're canvassing the neighborhood. We're gonna try to get all the, uh, statements from people that might have heard something or even know something from the past.

AG: Yeah.

NK: Just kind of what you explained today. So --

AG: Yeah.

NK: -- um, we're gonna investigate this, and, um, you know, probably be talking to you again, you know.

AG: All right.

NK: Just kind of update you the next couple of days. Um, so we'll be reaching out. Okay? Um, Amber will be here to, you know --

AM: Uh-huh.

NK: -- ask -- you know, further -- any further questions you have regarding what happens after this.

AG: Uh-huh. Yeah.

NK: Um, you don't have to be fearful anymore. Okay?

AG: Okay.

NK: So --

AG: Is the kid okay or --

LO: We don't really know --

AG: Okay.

LO: -- the status of him. I mean, we're over here.

AG: Yeah.

LO: So, um, we -- as soon as we find out definitively anything for sure, we'll let you know.

AG: Yeah. Thank you.

LO: Okay? All right.

NK: Okay.

LO: All right. Just stand by for a little bit and we'll be right back with you.

Okay?

AG: Yeah.

(Detectives leave the room at 02:45:46).

AM: Hey, uh, is there anything you need, Amy?

AG: All this to go away.

AM: Yeah. I know. If I -- if I could take it all back and rewind all -- all day today for you, I'd -- I definitely would.

AG: I appreciate that.

AM: Yeah. It's gonna be some time for you -- for you both to go through this process, everything you went through. You may even experience things down the road that are related to this.

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: So there -- you can always seek counseling and -- and -- and thing -- and things like that and talk to someone about what you experienced because of what happened. 'Cause it was pretty traumatic and scary.

AG: Uh-huh. Yeah.

AM: For sure. You didn't wake up this morning and think this was gonna happen, for -- that's for sure.

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: So -- but I -- I'll be with you the whole way through this whole process to explain anything you need.

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: Um, yeah. I'm -- I'm gonna give you -- both you and your husband my card. That way you have -- and I'll check in with you frequently to see how you're doing.

AG: Okay.

AM: Okay?

AG: All right.

AM: What kind of doggies do you have?

AG: Um, one is, um, we don't what she is.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: Um, she looks like a little mini Doberman.

AM: No.

AG: Um, and, uh, we found her in Charlotte --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- when we lived there.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: Then, um, little Chewy is the little, uh, teacup Chihuahua.

AM: Oh, I love Chihuahuas.

AG: He's so cute. He was actually at that cut-through where we go to walk --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- um, David would see Chewy in the sliding door in his bed in the sun.

He's like --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- Oh, I gotta meet that little puppy. And so he finally met him.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: And then we had started babysitting.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: And then Patty, the lady that owned him --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- just came to us one day. She said, Guys, she said, Chewy loves you. If anything ever happened to me, would you --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- take Chewy? We're like, Of course. We love that puppy.

AM: Yeah.

AG: Uh, and then she passed away.

AM: Aw.

AG: About a year ago. So that's how we ended up with Chewy.

AM: Aw.

AG: So yeah.

AM: Well, good. I'm glad he went to a good home.

AG: Yeah. We wouldn't have sent him anywhere else, that poor thing.

AM: Oh, for sure. And I -- I, um -- I have a Chihuahua and a Chihuahua mix at home.

AG: Oh, yeah.

AM: So I love the little bugs.

AG: Uh-huh. They are babies.

AM: They are.

AG: I'll tell you what we --

AM: They're very precious (unintelligible).

AG: All the time, we're like, How can you just adore something this much?

AM: Oh, I know. I'm tell -- my -- my Tinkerbell, she's like 14. Um, and she's blind now and stuff, and a little bit -- pretty much deaf, but I'll just -- I'll hold her and I'll be like, You don't understand how much I love you.

AG: Uh-huh. Oh, they have --

AM: I'm like --

AG: -- no idea.

AM: -- I'm (unintelligible) so grand and you don't even know.

AG: I know, I know. I'd love to be one of them actually.

AM: I understand. So yeah.

AG: Yeah.

AM: There are days, uh, that's for sure. So but find -- yeah, find comfort and solace in the dogs 'cause they'll tell us something's up. So they'll probably be extra lovey dovey.

AG: Yeah?

AM: Yeah.

AG: What does happen now?

AM: Um, they're gonna talk to your husband now, and I met -- I met David as well. So they'll talk to David.

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: Um, they have -- we do have detectives out at, um, the scene as well, and over at the hospital. So eventually everybody's gonna come together and kind of talk about what each one found.

AG: Okay.

AM: And, um, and so basically yeah. It's just a whole investigation and so --

AG: Yeah.

AM: -- they'll put basically -- they're basically putting a puzzle together --

AG: Yeah.

AM: -- on what happened.

AG: Yeah.

AM: And then they'll -- they'll make a determination basically, um, on, um, what happened today, what they found happened today.

AG: Well, yeah.

AM: So, uh, we just -- and it just varies. We just -- everything -- we just take it literally one step at a time until we get to that end point.

AG: Yeah.

AM: It won't be instant.

AG: Yeah.

AM: It does take, like, days, sometimes weeks, um, to -- to do that kind -- type of stuff. 'Cause these guys are very, very thorough.

AG: Okay.

AM: Yeah. Very thorough. They'll probably be here the rest of the day --

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: -- honestly and probably come in tomorrow.

AG: Uh-huh.

AM: Yeah. But we keep you posted, both of you guys throughout the whole process. Um, if, uh, we need anything, we can always come to you as well. That way you don't have to come all the way up here.

AG: Yeah.

AM: That way it -- yeah. It's -- you feel more comfortable in your home instead of one of these rooms.

AG: Uh-huh. Yeah.

AM: Yeah.

AG: I can't believe it came to this.

AM: Yeah.

AG: I can't.

AM: Uh-huh. Well, it sounded like, as you said, like maybe something was maybe wrong with him that totally -- and --

AG: He's -- and he's so unstable.

AM: Yeah.

AG: And everybody is fearful of him --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- and David even mentioned --

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: -- not long ago to Sherry, he's like, Well, you guys have an HOA, you know.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: You guys can get him out of there.

AM: Uh-huh.

NK: (Reenters the room at 02:50:47). We're wrapped up, so if --

AM: Uh-huh.

NK: -- if you're comfortable sitting in here, you can sit in here or you can go in the lobby. We do have, uh, another room that has a couch if you're more comfortable --

LO: A little more comfortable.

NK: -- with, like, a cushioned seat.

AG: Okay.

NK: If you wanna hang out. Uh, this might not be comfortable.

AM: Yeah.

NK: Um --

AG: At least (unintelligible).

NK: -- 'cause we're done with our conversation.

AM: Uh-huh.

NK: You know, unless there's something crazy, and then we need to talk to you again, you know.

AG: Okay.

AM: Uh-huh.

NK: But, um --

AM: Yeah. You don't wanna be staying in this room.

AG: Yeah.

NK: And we do have a lobby or we do have, like, the --

AM: Okay.

NK: -- you know, the soft room.

AM: Is this your water?

AG: Oh, yeah. Just --

AM: Here you go, hon.

AG: Thank you.

AM: Uh-huh.

AG: And maybe use the restroom.

AM: Okay.

(END OF RECORDING)

Transcribed by: cjb/cjb/ms