

STEVENS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
TAPE RECORDED WITNESS STATEMENT

L.W.: Alright this is a tape recorded witness statement uh... that is being taken at the Stevens County Sheriff's Department uh... this will be the statement of Maija, and I'll ask you to pronounce your last name...

M.S.: Soucie...

L.W.: Soucie...

M.S.: Uhhuh, yes...

L.W.: Alright, uh...

The date is October 7<sup>th</sup>, the year is 2000 and at this time the time is 4:10 p.m.. I am Captain Webb of the Stevens County Sheriff's Department, and again this statement is being recorded at the Stevens County Sheriff's Office.

There are 4 people present in the room and for the purpose of voice identification I am only going to ask for , um, Sgt. Caruso, Maija Soucie um to identify themselves at this time.

J.C.: Sergeant Jim Caruso...

M.S.: Maija Soucie...

L.W.: Right, another officer present is Sean Cummings from the... the DE... Drug Enforcement Administration.

Um, Maija would you please uh... give me your full name, and would you spell it for me please.

M.S.: Okay, First name Maija, M.A.I.J.A., middle name Dzintra, D.Z.I.N.T.R.A., last name Soucie, S.O.U.C.I.E.

L.W.: Alright and would you give me your address please?

M.S.: 3507 Hamlett Road, Kettle Falls, WA.

L.W.: And would you give me your home telephone number?

M.S.: I don't have one at this time.

L.W.: And do you have a work telephone number?



M.S.: No.

L.W.: And would you give me your date of birth?

M.S.: 04/11/75

L.W.: Alright, I am not going to advise you of your constitutional rights a... as we have discussed, you are a witness, you are not a defendant in this matter. What I need for you to fully understand however is that this is a tape recorded statement, and that you are willing for us to record the statement at this time.

M.S.: Yes, I am.

L.W.: Alright.

And I also want to make clear that um your statement is made, being made voluntarily, by you and freely and without threats or promises of any kind, is that correct?

M.S.: That's correct.

L.W.: Okay, again the date is October 7<sup>th</sup> of 2000, um. Maija yesterday, uh, Sgt. Caruso and Detective Baskin spoke with you about a double homicide that occurred in Stevens County, is that correct?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: I have had a chance to listen to that tape recorded statement and in doing so I came up with a few questions, that I would like to go over with you. Is that alright?

M.S.: Yes. That's good..

L.W.: Thank you. You talked about an argument that occurred between I believe it was Jeff...

M.S.: Mmm hmm....

L.W.: And Chooley.

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Can you tell me what that argument was about?

M.S.: Um, yea I was just remembering that, more clearly yesterday, um. Jeff and I had borrowed the car to go to the old cabin as I had said um... and on the way there

we had got the star, the car stuck in a rut and uh, so we left it there, went up to the cabin, at that point it was getting dark, um, so we stayed the night, and it was a really gloomy day the next day, so we ended up sleeping late and they had told Jeff to be back by around 11, I'm not sure, 10 or 11, and we didn't realize it was so late, it was around 1. So Chooley and Dane came down the road and were pissed that he was late. They were upset that he was late, um getting back there to go so they were yelling and I don't know exactly. It was about that yea, so.

L.W.: Okay, so did the argument occur back at the cabin on Hamlett Road or did it occur somewhere in between?

M.S.: It was in between, right down the road from the old cabin. Actually we were walking back up to get them so we could get the car out of the ditch ..

L.W.: And were they walking, were they walking down or did they bring another vehicle?

M.S.: They were walking.

L.W.: They were walking too

M.S.: Mmm...

L.W.: How did you get the other vehicle unstuck?

M.S.: Um, oh that's right, um, I walked back to the cabin with Dane and left Chooley and Jeff um to get the... the vehicle. So we walked back to Dane's cabin and that point those guys came back and I had decided not to go with them cause of the situation, um so they put all of their stuff in the car and they drove me down the road to my friend Ron Smith's house where I got out and then they continued on to Portland.

L.W.: Okay, when you say they, who all left to go to Portland?

M.S.: Dane, uh, Jeffrey, and Chooley.

L.W.: Okay, another um thing that I noticed that you talked about was a pre-barter fair weekend gathering.

M.S.: Umhu...

L.W.: Can you tell me about that gathering?

M.S.: Um, I don't know. I think what happened was I called uh the Cameron's um, wanting to see how Andrea Cameron was doing, and uh, Jeff happened to be there, cause he come over sometimes. Um, the dog would go over there you

know to use the phone um... and he was there and he had said that some friends were coming up from Portland before the Barter Fair, so he had mentioned my friend, Mandy, was coming up and so I said oh, maybe I'll um, come up. And he had mentioned all I remember, is he said, Mandy and some other people I didn't know, and he said Rob was coming up and that's all I remember.

L.W.: Okay, and I want to clarify, it was Jeff you talked to on the phone or Dane?

M.S.: Jeff.

L.W.: And can you recall for sure uh... when this was in relationship to the June Barter Fair?

M.S.: Mmm. The gathering was supposed to be just a couple days before the Barter Fair, so probably a Thurs, you know, Wednesday or Thursday, or something like that?

L.W.: Do you know if everybody came up?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Did you ever talk to anybody afterwards that said anything about who was there, who came up?

M.S.: No, no I didn't.

L.W.: And you weren't there?

M.S.: At the Barter Fair?

L.W.: No at...

M.S.: Oh, the gathering.

L. W.: At this gathering...?

M.S.: No. No, I went to the Barter Fair Sunday, early Sunday morning.

L.W.: Where was the gathering supposed to be held?

M.S.: At Dane's. I guess in both places you know, they went back and forth.

L.W.: And when you say Danes, are you talking about which property?

M.S.: Where I live now, Hamlett Road, 3507.

L.W.: Who's Mandy?

M.S.: She's um, a gal that I knew on and off in Portland. Um, does kid's face painting, she's really a delight to be around. I didn't know her really well but, I was just kinda missing you know Portland, my family, and thought it would be nice to see if someone else was that was there that I knew, you know, so.

L.W.: Do you know her last name?

M.S.: No. She's just someone I kinda saw at different gatherings, and so, I don't know her that well you know to know her last name, so.

L.W.: Do you have any idea where she lives?

M.S.: She was in Portland pretty much the whole time I've, I've seen her so she's probably there, or less she traveled on, I don't know.

L.W.: Did she ever mention where she worked?

M.S.: Um, no, I've pretty much all I've seen her do is uh paint kids faces, and she's like a little fairy, she just, I don't know, I don't know her you know that well, really, so, there's just the idea of seeing some friends from Portland, so, like I said I might go so.

L.W.: Do you have any idea who else might have been there?

M.S.: Um, I know he mentioned "Rob", was "Rob" and friends or you know, so otherwise, no I don't know specific names.

L.W.: Okay. Once again just to make sure I understand clearly, the way you knew about it was that you had called up to talk to Andrea Cameron?

M.S.: Uhuh, Right..

L.W.: Jeff answered the phone

M.S.: Right...

L.W.: And he just...

M.S.: He happened to be there.

L.W.: He volunteered that they were coming up.

M.S.: Right, right.

L.W.: Okay.

M.S.: And also said they were going to Portland after the gathering, so that's why um I thought you know if I went there I could maybe get a ride with them if they're still going, you know. Bad timing, both good and bad.

L.W.: Okay. Can you tell me how you met the person you've talked about uh... as Chooley?

M.S.: Um, lets see, where did I first meet him?

L.W.: I'm going to ask you to speak up just a little bit for the tape.

M.S.: Oh.

~~M.S.~~: Um, I can't remember exactly where I first met him, but briefly for about a month he was um a boyfriend to my, my friend Mel, Melanie, in Portland. Um, she was kinda desperate, um had split up with her boyfriend and he had all of a sudden just showed up and um, he had moved in with her and was watching her son while she went to work, so I met him a few times, hung out together maybe a night or two, all of us, so.

L.W.: Do you know what Melanie's last name is?

M.S.: Melanie, she's in, she's in Illinois now. Um, let's see, it's amazing how you can know someone for awhile and not know their last name, um. Let me see... No, I just have her number in, her dad's number in Illinois.

L.W.: Could I have that?

M.S.: Yeah, 847-546-3771, I don't know if she's still there I haven't talk to her in a long time so.

L.W.: Alright, when do you think the last time is you did speak to Melanie?

M.S.: See, she left Portland a month before I did, when was that, that musta been around Ap... April of, Spring of 99.

L.W.: And do you know when, what time frame her and Chooley were together?

M.S.: Lets see. Not very long at all, she got back together with her other boyfriend before they left. Oh, let's see, if we go back, April, May, um, oh, February, January, February or something like that.

L.W.: Would that have been 1999?

M.S.: Right, yea before that spring. I remember he was a plumber and his father owned a plumbing company. He was kinda mysterious, you know kinda quiet, so I didn't really get to know him you know, the few times we spent together.

L.W.: Do you know if Chooley had ever been into any trouble?

M.S.: No, he never spoke of anything.

L.W.: Do you know where he was raised?

M.S.: No, I don't. I, maybe around there in Oregon, Portland area because his father has the company there.

L.W.: What is Chooley's father's company?

M.S.: I don't know.

L.W.: Do you know what the business is at all?

M.S.: Just fixing plumbing, remember he um, came home one day and saying he's digging a big hole for something, that's all I remember.

L.W.: And he worked for his father then?

M.S.: Uhuh. Yes.

L.W.: Thank you. Did you spend much time around Chooley at all?

M.S.: Um, just kinda here and there, I mostly was with my friend Melanie. And he was watching her son so I'd kinda come over and get Melanie, hi how you doin', then we'd go or, she'd drop me off at work or so not, not a lot a time.

L.W.: Alright. Do you know if Chooley is involved in any illegal activity, other than the crime that we're talking about?

M.S.: Right. Um, not that I saw, no. Um, I don't even remember him, I know he smoked marijuana but he was never dealing, that I saw.

L.W.: Okay. I know that you have already gone over the events that occurred between Sunday and Monday, uh during the June Barter Fair, of this year, but I would like for you to if you could go over them again with me, and what I'm going to do is as your talking there's questions that I have and I'd like to sort of put them in the sequence as were going, as to the events.

M.S.: Okay.

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L.W.: So if you wouldn't mind, um, you said you had not been to the Barter Fair on Saturday, is that correct?

M.S.: Right, early Sunday morning.

L.W.: Early Sunday morning.

M.S.: Uhuh.

L.W.: When you got up there did you see uh... Nick?

M.S.: No, no, when I got up there I was just got some coffee, was walking around asking everybody you know, is anyone going to Portland, um, I really wanted to go see my family, my sister down there. Um, then I saw these people that I um, had seen in Portland, and asked them if they had seen Jeff anywhere, they said no. And so I just kept walking around asking for rides, and um, by the end of the day no one had seen them, or, oh no they said, oh, that's right they said he had been, they'd been here earlier, yes, no that must, it was in the morning so they had been there I guess Saturday, and then they left.

L.W.: Okay.

M.S.: So.

L.W.: What time did you think you were there Sunday morning?

M.S.: Really early, I got there really early. Uh, about 7 a.m..

L.W.: 7 a.m..

M.S.: Everyone was just barely wakin' up.

L.W.: Did you know what Nick drove?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: So if you had seen his vehicle at 7 a.m. in the morning would you have known it was Nick's.

M.S.: Nick, I, I haven't seen Nick in probably a couple years.

L.W.: So you weren't asking for Nick, you were asking for uh, Jeff when you were up there?

M.S.: Right, cuz he said they were probably going to Portland after the Barter Fair...



L.W.: Alright, did you ask anybody about Nick when you were up there?

M.S.: No, cuz I, I, no, there's no reason, I don't.

L.W.: Did you know Nick was going to be there?

M.S.: No, I not at all I don't know.

L.W.: Okay. So the person your looking for is Jeff,

M.S.: Right, I just wanted a ride.

L.W.: Not Nick

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: Cuz you want a ride to Portland.

M.S.: Uhuh, Yes.

L.W.: Alright. So at what time did you go ahead and then leave the Barter Fair?

M.S.: Sometime, mid afternoon. Sorry I'm not so good with the time.

L.W.: That's alright.

M.S.: Um, Yea my friend Janelle, who I'd just met who was a friend of the Cameron's, um, showed up and she said oh I'll give you a ride up there.

L.W.: Up where?

M.S.: Up to that area, I think, she, yea, she's goin' to the Cameron's. So I went with her.

L.W.: And she gave you a ride to where?

M.S.: Um, to the Camerons.

L.W.: To the Camerons.

M.S.: Yea, and then I walked to the old cabin, nobody was there, so I walked over to Dane's.

L.W.: When you say old cabin, your referring to the cabin off of, Crown Creek?

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: Alright, and then you walked to Dane's which would be the cabin on Hamlett.

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: And once you got to Dane's what did you find?

M.S.: Um, sitting in the living room were Dane, Jeffery and Chooey.

L.W.: And once again, would you please describe to me what was going on or what conversation was taking place at that time?

M.S.: Um, They were just talking about when they're gonna leave and it was just you know, hi, how you doin', I hadn't seen them in awhile, and nothing, but I felt something was going on, you know I just intuitively felt something, you know at that point.

L.W.: How long did you stay there?

M.S.: Not, not very long.

L.W.: And then what did you do?

M.S.: Um, yea, they started to watch a movie, and I didn't, I couldn't handle watchin' some action, adventure movie, so I just wanted to go over to the old cabin and cause I missed it there. I made a garden there, the short time I was there, and uh, just wanted to talk to Jeff alone you know, um, and so he asked Chooey if he could borrow his car, the red Bronco, and so we drove it over there, at that point and it got stuck.

L.W.: So is that the first time you had seen the red Bronco?

M.S.: No, I saw it when I came up one time in the middle of the winter to return Jeffery's guitar to him, um at that point Chooey had moved up there.

L.W.: Chooey had moved up to, who's place?

M.S.: The old cabin, that, uh, Crown Creek.

L.W.: Crown Creek cabin.

M.S.: Yea. Uhuh. Yes.

L.W.: Was Chooey living there by himself?

M.S.: No, with Jeffery.

L.W.: So, mid-winter, Chooley and Jeff are living there together, this year, or the year 2000, or would it been 1999.

M.S.: Oh, Oh, I'm sorry, I'm mistaken again, um, that's right. Josh and Steph... Stephanie a couple that um, Allie Walker had said could go up there were living there, and they wanted their privacy, so Jeff and Chooley moved in with Dane. That's right. But they still kinda all just you know lived both places and spent time together is what I assume.

L.W.: Alright, and then, and that was the time frame that you saw the red Bronco?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Alright.

M.S.: I believe so.

L.W.: Do you have any idea how long Chooley lived up there?

M.S.: No, I mean I, you know I just visited that one time I believe, um, otherwise I don't know what they were doin', during the times I wasn't there...

L.W.: Do you...?

M.S.: Outta touch.

L.W.: Okay, do you know how Chooley, Dane and Jeff, uh got to know each other?

M.S.: Um, we met Dane when we first moved up there, Jeff and I. And then, so they became friends and then, Chooley moved up there and you know they all got to know each other I guess.

L.W.: So, did Chooley know Jeff before, or did Chooley know...?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Dane before?

M.S.: Yes.,

L.W.: Okay...

M.S.: Chooley... yea... knew Jeff before.

L.W.: So then was it Jeff that introduced Chooley to Dane?

M.S.: Yes, that's right.

L.W.: Okay, is there any chance that Dane had known Chooley prior to that?

M.S.: Probably not because Dane wasn't associated with uh, Portland I don't think until, Jeff.

L.W.: Okay and when Jeff and you moved up there to the property, and were talking about Crown Creek now, correct?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Where did you move from?

M.S.: From Portland.

L.W.: And did Jeff move from Portland, also?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Okay, getting back to that weekend, Jeff had asked Chooley to use the red Bronco, um you went over to the cabin off of Crown Creek?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: And, it got stuck, what did you guys do at that point?

M.S.: Uh, we tried to push it out several times, but it was stuck, and uh, I think he had started stressing on the way over there, started to express something, and I've known him for quite awhile and you know so I kept questioning him, what's wrong, what's wrong you know, um. Then the car got stuck, and so we just decided to walk up to the cabin, and um, went and looked at the garden, um, then we went up to the house and started a fire, and uh, he started to tell me you know, something very bad has happened, and you don't want to know and, course as a friend I was very concerned you know. Um, so he started talking about how he was setup.

L.W.: Okay, I want you to stop there and tell me, what do you mean he was set up? What did he say, specifically?

M.S.: I think that's, that's what he said. I was set up, um, my friend Nick, he said I kept telling my friend Nick to, to leave um, he's in trouble, he'd better leave right now, I assume that was Saturday at the Barter Fair, and Nick wouldn't leave. Uh, and then he said, I don't know exactly how he said it, but that we, um, had to do away with him or something to that effect. And I was like what, you know what, just unreal to me. Um, and I kept asking who did it, you know, who actually did it,

cause I wanted to hear that he's you know, what exactly was going on, and he said Chooley, Chooley shot him and we set the car on fire.

L.W.: Okay Maija, I need you to think very carefully, I know it's been uh...

J.C.: I just wanted one quick question, you said, I didn't hear you there at the end, you said, Chooley shot him and what else?

M.S.: We set the car on fire.

J.C.: Okay... okay...

M.S.: Or I might a asked him who you know, who did it, and he said Chooley, you know.

L.W.: Alright and that's what I was startin' to try and clarify, uh, his words were, we set the car on fire?

M.S.: I believe so, it's... it's... I'm sorry, it's kinda vague, you know I was in such shock, I you know, um.

L.W.: Okay, when he said we had to do away with him, again did he use the term we to the best of your recollection?

M.S.: Yes, I believe so. Um, he was just freakin out about his friend Nick. Uh

L.W.: Okay, so he had just told you, you know, we had to do away with him, um, and we set the car on fire...

M.S.: Uhuh.

L.W.: But he told you that Chooley was the one that actually shot him, correct?

M.S.: Correct.

L.W.: Did he give any explanation why?

M.S.: He said, he narc'd uh... I don't know exactly, that's what he said um, and that he was in big trouble, and I said well who's involved in this, you know, what, what's going on, and he mentioned "Rob's" name, and he said if you ever tell anyone, your life will be in danger, or um.

L.W.: Is Rob somebody your familiar with?

M.S.: Yes, he's uh, part of the circle of friends that I was involved with for sometime. Not real closely.

L.W.: Okay, then lets stop here for a moment, Maija and could you name that circle of friends that are all inner connected, first and last names if you know them and where they live?

M.S.: Okay, um, well actually direct, I'm thinking of my friends that have a bunch of kids, but where I met him is through Matt and Lisa Chamberlin, because they apparently now they're not renting Rob's house he owns anymore, but they were. Um,

L.W.: And is the house uh, the one in Portland you talked to the officers...

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: About yesterday?

M.S.: Right, and when I saw Rob at the Further Fest, um, I asked him so how are Matt and Lisa doing, cause they split up and I was wondering where Lisa was, she's a good friend of mine. Um, he said Oh, I don't know you know, they're ... Matt's crazy... they didn't pay rent so I kicked um out, I don't want to talk about it, and he started to walk away, and I said alright, well take care you know. Then, so that's, I just saw him for a few minutes, he was walking around and walked up to where we were.

L.W.: Where is the Further Fest held?

M.S.: I was at the Gorge.

L.W.: And when was that?

M.S.: Couple months ago (can't understand) beginning of September.

J.C.: It was late August.

M.S.: Oh was it, okay, late August.

L.W.: Okay, are there any other friends that are joint friends that are connected with Rob?

M.S.: Mmmm, see, I'm trying to think, 'bout, I just really wasn't into this social life my last time there, Jeff was more into it than I was and getting to know people, I wish I could, um,

L.W.: Well while your thinking, did Jeff know Matt and Lisa Chamberlin?

M.S.: Yes. Yes. Uh, we lived with them in their old house, their house before they moved in with Rob.

L.W.: Do you know how to get ahold of either one of them now?

M.S.: Matt?

L.W.: Right.

M.S.: Uh, yea, Matt uh, actually called his number and it was disconnected, um, awhile back, I can give you that, I don't know if it's gonna...

L.W.: That might help us.

M.S.: Help anything.

L.W.: If you have it with you.

M.S.: Sure. Okay, got too many numbers... Everyone moves around so much, see, 777-5836.

L.W.: Okay, 777-5836.

M.S.: Uhuh. And that was the last number I had for Rob's.

J.C.: Would you mind if I, 'er is there anything in there that you'd, naw never mind.

M.S.: Okay.

J.C.: I was gonna, I had a couple a names that was goin' through my head, I wanted to see if there are numbers for them,

M.S.: Really

J.C.: I don't need to do it now.

M.S.: Okay. Um, well see what it was, was the last place I lived in Portland was right down the street from where my friend Melanie lived, and Chooley lived for a little while, and right down the street there was where Matt and Lisa lived at Rob's house, and Matt and Lisa used to live right down the street here, so that's what I mean by...

L.W.: You were all...

M.S.: We all lived, yeah, like right there, so

L.W.: Right on the same street then?

M.S.: No, the same little r... radius, maybe like a ten block radius.

L.W.: Okay. So again, getting back to uh... Jeff telling you this, how did he act when he told you this?

M.S.: He was very cold, and scared, didn't know what he was gonna do, couldn't believe it, uh, yea just very cut off and, and cold like.

L.W.: Okay, so he says um, that he had narc'd, referring to... to Nick?

M.S.: Uhuh,

L.W.: Correct?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Did he say who he narc'd on?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: You said he mentioned Rob, how did he mention Rob in connection to this?

M.S.: He said that when they get back to Portland, Rob will take care of them. And he said hopefully I'll be taken care of financially.

L.W.: Did he ever tell you what he got out of this?

M.S.: No, I haven't talked to him since, I, my one concern was he had called my mother's house looking for me. My little 13 year old sister answered, and he was trying to get my number and she said no, I don't know where she is.

L.W.: When was this?

M.S.: Um, three months ago maybe, it was just after, maybe a month after they had gone back down there.

L.W.: And this is Jeff that was looking for you?

M.S.: Yes. He knows where my parents are, and that concerns me a little.

L.W.: Alright, we'll talk about that after the interview is over. So they're talking about Rob taking care of them financially. Did he ever say, well let me back up, he told you that he was set up. I'm still confused about that.

M.S.: So am I. Its, um, oh, he was explaining how he didn't know until the Barter Fair about all this, Oh, that's right, he was saying he didn't know that it was, had to



come down to this or something to that effect. It's hard to remember the exact conversation. Um, and then one thing I remember, other thing that came, comes to my head is that he was saying that, he was worried, he was saying that Dane was really, really freaked out, running up and down the road freaked out, and that he was scared that Dane was just gonna go tell his mommy, and that he made sure tell me, you know, he said over and over don't t... ever tell anyone about this, or you're gonna be in trouble.

L.W.: What did you take that to mean Maija?

M.S.: I was scared because I, even as long as uh, the last time we're in Portland you know I just wasn't involved in what Jeff was doing, and I didn't want any dealing in our home, or anything. And he'd go out and do what he did, and so I didn't you know, I didn't really know Chooey, I was, you know, had kinda a weird feeling about him that's why my friend Melanie split up with him, because he had a weird, she had a weird feeling that when he was watching her son that somethin' wasn't right. Um, so I was scared because I didn't know what this knowledge I had was, you know, how, what this is all about to kill somebody you know over, I mean just drugs, I mean just, you know so I was scared, you know ta even know that you know.

L.W.: Did he ever mention in any way, that there was one... more than one person that had been killed?

M.S.: No, he just said Nick and that's all that I'd heard until the paper came out and I saw those two faces then.

J.C.: Okay we're gonna take a, take a break here for a minute and I'm gonna turn the tape over, the time is now, 10 minutes to 5, or 1650 hours.

J.C.: Okay, we're starting back up, time is 1651 hours.

L.W.: Maija, did Jeff tell you what part he played in getting Nick to come to the area?

M.S.: No., he'd said that he was in charge of getting Nick to come up, but that's, that's all he said.

L.W.: Okay, he said he was in charge of getting Nick to come up?

M.S.: Yea, cause it was his friend, so possibly for a drug deal or something, you know I don't know.

L.W.: Did he say for what reason or did he just say he was in charge of getting Nick to come over.

M.S.: Right, right.

L.W.: To your knowledge had Nick ever been over to either Dane's place, or the old cabin off of cab... Crown Creek?

M.S.: Um, no, not to my knowledge, I, I don't remember Jeff mentioning that. No, I hadn't really heard about Nick since years ago when they were both helping out with a coffee shop in Portland.

L.W.: So had you seen Nick since that time, um, since years ago in Portland.

M.S.: I saw him at a distance somewhere, oh, at a Barter fair, like when I first moved here, he was at a Barter Fair, and I just saw him from a distance.

L.W.: Barter Fair here in Stevens County.

M.S.: Right. That was, lets see, the fall fair, no it was the, it was whatever fair was in Northport when I first moved up here.

L.W.: And that year again would have been?

M.S.: 99.

L.W.: 1999.

M.S.: Correct.

L.W.: So it's, you believe Nick was here at least once then...

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: In Stevens County.

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: And you were living at that cabin on Cr... Crown Creek at the time?

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: And Nick did not come to that cabin?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: To visit?

M.S.: No, nobody did.

L.W.: Alright. Do you know how Jeff got ahold of Nick?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Did he tell you how he got him to come over, how he made contact with him?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Did he ever tell you who asked him to contact Nick?

M.S.: No, but I, I, I was just under the assumption that Rob has some you know main part in this and...

L.W.: Why do you believe that?

M.S.: Well by his statement, Rob will take care of us when we get back to Portland.

L.W.: Okay, you told me that you did not play, or a part in what Jeff was doing when you were in Portland.

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: And that no dealing was going on in the home that you were living in, is that correct?

M.S.: Right. Right, well for a short time and then I didn't want it around.

L.W.: Can you tell me what was Jeff dealing?

M.S.: Marijuana, um, yea at that time just Marijuana.

L.W.: And since then, what does he deal?

M.S.: Well, last time I saw him at the fall Barter Fair, last year, he just, um, LSD, I believe.

L.W.: Okay. Do you know who his connection was?

M.S.: For LSD no, I know he used to go to this nightclub, God, what is the name of the guy he would meet there, or mentioned, that might have been Shadow, who I never met, but I 'member, Jeff mentioning his name several times. Then I gave them the number I had for him because Jeff had given me Rob's cell number and then Shadow's in case he's not at Rob's, and I don't know who Shadow is I might have met him, but I can't put the name and the face together.

L.W.: Alright, you gave the Detectives that number yesterday?

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: Okay. In the hierarchy, do you know where Shadow and Rob, in what sequence um, they were from, from Jeff if you were had, you're climbing a ladder, where would they be on the rungs?

M.S.: Uh, Rob then Shadow...

L.W.: So...

M.S.: 'Eh...

L.W.: Rob would have uh, worked under Shadow?

M.S.: Oh, that I don't know, I, I thought you meant as far as when uh, Jeff had associations with them, so.

L.W.: Okay, if he had associations with them, he would go to Rob first, is that what you're saying?

M.S.: No. I, um, I don't really know...

L.W.: Okay, let me.

M.S.: If they're all connected or...

L.W.: Okay, let...

M.S.: What, I was just kinda not involved, I was workin' hard, and savin' money, and, so.

L.W.: Okay, let me see if we can just clarify this just a little bit. Would Jeff go to Rob uh... to get his drugs, or would he go to Shadow, or would he go to both of them?

M.S.: Well Shadow, I, I don't know for sure if that was a, involved with drugs, I assume so cuz, um, just dealing with him in our relationship, um,

L.W.: When you say dealing with him, dealing with Jeff or dealing with Shadow?

M.S.: Jeff. I don't...

L.W.: (Unable to understand)...

M.S.: I don't know who Shadow is, he's a Shadow, I don't know who he is, um. But I do know he had relations with Rob, dealing marijuana and that's as far as I know, for that.

L.W.: Do you have any idea, who he was getting his LSD from?

M.S.: No. That's um, he wasn't doing any of that wh... when we were together, that seems to be after we split up. I saw him at the Barter Fair and he was always high, and selling it, and I don't know, offering me some, you know I just.

L.W.: Can you describe what form?

M.S.: Liquid.

L.W.: And can you tell me how it was packaged?  
(a couple words unable to understand)

M.S.: He just had a dropper full that he brought out and say want some, said no way, so.

L.W.: And he never told you where he was getting that from?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Based on what you know, um, about the people in Portland, um, and the people that, that you know up in the Northport area, who do you believe would have asked, or directed Nick to be killed?

M.S.: It's just unreal to me that anyone would do that, um, definitely by the way Jeff was acting, I couldn't see him directing that; um, and Dane, no, I can not see him uh, doing anything like that, and by how um, Jeff was saying he was freaking out you know; um, Chooey, I don't know that well he was like a mysterious fellow, not sure about him. Rob, he kinda plays just like this head honcho kinda guy, and I there's somethin' that I was always kinda cautious about you know, like I didn't want Jeff involved with him at all, you know, so, you know I keep kinda, Rob just keeps coming to my mind you know just by what Jeffery told me, and so, I'm not sure.

L.W.: Okay, again getting back to the conversation there at the cabin, my understanding is you went ahead and spent the night there at the cabin...

M.S.: Yea.

L.W.: Is that correct?

M.S.: It got dark, yea.

L.W.: During that time, obviously Jeff um, wanted to talk, er,

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: And so he shared some things with you.

M.S.: Uhuh, yes.

L.W.: Through out the night, did he share other things about what had happened?

M.S.: No, I can't remember any more, um.

L.W.: Did he tell you who he had narc'd on.

M.S.: Some people in Portland, I think he said. Um, no, it was just, yea then he was asking me if I want to go, go to Europe or something like that, um, we didn't really talk to much about all the details, cause it was just to overwhelming you know and he was freaked out, and, um, so I, I can't remember more, I wish I could right now, I'm gonna, you know probably be thinking about this for awhile now so if I can...

L.W.: You will and...

M.S.: Come up with any more you know...

L.W.: Things, things may come back to you...

M.S.: Uhuh...

L.W.: And as they do, uh what I would ask is that you write them down, and you, we'll obviously be keeping in touch with you and, and we can get that information from you as it, as it comes to your memory.

M.S.: Right.

L.W.: Do you know that night, uh, whether or not he had any extra money on him, that's Jeff I'm speaking of?

M.S.: Um, he kept saying, no, he just kept saying Rob's gonna give him some money when they get back to Portland.

L.W.: Did he ever say whether or not they had taken any money off of Nick?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Did he ever say if, if himself or Dane or Chooley had ever taken any items belonging to Nick?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: To your knowledge, did you see anything at that time, that they had that they hadn't had before?

M.S.: Not that I can think of.

L.W.: Do you have any...?

M.S.: Uh...

L.W.: I'm sorry,

M.S.: No, go ahead.

L.W.: Do you have any idea where um, a weapon may have come from, if there was a firearm involved?

M.S.: Well, I know Dane had one, um, up on the Hamlett Road cabin.

L.W.: Do you have any idea what caliber it was?

M.S.: See I don't know guns and I was trying to describe it to um, it's just like a, had a wooden top, um, a long nose with a fairly large hole, probably about this long, is that two feet.

L.W.: Okay.

M.S.: I don't know guns at all.

L.W.: Alright, and from their interview, it appears that you did not see a weapon that weekend,

M.S.: No.

L.W.: When you were there?

M.S.: No, I didn't.

L.W.: Can you think of anything else that Jeff said that, that day, or the next day prior to leaving?

M.S.: Um, no not at this time.

L.W.: Do you know anybody up at the Barter Fair that weekend, any females that were there that had dreadlocks, fairly long dreadlocks and maybe a small child with I believe it was red hair.

J.C.: Actually it was a small child with very curly hair.

L.W.: Curly hair, I'm sorry.

J.C.: Real curly hair, bangs down to here.

L.W.: By here, he's pointing to his nose.

J.C.: Nose.

M.S.: Uh, no. I mean... you think it's someone from Portland 'er?

J.C.: (Not able to understand)...

L.W.: Just anyone uh, up there, we'd heard that there was somebody camping uh, maybe near them, or someone that uh, that had that description that, that they may have been talking to, at, if you know who they are, we'd like to talk to em.

M.S.: No. I don't know. No one comes to mind.

L.W.: Okay. So you spend the night, my understanding is the next day you still can not get the vehicle unstuck, correct?

M.S.: Right. So we started to walk back to the Hamlett Road cabin, and then Dane and Chooley came walking fast up, and Chooley's like you know where have you been, and I can't believe this and he's yellin and, um, that, I, you know I tried to keep it cool cuz I didn't want those guys to know that I knew anything, and so Dane was kinda on that and he's like come on Maija, let's go, you know let's let them fight this out. And so, I walked up with Dane and he was just very vague you know, saying oh things are kinda crazy and you know, nothing real specific.

L.W.: Dane was saying that?

M.S.: Yea.

L.W.: Do you think Dane knew that Jeff had told you at that point?

M.S.: No. I mean, possibly, but you know we we're both trying to keep it cool you know, and not we just, he could uv, but he didn't act like it, you know, so.

L.W.: Dane did not share anything with you about what had happened?



M.S.: No.

L.W.: Okay. Is there anything else that you remember, um, about the sequence of events that happened after that that you didn't um, recall when you were talking to the Detectives yesterday?

M.S.: Um, let's see Dane and I went back, um, see, we might have stopped by his mom's house, but no one was there, and then we walked back to the cabin, by that time shortly after Jeff and Chooey drove up, and uh, they put their stuff in the car. I was still trying to figure out what I was gonna do, so I decided to get a ride to Ron Smith's house with them, and uh, apparently they had marijuana with them to bring down to Portland. Fairly large quantity of it.

L.W.: How do you know that?

M.S.: Because they, they um, talked openly about it in front of me in the car.

L.W.: How large a quantity?

M.S.: Oh, say about a pound, two pounds, somethin' like that.

L.W.: Do you know where that had come from?

M.S.: No, I don't. That's like when Dane went to go get something, oh that's right, that, okay, that was that morning, Dane went to go get something, and I assume that's what it is, it was.

L.W.: How long was Dane gone?

M.S.: Um, about 20 minutes, half an hour, yea, yea more like half an hour.

L.W.: Okay. Alright, Sgt. Caruso.

J.C.: When we talked yesterday before we did the tape recorded interview you had talked to me and told me that Jeff played the guitar?

M.S.: Yes.

J.C.: Did he play well? Was he a pretty good guitarist?

M.S.: He had his own style.

J.C.: Tell me, tell me about the style of, of playing that he did.

M.S.: A folksy, silly, uh... he learned a lot of political songs, like "Arlo Guthrey type style.

J.C.: Um, could he have had his, or did you see him with his guitar, uh that weekend that you were there that you saw him right before they left?

M.S.: Did he have it? I don't remember him playing it, no that weekend.

J.C.: Do you remember him loading it up in the Bronco or the Blazer?

M.S.: No, I don't.

J.C.: And taking it?

M.S.: No, I don't.

J.C.: Did you see it at all after that, have you s?

M.S.: No, I haven't.

J.C.: Do you remember what the gu... the guitar looked like?

M.S.: Yea, it was a, steel string Yamaha, um, kind of a light finish.

J.C.: Was it electric, an electric guitar?

M.S.: No

J.C.: Little amp or just a...?

M.S.: No, acoustical.

J.C.: Acoustic. Okay. When we talked yesterday, you had made a, a statement to Detective Baskin and I, and you had said that, that Jeff had lured Nick over here. Um, and I just, I wanna just kinda go over that part again, because it, uh, in thinking back on it, is it your impression that he lured them over. You said it was his job to get them over here, what, do you remember, do you remember and, I know we've, we've covered it, but do you remember why, or what his exact words were on, on Nick coming to this side of the state or to the Barter Fair?

M.S.: Hmm. Exact words, that's a hard one umm...

J.C.: To the best of your recollection.

M.S.: I just remember him saying that, they had him bring Nick up and uh, then he found out, um, oh boy, I'm sorry my mind is just turning to mush. Uh, maybe I should take a little break and like walk around or something.

J.C.: Okay, why don't we do that...

M.S.: I'm sorry, I'm just like...

J.C.: It's uh, the time is now 1713 hours were gonna go ahead and stop the tape.

L.W.: Is it still going?

J.C.: Yea.

L.W.: Okay, um, let's go ahead and terminate the taped portion of this statement at this point and time, um, do you have anything else that you want to add on the taped statement?

M.S.: Um, no, not at this time.

L.W.: Have any threats or promises been made to you since we started the interview?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: At any time during this statement have you asked that the questioning or the taping be stopped?

M.S.: No, not until now.

L.W.: Okay. Um, and understanding that you are requesting that we stop the taping at this time I just want to reiterate that there were 4 people present uh... for this taped interview, Sean Cummings from the D.E.A. uh..., myself Captain Webb, Sergeant Jim Caruso and Maija Soucie.

M.S.: Soucie.

L.W.: Soucie. I'm sorry.

M.S.: It's okay.

L.W.: Um, and the time is 5:15 p.m. on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

L.W.: Okay we are back on tape, the time is uh... 1730 hours, which would be 5:30 p.m., uh... we had taken a break per uh, Maija Soucie's request at 5:15 p.m., um, she is

back in the room again and knows that this statement is being recorded, is that correct Maija?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: And, still present in the room is Sergeant Jim Caruso, myself Captain LaVonne Webb, Maija Soucie and Sean Cummings. At this time Maija, we'd just like to add a couple more things on, on this statement. The tape recorded statement that we took um, a few minutes earlier, uh during that time frame did you ever request that an attorney be present with you?

M.S.: No.

L.W.: Alright, and was the statement that you gave to us a true and correct statement to the best of your knowledge?

M.S.: Yes.

L.W.: Then, if you would could I have you read that statement uh... into the tape recorder?

M.S.: Okay. I Maija Soucie declare that the facts stated on this tape are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. My statement has been made freely, voluntarily and without threats or promises of any kind.

L.W.: Okay, and what we're going to do Maija is, we are going to go ahead and formally conclude our uh... taped interview, uh, pertaining to this uh, crime. Is there anything else you would like to add to this statement at this point?

M.S.: Not at this time.

L.W.: Alright, the time now is 5:33 p.m., and we will be concluding this portion.

Oct 16<sup>th</sup>

STEVENS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

CASE # 0010564

Homicide Investigation

Date & Time: 10-16-00 1505 hours

Person's Contacted: Maija Soucie

Officer's Present: Capt. L. Webb  
Detective Dave Baskin  
Sgt. J. Caruso

Report:

On 10-16-00 at approximately 1505 hours, phone contact was made with Soucie and the following information was obtained and/or clarified pertaining to the on going homicide investigation.

Soucie advised that R.E.B. had given her a ride to the June Barter Fair in his pickup and after he dropped her off he had returned home. Soucie believed she had arrived in the early afternoon however was not sure when she had left with Janell. Soucie knew that it was still daylight when her and Janell had left and that the Barter Fair was not closed; however she could not pinpoint the exact time. I asked Soucie if Janell took her to the Crown Creek cabin, and she advised no, that she had dropped her off at the Cameron's and she had walked to Dane's from there. I then asked Soucie to go over that sequence of events again, asking her if it was possible she had been dropped off at the Crown Creek cabin, and she advised yes, that in thinking about it, Janell had in fact dropped her off at a turn around near the Crown Creek cabin. Soucie advised that she went to the cabin, no one was there and so she walked to Dane's. Soucie advised that it was still daylight out at that time.

Soucie reiterated that her and Jeff had driven Chewie's vehicle back over to the cabin later and that the vehicle had stalled. Soucie advised that there was something wrong with the ignition so it needed to be pushed to get it started.

No additional information was obtained at this time.

Submitted by,

*LaVonne Webb*

LaVonne Webb  
Captain