

FLORIDA OFFENSE/INCIDENT REPORT-SUPPLEMENTAL/CONTINUATION ORIG. SUPP. X
FLO 520300 CLEARWATER P.D. AGENCY REPORT NO. 95-29158

NAME(S): Lisa McPherson
INCIDENT: AOA/Death Investigation
LOCATION: 644 Pierce Street
INVESTIGATOR: Det. Ron Sudler
ORIG. DATE REPORTED: 12/6/95
VI WILL PROSECUTE: Y N
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Today's date is 5/29/96. The time is 9:35 a.m. This is gonna be an interview with Janis Johnson concerning the Lisa McPherson investigation. Present during the interview is myself (Det. Ron Sudler), Det. Carolyn Carrasquillo, Attorney Bob Johnson, and Janis Johnson.

1 Det. Sudler: For the record Janis, could you state your name, date of
2 birth, and address?
3 Johnson: Uh Huh. Janis Johnson...spelled J A N I S. Johnson the
4 usual way. Date of birth is 10/23/56. And address is
5 503 Cleveland..Clear...it's Clearwater.
6 Det. Sudler: Clearwater...okay. Okay. And you're aware of the
7 circumstances of our investigation into Lisa McPherson's
8 death. And I think Det. Carrasquillo has talked to you
9 before..you know...briefly. And what we'd like to do is
10 just go over some things and find out...you know..when
11 the first time that you met Lisa and...you know...some
12 of the background about her and her health background.
13 And...you know...just basic questions that...you know...
14 we want to ask you and just try to clarify some things
15 that came up in our investigation.
16 Johnson: Okay.
17 Det. Sudler: Alright. I understand when...well, let me clear
18 myself. What is your position with the church over
19 there? Do you...what is your title or...or your job or
20 your function at the church?
21 Johnson: I'm in a department that takes care of staff
22 enhancement.
23 Det. Sudler: Staff enhancement?
24 Johnson: Right.
25 Det. Sudler: Okay.
26 Johnson: So there are a number of different things that...that I
27 do. At the present time I'm a word clearer in the staff
28 college. I need to explain it to you a little bit. Do

29 you know what...what I mean by word clearer?
30 Det. Sudler: Umm...I think Paul Greenwood mentioned a little bit
31 about that in his interview.
32 Johnson: Yeah.
33 Det. Sudler: If there's a word that's...
34 Johnson: A word that's not understood can interfere with
35 someone's ability to do their...their job..or to
36 understand what they're reading.
37 Det. Sudler: Okay.
38 Johnson: And I spot those and get them cleared up...get people
39 moving.
40 Det. Sudler: Okay...alright. And that's...that's what you currently
 do now?
42 Johnson: Yes.
43 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Umm...how long have you been with the
44 organization?
45 Johnson: Since March of 95.
46 Det. Sudler: Okay. Are you from Florida originally or...?
47 Johnson: No.
48 Det. Sudler: Where are you from?
49 Johnson: I grew up in Washington State.
50 Det. Sudler: Washington.
51 Johnson: Exactly opposite.
52 Det. Sudler: Came across the country...yeah.
53 Johnson: Yeah.
54 Det. Sudler: From raining three times a day to sunshine and heat.
55 Johnson: Actually it was the eastern side of the state. It
56 was..it was semi-arid in the mountains.
57 Det. Sudler: Yeah. Okay. And you...what is your background?
 Do you...you know...I understand that you were a
59 practicing physician at one time.
60 Johnson: Yeah...yeah. I...I studied medicine at Wayne State
61 in Detroit.

62 Det. Sudler: Wayne State in Detroit.
63 Johnson: Uh Huh.
64 Det. Sudler: Okay.
65 Johnson: I went on to a residency in anesthesia and
66 sub-specialty in chronic pain. And then took a
67 position at the University of New Mexico teaching.
68 And from there I went into private practice in
69 Tucson, Arizona about eight years.
70 Det. Sudler: In anesthesiology?
71 Johnson: Yeah. I was in an anesthesia group. What I was
72 doing was chronic pain control.
73 Det. Sudler: I guess that's a pretty lucrative thing now...you
know...with chronic pain control.
74 Johnson: Uh Huh.
75 Det. Sudler: I guess that's one of the top deals to get into
76 is pain management. I know I see a lot of stuff on
77 it...on TV and...
78 Johnson: Oh really?
79 Det. Sudler: Yeah...yeah. It wasn't there?
80 Johnson: It wasn't in Arizona....no.
81 Det. Sudler: Okay.
82 Johnson: Had mostly medicare type cancer patients.
83 Det. Sudler: Yeah.
84 Johnson: You know...
85 Det. Sudler: Pretty depressing work there.
86 Johnson: Yeah, it wasn't...it was something that not very
87 many people wanted to do.
88 Det. Sudler: Okay. So that...you had your...you went to
89 college in Detroit and then you finished up in
90 Arizona and...
91 Johnson: No, I finished my education in Detroit.
92 Det. Sudler: Okay. But you were in private practice in Arizona?
93 Johnson: Right.

95 Det. Sudler: Okay. With an anesthesia group and also specializing
96 in chronic pain control.
97 Johnson: Uh Huh.
98 Det. Sudler: Okay. And when was that?
99 Johnson: It was from 87 to about 94...no 93...in 93. The
100 last two years I was...I was actually...I was in
101 Arizona for eight years, but the last two years I
102 was running a different business.
103 Det. Sudler: Okay.
104 Johnson: I actually quit medicine in early 93.
105 Det. Sudler: Okay. So you quite practicing in early 93?
6 Johnson: Uh Huh.
Det. Sudler: Okay. And I guess would you refer to yourself as
--8 retired now from the practice or...?
109 Johnson: Well, I just did other things.
110 Det. Sudler: Okay. Okay.
111 Johnson: I wouldn't say I retired. I just...you know...
112 went on and did other things that I was interested
113 in.
114 Det. Sudler: Change of profession.
115 Johnson: Yes, change of profession. That's a good way to
116 put it.
117 Det. Sudler: Alright. Umm...so from 93 up until March of 95, you
118 were self employed?
119 Johnson: Yes, I had my own business.
120 Det. Sudler: Okay...okay. And what type of business would that
121 be?
122 Johnson: I was selling alternative health care products...
123 herbal water filters...air filters. And I also
124 worked with research and development on medical
125 products. And getting...getting good new products
126 to the market.
127 Det. Sudler: Okay. And I guess that kinda brings us up to

128 today. When...and you moved into the Clearwater
129 area in March of 95 or...?
130 Johnson: Yeah, later February or early March.
131 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then what position did you take here?
132 Were you self employed here? Did you have a...a
133 business here...the same type of business?
134 Johnson: No..no, I came here to come on staff with the church.
135 Det. Sudler: Okay. So you...you came on staff?
136 Johnson: Yeah.
137 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what was your position then?
138 Johnson: Well, initially it was medical liaison office...
 officer I guess you'd say...officer.
 Det. Sudler: Officer?
 Johnson: Yeah.
142 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what does that job do?
143 Johnson: Act as a liaison between the staff and the medical
144 ...medical services in the community so that people
145 get what they need.
146 Det. Sudler: Okay.
147 Johnson: It's also...like this office consists of a band aid
148 station as well...you know.
149 Det. Sudler: Okay.
150 Johnson: Basic first aid. But there's vitamins...nothing
151 more than that.
152 Det. Sudler: Okay. So just basic first aid...umm...vitamins...
153 and referral. So a scenario would be if...and this
154 is for staff persons only or...?
155 Johnson: There is...you know...there is one...one little area
156 that serves public. We have a lot of people come in
 from out of town or from out of the country who, if
158 they get sick or they lose a filling, they don't have
159 a clue where to go.
160 Det. Sudler: Okay.

161 Johnson: So they...there is a...a person that will be available
162 to public people to also give them a list of names...
163 okay. These are people that...you know...others have
164 gone to and been happy with.

165 Det. Sudler: Okay. And your job then would be to coordinate that
166 with the local...

167 Johnson: Yeah.

168 Det. Sudler: You know...practitioners in this area.

169 Johnson: Yeah. And provide transportation and get them there.
170 Make sure that...I mean...if they go to a doctor and
171 they're given a prescription...you know...they
? generally go back to rest and somebody else...you
, know...in the office does the running around and goes
. + and picks up their prescriptions...makes sure that they
175 understand the directions...that they're taking the...
176 the medication right. Just...just basically getting
177 along.

178 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. So if someone came in for minor
179 cold symptoms or aches and pains or something like
180 that...

181 Johnson: Yeah...

182 Det. Sudler: You would just...you know...kinda steer them in the
183 right direction.

184 Johnson: Yeah. Say "Hey"...you know..."Are you taking your
185 vitamins"...you know. "Are you getting enough rest?"
186 "Go get some extra rest". That kind of thing.

187 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. And how many people were on staff
188 or doing this referral? Were you I guess the medical
189 liaison officer...was that your responsibility? Did
you have anybody under you or was anybody over you?

191 Johnson: I had two people under me. Of course I had lots of
192 people over me.

193 Det. Sudler: Okay.

194 Johnson: Yeah. Umm...two...I had two people under me to help
195 out and to..you know...like do the...a lot of the
196 running around and get...get people taken different
197 places. I didn't do a whole lot of that but at times
198 I had to do that too. You have...you know...three
199 people and they have appointments different places at
200 the same time...well, you're all running...you know...
201 doing that.

202 Det. Sudler: Okay.

203 Johnson: So it just..it depends...it was...it was real flexible.
204 We just basically did whatever we had to do to get...
5 to get everybody taken care of and keep everything
running. We're looking out...we're looking out for...
.../ you know...between 1,000 and 2,000 people.

208 Det. Sudler: Okay. You didn't have much spare time then?

209 Johnson: No. It was...it was rather frantic.

210 Det. Sudler: So you made sure you got your rest and vitamins
211 too. Okay. Sounds like it was busy. Umm...did
212 ...so you had two assistants under you at the time?

213 Johnson: Yeah.

214 Det. Sudler: Okay. Would Laura be one of them...Laura Arrunada?

215 Johnson: Well actually, she was under...under Suzanne...

216 Det. Sudler: Okay.

217 Johnson: At the time. The...the structure...you want me draw up
218 the structure of how the...the office went...I mean...
219 who was..who was...

220 Det. Sudler: If that's easier.

221 Johnson: Well, yeah...it just had...we just had a medical office
222 manager...

Det. Sudler: Okay.

224 Johnson: An assistant manager. There's me and then I had...I
225 had two people under me.

226 Det. Sudler: Okay. Assistant...

227 Johnson: And Laura was technically in the position of assistant
228 office manager at the time.
229 Det. Sudler: Okay.
230 Johnson: But...you know...she...she was...had a good deal of
231 ...of training so..you know..she would just help out
232 with whatever had to be done. It was just the fact
233 that she spoke mostly spanish and her language wasn't
234 quite up to doing some things.
235 Det. Sudler: Okay. So Laura was an assistant office manager.
236 Johnson: Uh Huh.
237 Det. Sudler: And there were two people that were assistants under
8 you....directly under your...originally were a part
of that two. Was she included in the two that was
under you?
241 Johnson: No..no.
242 Det. Sudler: She was included under the medical office manager
243 assistant?
244 Johnson: Yeah...yeah.
245 Det. Sudler: Okay.
246 Johnson: She was basically...technically under Suzanne.
247 Det. Sudler: Okay. Suzanne...what's her last name?
248 Johnson: Uh...Green. Was Schnuremberger but she got married
249 and it's Green.
250 Det. Sudler: Okay. Easier to spell.
251 Johnson: Yeah, much easier.
252 Det. Sudler: Nuremberger?
253 Johnson: Schnuremberger...
254 Det. Sudler: Schnuremberger...
255 Johnson: Yes. S C H...
Det. Sudler: Okay. And then the assistant manager for her...
257 was that Laura's position?
258 Johnson: Uh Huh.
259 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. And then your assistants were?

260 Johnson: Judy Goldsberry-Weber...
261 Det. Sudler: And...
262 Johnson: Well, my other assistant is in Hungary. She...she's
263 not...no longer...she's no longer on staff...she's
264 not here anymore.
265 Det. Sudler: But her...at the time her name was...?
266 Johnson: Ildiko...I L D I K O.
267 Det. Sudler: I L D I K O.
268 Johnson: K O...
269 Det. Sudler: Ildiko?
270 Johnson: Cannovas.
271 Det. Sudler: Okay. C A...
272 Johnson: N N O V A S...
273 Det. Sudler: C A N N...
274 Johnson: O V A S.
275 Det. Sudler: O V A S. Okay. Alright...common spelling.
276 Johnson: I guess if you're Hungarian.
277 Det. Sudler: Umm...so that's pretty much the...the...I guess the
278 main service of your office there...the medical part
279 of it.
280 Johnson: Uh Huh.
281 Det. Sudler: Okay. If somebody came in with a health problem
282 that was...that required medical treatment or referral
283 to a physician or a dentist or an emergency health care
284 facility, was there anyone that you selected...you
285 know...on a routine basis like a preferred...pre...
286 preferred provider type health care facility?
287 Johnson: Not...I mean...not in the terms...not in the...in the
288 way of...you know...like a PPO type thing...you know.
289 Det. Sudler: Okay.
290 Johnson: No, not in that way.
291 Det. Sudler: Okay.
292 Johnson: There were particular doctors that everyone seemed

293 to like and seemed to give a diagnosis and good
294 treatment and didn't require going back a bunch of
295 times because they messed up once or twice trying
296 to figure it out.

297 Det. Sudler: So it's like the basis of an HMO?

298 Johnson: Yeah.

299 Det. Sudler: An HMO.

300 Johnson: Yeah...I mean...just like any...just like anybody
301 would choose a doctor...you know. If you went to
302 a doctor and they...you know...were...you know..
303 they weren't...their personality didn't fit with
304 yours or you felt like they weren't giving you...
305 you know...really fast good care...you wouldn't
306 go back. I mean...it's just the same thing.

307 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Umm...if somebody came to you
308 with a...a broken wrist...broken arm...where would
309 they be referred to? To the physician or to an
310 Emergency Room or clinic or...?

311 Johnson: No...I mean...it would depend...you know...it would
312 ...it would depend if it was just like the...maybe
313 the suspicion that...you know...they clunked it
314 hard...the suspicion that it's...that it's broken...
315 I mean...you know...been...you would probably wait
316 until the next day and go to the Walk-In Clinic
317 and get an X-Ray. I mean...if they were in severe
318 pain or if it was obvious it was broken, of course
319 they'd go to the Emergency Room.

320 Det. Sudler: Okay.

321 Johnson: And just com...common sense.

322 Det. Sudler: Just...okay. But you've used the hospitals in this
323 area I take it?

324 Johnson: Oh yeah.

325 Det. Sudler: Morton Plant and the Walk-In Clinics?

326 Johnson: Yeah. Usually...yeah usually Morton Plant for
327 emergency...emergency service of a...like if
328 somebody has an infection or a broken bone.
329 Sometimes Clearwater...it depends where Moskovitz...
330 you know..he would...he usually will jump up even
331 if he's not on call and...and take care of the staff.
332 Det. Sudler: Okay.
333 Johnson: So yeah...if he's working at Clearwater Community
334 that night, then we go to Clearwater Community. It
335 just...you know...it just depends.
336 Det. Sudler: Okay.
337 Johnson: A lot of guys travel from place to place and they
take calls at one place or another.
339 Det. Sudler: Yeah. I've seen the physicians do that a lot.
340 They kind of have three or four different hospitals.
341 Johnson: Yeah. So you call up and you see...you know...call
342 their answering service...you find out where they
343 are and go from there.
344 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. So that's pretty much been your...
345 I guess a...a description of your job duties there
346 as the medical liaison officer.
347 Johnson: Uh Huh.
348 Det. Sudler: Was there anything else that you did?
349 Johnson: I basically just...just coordinated things.
350 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Was there any...did you do any
351 like nutrition counseling or..or health counseling
352 or anything like that?
353 Johnson: No.
354 Det. Sudler: Involving any diet or exercise programs or any...
Johnson: No.
356 Det. Sudler: Like health maintenance type work?
357 Johnson: Well, there...there is...there is a schedule where
358 ...you know...everyone exercises twenty minutes a

359 day on a schedule. But that's...I don't devise a
360 program.

361 Det. Sudler: Okay.

362 Johnson: I'm not much of an expert at exercise.

363 Det. Sudler: Alright. But if somebody wanted to come to you
364 for let's say a low fat/low cholesterol diet, would
365 they come to your office under the medical...

366 Johnson: Well no, I'd say that's...actually that's provided.
367 We have a...you know...a dining facility and that's
368 provided for them.

369 Det. Sudler: Okay.

370 Johnson: If they need a...a diabetic diet or a low fat diet,
they just...they can get that there. They don't have
371 to come to me.

372 Det. Sudler: So they wouldn't necessarily come to you for a specific
373 problem...you know...that...that you would address
374 other than a referral.

375 Johnson: Yeah, that's...that's basically what...that's what the
376 office is...it's a liaison office and a band aid
377 station.

378 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. When was the first time that you
379 I guess met or got to know Lisa McPherson?

380 Johnson: The first time I actually had any direct contact
381 with her was the end of...the end of November.

382 Det. Sudler: And that's in 95?

383 Johnson: Yeah.

384 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what was the nature of that contact?
385 Did she come to your office or was that just a...
386 a social type...?
387

388 Johnson: No, she didn't...she didn't come to the office.
389 Suzanne, the medical office manager at the time, was
390 ...was...had...knew her from somewhere. I mean...they
391 were...they were acquainted.

392 Det. Sudler: Okay. Okay. And you met Lisa through Suzanne?
393 Johnson: Yeah.
394 Det. Sudler: Alright. Were you aware or did Lisa come to you at
395 anytime while you were a medical liaison officer for
396 any referral for any health problems she was having?
397 Johnson: No. I didn't generally see public people.
398 Det. Sudler: Okay.
399 Johnson: I would occasionally...I mean...if there was...
400 you know...a lot to be done and I wasn't busy
401 with staff...which wasn't very often...
402 Det. Sudler: Okay.
403 Johnson: I would help out...you know. But that didn't happen
404 to often. Usually I was pretty swamped just trying
405 to handle the staff.
406 Det. Sudler: Okay. So someone I guess you would refer to as public
407 ...they're just not on staff at the church?
408 Johnson: Oh yeah...yeah. Public means someone who is a
409 parishioner...you know..
410 Det. Sudler: Okay.
411 Johnson: That's...that's what you'd call them. But they
412 aren't on staff with the organization.
413 Det. Sudler: So if...so there wouldn't be I guess any reason
414 to use your services. They would just have their
415 own physicians and do everything on their own.
416 Johnson: Well yeah...I mean...somebody that lives here.
417 Det. Sudler: Okay. Would know the doctors in the area.
418 Johnson: Yeah. I mean...unless they just moved here and
419 they..you know...didn't have any...any contacts.
420 Then most people...if they're moving here...they'd
421 talk around other people and say "Well, who do you
422 go to?" and...you know..how people find...find doctors
423 usually is just by talking to somebody else.
424 Det. Sudler: Okay. So she hadn't come into the office while you were

425 there as far as you know for any referrals?
426 Johnson: Not when I was in the office.
427 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Were you aware of any of Lisa's
428 medical background or medical history?
429 Johnson: Well, only just secondhand...you know..from hearing
430 ...from hearing Suzanne talk.
431 Det. Sudler: And what was the nature of that?
432 Johnson: She told me that she occasionally would have trouble
433 sleeping and go..she'd go days without sleeping. And
434 then...you know...she'd get pretty wound up. And when
435 she didn't sleep, then she'd also not...not want to eat.
436 So it was kind of a...would be a vicious cycle. So
437 ...you know...you just...if she can just calm down and
438 sleep for a night, then this all...she could, if
439 everything straightens out, get back to normal.
440 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then Suzanne told you about this. During
441 what period of time? Was that around the end of
442 November or around that same time?
443 Johnson: Yeah, that was the week before Thanksgiving.
444 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was Lisa doing anything for her insomnia or...
445 you know...was she taking anything or...?
446 Johnson: Well, I know that she took some kind of herbal thing.
447 Det. Sudler: A pill or...?
448 Johnson: Yeah. Some kind of thing you like get at the health
449 food store.
450 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was that recommended by Suzanne or just
451 something Lisa did on her own?
452 Johnson: No. Nobody in the...nobody in the medical office
453 makes recommendations like that.
454 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. So she was taking just something
455 for a sleep aid...an herbal sleep aid?
456 Johnson: Uh Huh...yeah, as far as I know.
457 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...you know of any other medical problems

458 that she had?
459 Johnson: That was all I had heard about. And of course this
460 was just secondhand that I...that I heard about this.
461 Det. Sudler: Okay. Any psychological problems that she had that
462 you were aware of?
463 Johnson: Well, I was told by Suzanne that she could get...
464 you know...and pretty weird when she hadn't slept
465 for a while.
466 Det. Sudler: Okay.
467 Johnson: But other than that, no.
468 Det. Carrasq: What could cause that?
469 Johnson: Huh?
470 Det. Carrasq: What could cause that...her getting so wound up?
471 Did Suzanne have any idea?
472 Johnson: Well, I guess some....I..I've learned all about
473 this...I mean...secondhand since. But this is...
474 this is the way I heard the story. Was that some
475 ...some things had not been going well...you know...
476 at...at work or in her life...you know...that...that
477 ...things weren't going too smoothly and she was
478 upset and she didn't sleep for a while and things
479 kinda went from bad to worse. And she just needed
480 to take a break and just chill out and rest and get
481 away from everything for a little bit.
482 Det. Carrasq: From like anxiety or something?
483 Johnson: Yeah...yeah...just...yeah, just...just got wound up
484 enough that...I guess it didn't take as much to get
485 her upset and wound up and not sleep as maybe it would
486 ...you know...another person. So I guess she had a
487 little trouble sleeping to begin with. And if things
488 weren't going well in life, then...you know...she'd
489 probably sit and think about it...and hard to get to
490 sleep.

491 Det. Sudler: Okay. Would...did Suzanne have any medical background
492 or...?
493 Johnson: No.
494 Det. Sudler: She was just a manager?
495 Johnson: Uh Huh.
496 Det. Sudler: Okay.
497 Johnson: Yeah.
498 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...what else can you tell me about Lisa?
499 Johnson: Umm...I know that she didn't particularly eat well
500 off and on and her nutritional state probably wasn't
501 real great. She was..she was very thin...I mean...
? even from the time that she arrived she was real
thin...didn't have any extra insulation.
504 Det. Sudler: Okay. Do you know if she had any eating disorders..
505 you know...like bulimia or anything like that? Did
506 anybody mention anything like that?
507 Johnson: Not that I...not that I know of. It's definitely
508 a possibility.
509 Det. Sudler: But nothing that you were aware of?
510 Johnson: No.
511 Det. Sudler: Okay. Ummm...so how long did you know Lisa..from
512 just that month or so...around November?
513 Johnson: Yeah. I guess a couple of weeks.
514 Det. Sudler: A couple of weeks?
515 Johnson: Yeah.
516 Det. Sudler: Did she have any like great fluctuation of weight
517 that you were able to observe during that period
518 of time?
519 Johnson: Well, yeah. I did notice...from the time that I
...that I first saw her..yeah...she was already
521 thin but she was definitely thinner.
522 Det. Sudler: Okay.
523 Johnson: It was more than thin. She just...she looked really

524 dehydrated. Now, what I had heard was that, in that
525 ...that last 24 hours...that she had developed some
526 very severe diarrhea and that's how I imagine she
527 became so dehydrated so fast.
528 Det. Sudler: Okay. Were you...when did you become aware of
529 the accident that Lisa was involved in and her
530 activities that night?
531 Johnson: The...what...which..I'm not sure what we're talking
532 about. What...what night?
533 Det. Sudler: Okay. Lisa was involved in a...a motor vehicle
534 accident, okay.
5 Johnson: Yeah, sometime in November.
 Det. Sudler: Okay. Were you..were you aware of that...did you
 hear about it or...?
538 Johnson: Well, I did hear that...that she had had some
539 accident and she was shaken up about it and that's
540 why she was there...you know...just..she was just
541 there in the hotel to rest and to chill out. So
542 yeah, I was...yeah, I was told that she had been
543 to the hospital and that she had been checked out
544 and she wasn't injured...that she was...she was okay.
545 And also that she had been checked out psychologically
546 to make sure that she...you know...wasn't any real
547 danger to herself or someone else...that she was just
548 upset and...you know...she was with it.
549 Det. Sudler: Okay.
550 Johnson: And I guess she was checked out at Morton Plant and
551 they did determine that she was okay and they released
552 her.
 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then she went to the church?
554 Johnson: Uh Huh.
555 Det. Sudler: To relax I guess?
556 Johnson: Yeah.

557 Det. Sudler: Alright. The period before this that you...I guess
558 you just knew her through I guess casual acquaintance
559 ...through Suzanne you knew Lisa or...?
560 Johnson: No. Before that I didn't even know...I didn't even
561 know really...
562 Det. Sudler: Okay. So...
563 Johnson: I never met her.
564 Det. Sudler: Well, just to put a perspective of time, you didn't
565 meet Lisa until after this accident or before it?
566 Johnson: Yeah, until after it.
567 Det. Sudler: Until after her accident...okay.
568 Johnson: Yeah. I'm not sure when the accident was, but it
was definitely after...it was a few...she'd probably
been there at the hotel for maybe...when was it that
she got there?
571 Det. Sudler: Well, the accident was in the latter part of November
572 ...I think the 18th of November when she had the
573 accident.
574 Johnson: Okay. So this was like probably five days later when
575 I...when I first saw her...yeah...mid...midweek. I
576 just remember it was the week before Thanksgiving.
577 Det. Sudler: Okay. That was your first meeting with Lisa then?
578 Johnson: Yeah.
579 Det. Sudler: Okay. And at that first meeting, how did she appear
80 to you physically?
81 Johnson: Well...well, she was thin but she was...she was real
82 wound up...real agitated. She'd sit down for a little
83 bit and she'd get up and she'd pace and she...you know
84 ...just seemed to be like real nervous. Agitated is
85 the best...best description I have.
8 Det. Sudler: Okay.
9 Johnson: And she'd get up and she'd walk around and she'd...
you know...go into...go into the bathroom. She'd

590
591 come back in...you know...she just...you know...
592 just non-stop motion.
593 Det. Carrasq: Did you ask her what was wrong?
594 Johnson: No, I'm...I...I didn't even...you know...I wasn't
595 even there except just with Suzanne. And I didn't
596 ...I just let Suzanne be with her. She...she knew
597 her. And I...I felt a little...well...Lisa was a
598 little hostile toward anybody that had anything to
599 do with the medical profession. So no, I did not...
600 you know...I'm...I was kind of...

601 SIDE TWO OF TAPE ONE

603 Johnson: This...I had this tag on that said...you know...
604 said "Medical Officer". And as soon as she saw that
605 tag, it was like...you know...she...she was not pleased
606 that I was around. So I pretty much just kept my
607 distance and didn't engage her in conversation.
608 Det. Sudler: Okay.
609 Johnson: I..I heard some of the things that she was...you
610 know...saying about not being pleased with doctors.
611 Det. Sudler: So you had a tag on that said "Medical Officer" on
612 it?
613 Johnson: Yeah.
614 Det. Sudler: Okay. And...and Lisa saw that and I guess became
615 verbally abusive to medical people...
616 Johnson: Yeah.
617 Det. Sudler: Alright.
618 Johnson: So no, I didn't go out of my way to engage
619 her in conversation.
620 Det. Sudler: Umm...this first meeting took place where?
621 Johnson: That was in her room there at the Ft. Harrison.
622 Det. Sudler: Okay. You remember what room that was?

623 Johnson: I don't specifically remember the number.
624 Det. Sudler: Okay. Do you remember what part of the building
625 it was located in?
626 Johnson: Yeah, the cabanas.
627 Det. Sudler: Where is that at?
628 Johnson: Well, that's like a row along the...the back side
629 of the...I think the street's Osceola.
630 Det. Sudler: The two-story part?
631 Johnson: Yeah.
632 Det. Sudler: Okay. Okay Was she on the top or the bottom?
633 Johnson: The bottom part.
634 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was there...was she alone in the room?
Johnson: Well, at that time Suzanne was...was...was there
also.
637 Det. Sudler: Okay.
638 Johnson: We had gone over there together.
639 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did...did you go over there...for what reason?
640 Johnson: Just to...you know...make sure everything was okay
641 because Suzanne had expressed some...
642 Det. Sudler: Some concerns.
643 Johnson: Yeah.
644 Det. Sudler: Okay.
645 Johnson: And she was worried about her.
646 Det. Sudler: So you and Suzanne went...went together?
647 Johnson: Uh Huh..yeah...just to see if there was anything
648 that she needed.
649 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...and this was you'd say about five days
650 after the accident..the middle of that week?
651 Johnson: Yeah.
Det. Sudler: Just before Thanksgiving?
653 Johnson: Yeah, it was the week before Thanksgiving. I think
654 it was around Wednesday.
655 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...so Suzanne told you that Lisa was I guess

656 having some problems and she was concerned and you went
657 to the room with her.

658 Johnson: Uh Huh.

659 Det. Sudler: What was Lisa's room like? Was it orderly? Was it
660 neat? Was it...I guess she was agitated...was there
661 any...

662 Johnson: The bed...there were two beds. One bed wasn't made.

663 Det. Sudler: Okay.

664 Johnson: Umm...otherwise it looked okay. I mean...there
665 was...there was a tray...you know...like a room service
666 tray sitting on the dresser. I mean...it wasn't like
667 totally cleaned up but it wasn't gross or anything...
 you know...it wasn't trashed.

669 Det. Sudler: Okay.

670 Johnson: There were like vitamins...you know...sitting out
671 on the dresser. Her clothes were hung up.

672 Det. Sudler: Okay.

673 Johnson: The towels might have been...towels thrown around
674 in the bathroom.

675 Det. Carrasq: What was she wearing?

676 Johnson: She was wearing like a night shirt...kinda like a
677 really long tee shirt.

678 Det. Sudler: Okay. Her personal effects seemed to be in order?

679 Johnson: Yeah. And they were folded up on the shelf above
680 the coat hangers and some things were hanging up.

681 Det. Sudler: Did she have any luggage with her?

682 Johnson: I don't remember seeing a suitcase.

683 Det. Carrasq: What time of day was it?

684 Johnson: That was in the afternoon...probably 1 or 2 o'clock.

685 Det. Carrasq: Had she been out that day or...?

686 Johnson: I...I really don't know. I just...I just walked
687 in there for five minutes.

688 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...so her mental health was agitated...

755 root. It's...I could smell it. It's very strong...
756 a very strong smell. So I know that that at least had
757 valarian root in it. I don't know what else it had in
758 it.
759 Det. Sudler: Is that in a...a tablet form or...or how...do you know
760 how it's normally taken?
761 Johnson: Shoot, they can...they can be tablets...they can be
762 capsules.
763 Det. Sudler: Okay.
764 Johnson: I don't know exactly which one it was.
765 Det. Sudler: Was it liquid?
766 Johnson: I don't think so.
767 Det. Sudler: Okay.
768 Johnson: No, it was like a little...a little bottle...you
769 know. It wouldn't be liquid in a little bottle like
770 that.
771 Det. Sudler: Alright. So you didn't talk to Lisa at all during that
772 time?
773 Johnson: No.
774 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was there any plan or course of action that
775 you and Suzanne talked about if she didn't sleep or
776 she didn't get any better?
777 Johnson: Well, the...the plan was to just have the people
778 around there in the hotel just give her some extra
779 attention...you know...check and make sure if there
780 was anything special she wanted to eat...that they
781 went out of their way and they got it for her.
782 Det. Sudler: Now who...
783 Johnson: I remember she was into tuna fish sandwiches, so they
784 ...they would bring her tuna fish sandwiches at odd
785 hours of the day and night when she felt like...you
786 know..."Okay...yeah...I want to eat"...you know.
787 They...they'd go out of their way and they'd bring

788 her extra stuff.
789 Det. Sudler: Was she not eating regular meals?
790 Johnson: It was...it was sporadic. She'd...this was the
791 reports that I got anyway...you know...from hearing
792 from this person or that person. I'd kind of walk
793 around the place and make rounds and check on this
794 person and that person. I would ask...you know...
795 and find out what was going on. And...you know...
796 sometimes I'd get reports "No, she really hasn't
797 eaten anything today...she's just drinking a few
798 protein shakes". And other days she was...you know...
799 eating normally.
800 Det. Sudler: Okay. Who would be I guess in charge of bringing
801 her food? Would she order it from like a room service
802 thing?
803 Johnson: Uh Huh....yeah.
804 Det. Sudler: Okay.
805 Johnson: You know...or go out to...you know...one of the
806 ...the hotel's...the hotel restaurants or...you
807 know. I'm not sure exactly where she was getting
808 her meals, but I did...I'd say the time that I was
809 ...yeah...the time I was there, there was a tray
810 there. She must have been having some of the food
811 brought in as well as those extra snacks.
812 Det. Sudler: Well, since she was kinda brought there...you know
813 ...obviously in some type of crisis...you know...after
814 her accident...would there be anybody that would bring
815 her three meals a day or just...you know...as a routine
816 thing...you know...to...just to check on her or
817 anything?
818 Johnson: I'm not sure...I mean...I know that there were...there
819 were people that were just...you know...checking up on
820 her and making sure that...

821 Det. Sudler: Do you know who would be in charge of looking after her
822 while she was there to make sure she was doing alright?
823 Johnson: I don't know that anybody would be just..you
824 know...looking after her specifically.
825 Det. Sudler: Okay. Just her friends?
826 Johnson: Yeah. She knew a heck of a lot of people.
827 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. There wouldn't be anything specifically
828 that...you know...since...when she was checked out of
829 Morton Plant Hospital...that there wouldn't be anybody
830 assigned to her to assist her like...you know...with
831 anything that she needs...meals or...you know...
832 Johnson: Not like one particular person to do that...no.
833 Det. Sudler: Okay. So she was kind of on her own?
834 Johnson: Oh yeah...you know...she was a hotel guest.
835 Det. Sudler: Okay.
836 Johnson: It's true we gave her some...a little bit of extra
837 special service as far as...you know...people just
838 checking up on her and offering her this and offering
839 her that. But...you know...nothing...nothing like that.
840 Det. Sudler: Who checked up on her...on...you know...on a routine
841 basis?
842 Johnson: Oh...I mean...Suzanne would pop in and see her...you
843 know...just to make sure everything was fine.
844 Det. Sudler: Okay.
845 Johnson: And I did...I did one day speak to the cleaning staff...
846 you know...the people that were responsible for that
847 wing...and just say...you know..."Hey...just...you.
848 know...bring her whatever...I don't care if it's
849 outside of the normal hours that you would normally
850 do this"...you know..."Just..."...you know..."Just
851 take care of her and just do a little extra for her".
852 Det. Sudler: Okay.
853 Det. Carrasq: Their kitchen staffed 24 hours? People cooking so she

854 get food?
855 Johnson: It can be...it can be arranged. It's not usual, but I
856 did ask them to...you know..."Hey, if at 11:00 she wants
857 a tuna fish sandwich, get it for her".
858 Det. Sudler: At this time, did she have any other...I mean...did she
859 have diarrhea at this time or profound weight loss or
860 any problems that you knew of?
861 Johnson: Not that I knew of. I didn't hear anything about
862 diarrhea till the...the last 24 hours.
863 Det. Sudler: Okay...alright. So when did you...you said that...that
864 visit lasted about five minutes.
865 Johnson: Uh Huh.
866 Det. Sudler: Okay. When was the next time that you saw Lisa?
867 Johnson: Umm...probably a couple of days later.
868 Det. Sudler: And what was the nature of that? Was it just to check
869 up on her?
870 Johnson: Yeah...same thing.
871 Det. Sudler: Who went with you then?
872 Johnson: Nobody went with me then. I was just out and about
873 by myself.
874 Det. Sudler: How did she take to you at that time?
875 Johnson: Not real great, but...you know...I felt like I
876 ...I had to at least go and check and make sure
877 everything was fine. But I...
878 Det. Sudler: She was verbally abusive?
879 Johnson: No. She was just stand-offish...you know.
880 Det. Sudler: Okay.
881 Det. Carrasq: Did you still have your pin on?
882 Johnson: I took it off at that time. I peeled it off and
883 put it in my pocket. It seemed to help.
884 Det. Sudler: Did...did she talk to you about her...you know...
885 her health or condition at that time?
886 Johnson: No.

887 Det. Sudler: Did she say how she was doing or anything?
888 Johnson: Oh, that...that's right. I asked her if there was
889 anything I could get for her...you know...just trying
890 to...you know...do something...do something nice for
891 her and...you know..show her that I wasn't...I wasn't
892 out to get her. And she was out of..she was out of her
893 powdered vitamins. It was...it's called Vita Mix. So
894 I went and I offered to...you know...go pick up some at
895 the canteen there. It's a little shop that's within the
896 hotel. And I did go and I got the Vita Mix for her and
897 brought it back...you know. That's...that was the
898 second..second time I saw her.

Det. Sudler: INAUDIBLE. Had she been eating more that day?
Johnson: There was a...there was an empty tray there. So I
...I know she had eaten something.

Det. Sudler: Was she still as agitated as she had been?
Johnson: No, she was...she was looking better that day.

Det. Sudler: Okay.
Johnson: She was looking...looking more calm.

Det. Sudler: Okay.
Johnson: And she was...she was friendlier after I brought
the Vita Mix back.

Det. Sudler: Alright. Did she ask anything else or...?
Johnson: No.

Det. Sudler: Alright. Had she improved in your opinion?
Johnson: Yeah. She looked...she looked like things were
moving in the right direction.

Det. Sudler: Okay. Was she..how..was she...how was she clothed?
Was she dressed or still in a night shirt or....?
Johnson: She was wearing...she was wearing jeans and a tee
shirt but not a real long tee shirt...you know. It
was just a regular length tee shirt.

Det. Sudler: Okay. But they looked clean...they weren't soiled or

920 anything like that?

921 Johnson: No. I mean...they looked...they looked casual but
922 fine.

923 Det. Sudler: Okay. Are there...you know...TV's...a radio...or
924 anything in the room? Was she...you know...looked
925 like she was having a good time or was she kinda
926 withdrawn and...you know...?

927 Johnson: No. I can't say she looked like she was having a
928 good time.

929 Det. Sudler: Uh Huh.

930 Johnson: But she definitely didn't look as agitated and
931 wound up as she had the day...a couple of days...
you know...before.

932 Det. Sudler: Okay. What would she do for relaxation at the hotel?

933 Johnson: I really don't know.

934 Det. Sudler: She didn't...you know...she wasn't laying out by the
935 pool or...you know...doing anything like that...I
936 mean...you know...was she just trying to stay in the
937 ...was she reading or...you know...watching TV or
938 doing anything or was she just too wound up to do that?

939 Johnson: The first day she was definitely so wound that...you
940 know...

941 Det. Sudler: She didn't go out?

942 Johnson: I don't think so, but I...again...you know...I was
943 only there for five minutes. I can't say for sure
944 what she did in the meantime...in between.

945 Det. Sudler: Did you see her out and about in maybe the restaurants
946 or at the hotel or anything?

947 Johnson: Umm...not during those days. I don't remember...I
948 don't remember seeing her.

949 Det. Sudler: Did...you don't remember seeing her out. Do you know
950 if she left the room at anytime to go out or...?

951 Johnson: I don't know...

952

953 Det. Sudler: Okay.
954 Johnson: I don't know where...you know...where exactly she
955 was during most of the day. I would usually...if
956 I was gonna pop in, the time of day that fit with
957 my schedule the best was...you know...usually around
958 4:00.
959 Det. Sudler: Okay.
960 Johnson: So that was usually when I would be making my trip
961 around that area.
962 Det. Carrasq: Did she mention that she had been anywhere?
963 Johnson: Mostly I would just ask other people that were around
964 rather than asking her because she didn't like being
965 asked...if things weren't going well especially...
966 you know...she didn't...didn't want anyone to ask
967 her about...you know...how things were going. And
968 ...and so I just...you know...would get reports from
969 other people that knew her better and...you know...that
970 she would confide in. She still wasn't particularly
971 friendly toward me or didn't see me as being...you know
972 ...one of her buddies that she would talk freely with.
973 Det. Carrasq: Would the other people tell you?
974 Johnson: Oh yeah, they...they'd tell me...you know..."Oh yeah...
975 you know...she did fine last night or she only slept
976 three hours or she didn't sleep at all"...I mean...
977 those were the kind of...you know...reports that I
978 would get. And it varied from day to day.
979 Det. Sudler: So at that second visit, she seemed to be improving to
980 you?
981 Johnson: Yeah. She looked...she definitely looked better.
982 Det. Sudler: Was any of the other staff checking on her on a regular
983 basis?
984 Johnson: Like I said, I know...I know that Suzanne was...yeah.
985 Det. Sudler: Umm...alright. When...I guess...and when would be the

986 next time that you saw her?
987 Johnson: Ummm...I think on the average I probably popped in about
988 every other day.
989 Det. Sudler: Okay. And how long was she there? Do you know how
990 long her stay was...I mean...approximately?
991 Johnson: No. Let's see...you said she came on the 18th...
992 Det. Sudler: Yeah.
993 Johnson: Well, then the 18th...
994 Det. Sudler: Then...so that two week period of time...two or three
995 weeks.
996 Johnson: Yeah.
997 Det. Sudler: So you saw her about every other day?
Johnson: Yeah.
999 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did you...were you accompanied by anybody
1000 or...you know...?
1001 Johnson: At one time I was with Suzanne. And one other
1002 time I was with Suzanne.
1003 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1004 Johnson: That was...otherwise I'd just...I was out walking
1005 around alone and I just popped in when I could.
1006 Det. Sudler: Umm...did Lisa...her overall physical condition...
1007 how was it...I mean...did she have any injuries or
1008 anything that...you know...developed and presented
1009 itself after her accident that you might have noticed?
1010 Johnson: Yeah, it was the week of Thanksgiving...week of
1011 Thanksgiving I noticed...I noticed that...that she had
1012 bruises. I think it was the Wednesday before
1013 Thanksgiving...or Tuesday or Wednesday...one of those
1014 days...Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. And the story
I had gotten from Suzanne was that she had had about
1016 a ten minute episode of being like really wild and that
1017 she was like...you know...pounding on tables and she was
1018 kicking...you know...kicking furniture.

1019 Det. Carrasq: In that cabana room?
1020 Johnson: Uh Huh...yeah.
1021 Det. Sudler: Was this...
1022 Johnson: I think Suzanne must have been with her then and
1023 just...you know...just...she said she had to...
1024 had to physically just...you know...give her a good
1025 strong hug and get her settled down. And then after
1026 ten minutes she kinda came back to normal again but
1027 that she was...you know...she was just...you know...
1028 kicking stuff and hitting stuff and acting pretty
1029 wild there for a few minutes.
30 Det. Sudler: Okay.
Det. Carrasq: What was that rage over?
1032 Johnson: I don't know.
1033 Det. Sudler: When...when was that? Was that initially after she
1034 arrived or later on in her stay?
1035 Johnson: That was like...well, it was either Tuesday, Wednesday,
1036 or Thursday the week of Thanksgiving that...that Suzanne
1037 told me about that. So it had to have been some...it
1038 had to have been in that...
1039 Det. Sudler: Close to her arrival.
1040 Johnson: Yeah, in that...well, in that...that time frame.
1041 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1042 Johnson: Because I hadn't...you know...it was...I think...
1043 I'm pretty sure it was Wednesday.
1044 Det. Carrasq: The day before Thanksgiving?
1045 Johnson: Yeah. So I think this happened on a Tuesday.
1046 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did she have any...you mentioned that she had
1047 bruises. Where were they at? Did you see them?
3 Johnson: Yeah. She had some on the front of her...on her leg...
1049 like on her shin on one side. Umm...up...up her arm.
1050 Det. Sudler: Do you remember which side?
1051 Johnson: No.

1052 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1053 Johnson: No, I...that was about six months ago.
1054 Det. Sudler: Okay. On her upper arm?
1055 Johnson: Yeah...yeah.
1056 Det. Sudler: Anything else...did she have any like skin abnormalities
1057 or unusual marks on her skin?
1058 Johnson: No. Just...I mean...it just looked like...you know...
1059 she had...
1060 Det. Sudler: No abrasions or anything like that or...?
1061 Johnson: No. It looked like...it looked like a one or two day
1062 old bruise is what I remember seeing. You know how it
63 looks kinda purplish first and then it goes to...you
1 know...a brownish color and you kinda tell how long it's
1055 been by looking at it...you know...yeah...it looked like
1066 a pretty...pretty recent...like one...one or two days...
1067 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did she have anymore of those episodes of...you
1068 know...knocking stuff over and kicking furniture and...
1069 that you're aware of?
1070 Johnson: Not that I'm aware of.
1071 Det. Sudler: Okay. Suzanne just told you about that..you didn't
1072 witness that personally?
1073 Johnson: No.
1074 Det. Sudler: Umm...did...was Suzanne able to control this girl
1075 by herself or did she need any help from anybody?
1076 Johnson: Well, Suzanne is almost 6' tall...you know.
1077 Det. Sudler: So she can take care of herself?
1078 Johnson: Yeah.
1079 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1080 Johnson: I...you know...I...
Det. Sudler: Alright...
1082 Johnson: I...I think she'd...she'd probably be able to just
1083 ...you know...corral her and calm her down.
1084 Det. Sudler: Okay. This took place in the room?

1085 Johnson: Lisa responded pretty well to Suzanne...you know...
1086 Suzanne could...had a real calming effect on her.
1087 Det. Sudler: Were they friends?
1088 Johnson: Yeah.
1089 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1090 Johnson: Yeah...you know. Suzanne could come in and put her
1091 arm around Lisa and just...you know...you could just
1092 see Lisa go "whhh" and relax...you know. She...she'd
1093 chill out.
1094 Det. Sudler: Aright. Did any other staff members that you're aware
1095 of have any problems with Lisa like this...you know...
1096 any food servers or anybody? Did she go off on them?
1097 Johnson: I don't think so. I never...I never heard.
1098 Det. Sudler: Never heard. Okay.
1099 Johnson: And I...I'm pretty sure that, if anybody was...was
1100 threatened or...you know...felt like they were being
1101 attacked...I would have heard.
1102 Det. Sudler: Heard about it...okay.
1103 Johnson: Yeah, I would have heard.
1104 Det. Sudler: Alright. Umm...so you saw her pretty much every other
1105 day throughout that...her...throughout her stay?
1106 Johnson: Umm...yeah...on the average.
1107 Det. Sudler: On the average...okay...toward the end of her
1108 stay...when...you know...obviously her health
1109 deteriorated. When did that start to happen and when
1110 did you notice that she was kinda taking a turn for the
1111 worse?
1112 Johnson: It was on Friday...the Friday after Thanksgiving. I
1113 noticed that...you know...she was...she was looking
1114 thinner to me. She was wearing like a tank top and
1115 ...and shorts. And she looked noticeably thinner to
1116 me. And I said "Whoa"...you know...what's...but she
1117 was a lot calmer at that point. She had started

1118 sleeping. So I thought "Whoa"...you know...maybe as
1119 soon as she gets enough sleep she'll turn the corner
1120 and start eating again. But I remember...I remember
1121 saying to Laura "Just...you know...put some extra time
1122 and attention into making sure that she drinks enough...
1123 you know...just really work with her...offer her this
1124 ...and get her to...to drink enough because she's
1125 getting behind on food...she's not drinking enough."
1126 Det. Sudler: Laura was with you that time?
1127 Johnson: Yeah.
1128 Det. Sudler: That Friday after Thanksgiving?
1129 Johnson: Yeah. What happened was I had something that I had
1130 to do that weekend. It was...it was something that
1131 was gonna take up my whole weekend. And I didn't want
1132 to just...you know...turn around and not...not check on
1133 her. And I wasn't gonna be able to check on her. So
1134 I told Laura "You take over this and you make sure that
1135 ...you know...that she's getting enough to eat...that
1136 she's getting enough to drink for the weekend". So
1137 Laura did that.
1138 Det. Sudler: Over the weekend?
1139 Johnson: Yeah.
1140 Det. Sudler: Okay. You weren't gonna be available?
1141 Johnson: No.
1142 Det. Sudler: Was there any indication that she had been drinking
1143 or...you know...consuming any foods?
1144 Johnson: Oh yeah...you know...what I...the last time that
1145 I went in there, it was...it was...that was on...that
1146 was on a Friday. There were two empty...you know...
protein shake glasses.
1148 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1149 Johnson: Sitting there on her dresser. And there...yeah...there
1150 was some like bottled water as well. Occasionally

1151 before, I remember seeing like...you know...cartons of
1152 juice.
1153 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1154 Johnson: And that day all I saw was the two...you know...two
1155 protein shake things and those really don't have
1156 a whole heck of a lot of water in them.
1157 Det. Sudler: Yeah, I know that. Like Slim Fast...things like that.
1158 Johnson: Yeah...yeah...they don't have...they really don't have
1159 enough...enough fluid.
1160 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...did Laura get back with you and tell you
1161 that...you know...anything to the contrary...that she
1162 wasn't...you know...following what she was told to
1163 drink fluids or...you know...to eat...that she...you
1164 know...was I guess rebelling and...you know...
1165 Johnson: On Monday when I got...I got back...you know..kinda
1166 in my regular routine and...and talked to Laura...she
1167 said that it was...you know...it was tough to get her
1168 ...you know..to encourage her to...to drink and to do
1169 what...you know...what she needed to do. It was kinda
1170 ..you know...constant reminding...reminding...you know
1171 ...like you'd do...do for a little child.
1172 Det. Sudler: Did you see her on that Monday?
1173 Johnson: On Monday it was...it was around 8:00 in the evening
1174 before I got over there. And she was already in bed.
1175 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1176 Johnson: So I just shut the door and backed back out because
1177 she was starting to stir and I wasn't about to wake
1178 her up. So I...all I saw was that...was that she was
1179 under...up under the covers and she was...looked like
1180 she was at least in a light sleep.
1181 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did she keep the door unlocked in there or did
1182 you have a key to get in?
1183 Johnson: I do have a key. Usually I would...I mean...I would

1184 just knock lightly. Or if..if nobody answered the
1185 door, I wasn't gonna bang on the door hard and wake
1186 her up. But I just knocked lightly and if...if the
1187 door wasn't answered, then I'd just ask the security
1188 guard to...to come and turn the lock...
1189 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1190 Johnson: So that I could peek in...
1191 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1192 Johnson: And make sure everything was okay.
1193 Det. Sudler: Alright. Did Laura tell you that her condition
1194 had improved or deteriorated that weekend...you
1195 know...that she wasn't drinking like she was
supposed to? Did she get any worse than what she
1197 was or...?
1198 Johnson: She didn't say that she...you know...was...was
1199 getting worse. It sounded like she was kinda just
1200 doing the same old...same old same old kinda things.
1201 Det. Sudler: Alright. Okay. Go on and describe after Monday the
1202 next visit.
1203 Johnson: Umm...the next time...I didn't...I didn't go there
1204 until about a little after 7:00 in the evening on
1205 Tuesday.
1206 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what transpired then?
1207
1208 TAPE TWO - SIDE ONE
1209
1210 Det. Sudler: This will be a continuation of the interview with Janis
1211 Johnson on another tape. We're beginning this interview
1212 at 1040 hours the same date, 5/29/96. Sorry for the
interruption Janis. Umm...we were talking about
1214 Tuesday about 7 p.m....Laura apparently went to visit
1215 Lisa in her room and then you I guess had received
1216 I guess a phone call from Laura.

1217 Johnson: A page.
1218 Det. Sudler: A page from Laura?
1219 Johnson: Yeah.
1220 Det. Sudler: Okay. Take it from there.
1221 Johnson: Okay. She had said that Lisa had developed some
1222 fairly severe diarrhea.
1223 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1224 Johnson: That had been going on for almost 24 hours. And
1225 that she was sick and that, despite her not wanting
1226 to go to the doctor, we had to do something.
1227 Det. Sudler: Okay. This was around Tuesday late evening or...
1228 Johnson: Uh Huh. Yeah...about 7:00 in the evening.
Det. Sudler: Okay.
1229 Johnson: That she looked like she had some kind of infection.
1231 Det. Carrasq: So the Monday night when you...you went over there...
1232 she was in bed?
1233 Johnson: Yeah, she was already asleep.
1234 Det. Sudler: Okay. Severe diarrhea...24 hours...and had developed
1235 some type of infection?
1236 Johnson: Yeah. She said she looked like she had some kind of
1237 infection. I said "Well, does she have a fever?"
1238 She said "She didn't feel hot"...you know..."But she
1239 ...she looks like she's got an infection". She said
1240 "Come on over here...I need some help".
1241 Det. Sudler: Laura I understand has a medical background too...right?
1242 Johnson: Yeah...yeah. She did go to medical school in Mexico.
1243 Det. Sudler: Okay. So...
1244 Johnson: So I imagine she knew what she was talking about.
1245 Det. Sudler: She would be able to tell if someone had a fever.
Johnson: Yeah.
1247 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1248 Johnson: Yeah...oh yeah...definitely. Anybody could...you
1249 know...

1250 Det. Sudler: Yeah...I mean...yeah. But she would be I guess
1251 qualified to..to say...you know...somebody...
1252 Johnson: Yeah.
1253 Det. Sudler: So she had 24 hours of diarrhea and some type
1254 of infection. Did she elaborate on...on what type
1255 of infection she had or anything?
1256 Johnson: No. She just asked me to...to come over and give her
1257 a hand because we were gonna have to do something...
1258 you know.
1259 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1260 Johnson: So I just...it took me about ten minutes to break free
1261 and get over there.
Det. Sudler: Okay. So you got over there around 7:10 or....
1263 Johnson: 7:10....yeah..7:10 or 7:15...yeah.
1264 Det. Sudler: Okay. And who was there when you got there?
1265 Johnson: Laura.
1266 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what was Lisa like?
1267 Johnson: She was actually the friendliest she had ever been
1268 to me. She...she...she actually was happy to see
1269 me. She smiled at me...you know...she...you know...
1270 she said "Hi". You know...it was like "Whoa...this
1271 is different". Maybe she realized she did need some
1272 help and she was...you know...at last willing to accept
1273 some help. So I...I checked myself...you know...just
1274 ...she didn't...she didn't feel warm...she...but she
1275 did look...to me she looked septic. She looked like
1276 she had some kind of...by septic I mean...you know...
1277 an infection in the blood...you know. It's gotten
1278 into the blood system.
Det. Carrasq: What does that look like?
1280 Johnson: Umm...you know...generally someone looks just not
1281 good. They have a...a tired look about them. They
1282 don't think straight. You know...like someone has

1283 the flu...you know...just get a picture in your mind
1284 of someone who has...you know...a fever and is in
1285 this 24 hour bug and they look kinda...you know...
1286 just drug out and...you know...not good color...and
1287 they...they just don't look...don't look very good.
1288 Det. Sudler: Okay. I take it that Lisa didn't look very good.
1289 Johnson: No. She definitely looked like she had an infection
1290 rolling.
1291 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...
1292 Johnson: And very dehydrated at that point.
1293 Det. Sudler: How did that look?
1294 Johnson: Umm...extra thin.
Det. Sudler: Okay.
1296 Johnson: You know how some people will take...take a water
1297 pill to fit into their clothes or to look thin for
1298 a certain event. It does definitely...you know...
1299 when you lose water it makes you much thinner.
1300 Det. Sudler: Is there any way you can tell from that...I mean...
1301 if you were to examine somebody or look...and know
1302 that like the skin isn't...
1303 Johnson: Oh yeah...yeah...you know....it's...it's...you know
1304 ...if the skin is loose like a bloodhound, that's one
1305 indication...you know...of...of dehydration.
1306 Det. Sudler: Was Lisa like that or do you remember?
1307 Johnson: I don't recall specifically but...I mean...I just
1308 remember looking at her and saying majorly dehydrated..
1309 everything really dry...you know...instead of...you
1310 know...mucous membranes get real...get real dry.
1311 There's just this kinda...you know...sunken dehydrated
look.
1313 Det. Sudler: Okay. How was...was her...her other appearance or
1314 overall appearance...I mean...you know...her hair...
1315 her makeup? Was she...did she look like she had been

1316 sick?

1317 Johnson: Didn't look like she had gotten into the shower or
1318 done her hair in at least a day.

1319 Det. Sudler: Okay. What was she wearing?

1320 Johnson: She was wearing that night shirt again.

1321 Det. Sudler: The long night shirt?

1322 Johnson: Yeah.

1323 Det. Carrasq: You said she didn't look like she had been in the
1324 shower or done her hair. Was she the type that
1325 would shower regularly? Every time you'd stop in
1326 and see her, she was well groomed?

1327 Johnson: Oh yeah...uh huh...yeah. Well, not well groomed
 but at least...you know...maybe not...you know...
1329 completely...you know...hair all...all done. But
1330 ...I mean...it was...you know...she...she was clean...
1331 ...she was...you know...she was neat.

1332 Det. Sudler: How...what was her conversation at the time with
1333 you and Laura?

1334 Johnson: Well, the conversation had taken place...you know...
1335 whatever conversation taking place with Laura about
1336 ...you know..."No, I do..do not want to go...you know
1337 ...to any doctor".

1338 Det. Sudler: Laura told you this?

1339 Johnson: Yeah, she said...you know..."She doesn't...she doesn't
1340 want to go". I said "Well, there comes a point where
1341 that's tough...I'm sorry...you know...in my opinion....
1342 I mean...she really needs to go and get some medical
1343 help and we're gonna have to somehow sell her on it...
1344 I mean...that's...that's just the...that's just the
 ...the fact of the matter...and so how can we present
 this so that she'll accept it". So what...what we
1347 decided was okay, how about someone who...you know...
1348 who she knows will...will treat her with respect who

1349 is a member of the church who she can trust. And that's
1350 how we told her so that she'd come with us.
1351 Det. Sudler: And who was that?
1352 Johnson: Dr. Minkoff.
1353 Det. Sudler: Dr. Minkoff...okay. Had she been a patient of his
1354 before?
1355 Johnson: I don't think so. He's a...he's an emergency room
1356 physician. But you see, he has...his specialty
1357 training is in infectious diseases. So it was like
1358 it was perfect...you know...someone that she would
1359 trust that had the training to handle whatever...
1360 whatever infection she had.
1361 Det. Carrasq: She knew him when you mentioned him by name?
1362 Johnson: I don't think so. I...we didn't really mention him
1363 by name...just that...you know...how would you feel
1364 about...you know...would it be okay with you to go
1365 to a doctor...you know...that was just in an emergency
1366 room...you know...that...that is a member of the church
1367 and that we know and that we know is...you know...is...
1368 is kind and gentle and there'd be no...you know...
1369 whatever...I don't know...whatever bad experience she
1370 had before...you know...somebody didn't treat her right.
1371 Det. Carrasq: What was her response?
1372 Johnson: She wasn't happy about it but she was okay with it...
1373 you know...she agreed to...to come with...we helped
1374 her get dressed...you know...it was like...I can tell
1375 you that, without getting an agreement from her, it
1376 would've been a kicking screaming battle and...you
1377 know...and...you know...there's no way...no way I'd
1378 do that.
1379 Det. Sudler: Helped her get dressed...did...did she need help
1380 getting dressed or did you just get her clothes for
1381 her?

1382 Johnson: Yeah, I went and got her...she was wearing this night
1383 shirt...I didn't want to take her out...you know...
1384 wearing night clothes. So I just...you know...ran
1385 and I got some clean clothes off the shelf.

1386 Det. Sudler: Okay.

1387 Det. Carrasq: You said that she had had diarrhea for 24 hours.
1388 Was she at the point that you had to clean her up too?

1389 Johnson: Umm...no...no...she...she...there was a towel on her
1390 bed...you know...under her. But it was okay...the towel
1391 was clean.

1392 Det. Sudler: Okay. So she hadn't soiled her undergarments or
1393 bed or anything like that?

Johnson: No.

1395 Det. Sudler: Umm...she was conscious...I mean...in talking to
1396 her...I mean...she could carry on a conversation?

1397 Johnson: Yeah, she was making...she was...you know..I mean...
1398 when someone is septic, they aren't...you know...like
1399 real fast...you know. They're kinda slow...they don't
1400 think real straight. But she wasn't like babbling or
1401 ...you know...not making sense. She was just slow
1402 to respond.

1403 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...was she ambulatory...could she walk on
1404 her own?

1405 Johnson: Well, we weren't gonna take a chance on her falling.
1406 So I'm...Laura's on one side...you know...with her
1407 hand under her arm. And I stood on the other side.
1408 And we...we walked her...like I told you, there was
1409 two beds there. We...we walked her over from the bed
1410 where she was to the one that was next to the door...
1411 ...you know...and...and sat her down on the bed. And
1412 it was like I was not wanting to go all the way across
1413 the street where my van was. So I said "Here Laura,
1414 I'm gonna go pull up the van". And Paul Greenwood by

1415 that time was coming up the sidewalk. So I said...you
1416 know..."Hey Paul, give Laura a hand...I'm gonna go get
1417 the van so that we don't have to walk so far". And
1418 I came and I pulled it up right to the curb there
1419 outside of...outside of the door.
1420 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was Paul Greenwood paged to come there to...to
1421 help out?
1422 Johnson: Uh Huh.
1423 Det. Sudler: Okay. By...by you or Laura?
1424 Johnson: I told somebody. Actually it was secondhand...who
1425 did I tell...I told...I can't remember who it was
1426 that was...that was by there. But I said "Hey...
 7 you know...we need some help".
1428 Det. Sudler: Do you know if it was security or housekeeping or
1429 ...you know...someone like that or...?
1430 Johnson: Yeah, it was either security or housekeeping.
1431 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1432 Johnson: One of them that I asked to go round him up.
1433 Det. Sudler: Him specifically or to just get help?
1434 Johnson: No, I think I asked for him specifically because I
1435 knew where he was.
1436 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1437 Johnson: And he's a big guy.
1438 Det. Sudler: You...you...you know who Paul is then?
1439 Johnson: Oh yeah...yeah...he's in the same department as I
1440 am.
1441 Det. Sudler: Oh, okay.
1442 Johnson: So I happened to know where he was at the time and
1443 that...you know...he could...he could get away and
 1 he was close by. So he was the logical person to
 15 grab.
1446 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then he was still on the sidewalk. You
1447 ...what did Lisa...what did Lisa wear...what did you

1448 put on her? Do you remember?
1449 Johnson: I think it was jeans and a different tee shirt.
1450 Det. Sudler: Okay. And you and Laura moved her from the one bed
1451 I guess closest to the bathroom?
1452 Johnson: Yes.
1453 Det. Sudler: To the one by the door?
1454 Johnson: The one next to the door.
1455 Det. Sudler: Okay. And she was all dressed at this point?
1456 Johnson: Yeah.
1457 Det. Sudler: Okay. And when you opened the door, I guess Paul
1458 was coming up the sidewalk.
1459 Johnson: Yeah.
1460 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then...
1461 Johnson: And then I ran out to get the van.
1462 Det. Sudler: Okay. Okay. Then what happened?
1463 Johnson: I pulled up the van...opened the door...and Paul
1464 and Laura were...were carrying Lisa. There were
1465 some steps to go down.
1466 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1467 Johnson: Paul got in first and then Lisa was between Laura
1468 and Paul. And they were in the back seat. My..the
1469 way my van is set up, the...there..there's like two
1470 bucket seats. And then the second seat is only for
1471 two people.
1472 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1473 Johnson: So they got in the very back.
1474 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1475 Johnson: Where there were three seats.
1476 Det. Sudler: What type of van do you have?
1477 Johnson: It's a Mazda mini van.
1478 Det. Sudler: Okay. There's the two front and then two in the
1479 middle. And then there's a bench seat in the back?
1480 Johnson: Yeah, like a big bench seat that has...has three

1481 seats and a little bit more room.

1482 Det. Sudler: Okay. So that was...was Paul, Lisa, and then Laura

1483 in that order?

1484 Johnson: Yeah...Uh Huh.

1485 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. And you're driving up?

1486 Johnson: Right.

1487 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...was Lisa offering any resistance at

1488 this point?

1489 Johnson: No.

1490 Det. Sudler: She was willing and ready to go to the doctor?

1491 Johnson: Yeah.

1492 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm..and she was I guess okay with the decision

1493 to go with...to Dr. Minkoff...she felt comfortable with

1494 him?

1495 Johnson: Uh Huh.

1496 Det. Sudler: Umm...okay. What happened at that point?

1497 Johnson: Well, I started...I had a little hand drawn map how

1498 to get there. I had never been to this place before.

1499 So I...I was just following the map and driving.

1500 Det. Sudler: Who drew that map? Do you remember?

1501 Johnson: Somebody in the office. Umm...I think it was Emma.

1502 Det. Sudler: In your office?

1503 Johnson: Yeah, I think it was...I think Emma drew that.

1504 Det. Carrasq: At what point did you have it draw it? Did you go

1505 there that evening?

1506 Johnson: Uh Huh...yeah.

1507 Det. Sudler: So you had already formulated in your mind that...that

1508 Lisa needed to go to a doctor and you were gonna go

1509 there...go there to sell her on the idea.

1510 Johnson: Yeah. But before I did that, I ran...you know...

1511 I...I...I didn't...we didn't...Laura and I didn't

1512 stand there and talk in front of her...you know.

1513 We went outside and said okay, how are we gonna do

1514 this. And I went to...went to a phone and from there
1515 I called to make sure that Dr. Minkoff was on duty that
1516 night. I made a few phone calls to set all this up.
1517 Det. Sudler: Alright. Did you talk to Dr. Minkoff?
1518 Johnson: Yeah.
1519 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1520 Johnson: Yeah, he was in the Emergency Room there and I...I
1521 told him what was going on and that...you know...she
1522 needed to be seen tonight...that there was just...
1523 you know...no way that she was going to wait till
1524 tomorrow.
1525 Det. Sudler: That was before your visit to Lisa?
 Johnson: No, that was after.
 Det. Sudler: Okay, after...
1528 Johnson: Yeah, I went and I saw her...I said "Yeah Laura..
1529 you know...we've got to do something here...I'm gonna
1530 go get this all set up". And so I went and I made the
1531 arrangements...made the phone calls. And I also said
1532 good God... after I talked to...after I talked to him
1533 ...I hung up and said I don't know where this place is.
1534 So I got on the phone and I asked Emma to draw it out
1535 for me because she'd been there before. So I said...
1536 "Draw...draw me a map". And then...how did I get that
1537 ...but she...she ran it over.
1538 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1539 Johnson: She...she gave it to me.
1540 Det. Sudler: Umm...during your conversation with Dr. Minkoff, what
1541 did...what did he say when you...I mean...I guess you
1542 described the condition of Lisa...
 Johnson: Yeah, I said...you know..."She's...she's septic...she
1545 she does not want anything to do with doctors". And
1546 I just explained to him that...you know..."Just...I
 want you to...you know...just maybe let us have a

1547 back room...you know...where she can be...you know...
1548 away from all the hoo ha of the Emergency Room and
1549 just a nice quiet place where...you know...she won't
1550 get upset. The last thing she needs right now is...
1551 you know...to...to get upset about being in a hospital
1552 setting". So he goes "That's okay, I'll take care of
1553 it".

1554 Det. Sudler: Was there any discussion of meningitis at that point?
1555 Johnson: No...no...she didn't look that sick.

1556 Det. Sudler: Okay. Where did that come into...into play...that
1557 meningitis was possible suspect?

1558 Johnson: Well, I was trying to find some explanation for how
she could have gone downhill so fast...I mean...I was
1559 like shocked...I was just "What?"...you know...how...
1560 how could this have happened. So...I mean...she looked
1561 sick but not terribly sick at 7:00 in the evening. And
1562 by 10:00 at night she's dead.

1563

1564 Det. Sudler: Yeah.

1565 Johnson: I thought my God, what infections do I know of that
1566 I can add so I can put this together and make sense
1567 of this. I thought God...could she have...could she
1568 have like meningococcal meningitis going on. That's
1569 something that moves that fast and it's that vicious.
1570 And then I happened to know that it was running around
1571 the county...that there were a few cases of it in the
1572 county. And I thought oh no...this is...is this what
1573 we're looking at here.

1574 Det. Sudler: Yeah. From what I understand, it does move pretty
1575 fast.

Johnson: Oh yeah. It can...it can kill in hours. So that's
...that's how I got that idea.

1576

1577 Det. Sudler: Okay.

1578 Johnson: I've since been told by Mr. Johnson that she actually

1580 had a pulmonary embolism, which would also account for
1581 ...you know...sudden death.
1582 Det. Sudler: Yeah. She..I guess she did...you know...was pretty
1583 septic and did have a...I guess a pretty severe staph
1584 infection too...you know.
1585 Johnson: Uh Huh.
1586 Det. Sudler: So...okay...so...during your conversation with Dr.
1587 Minkoff, you basically said that she was septic and
1588 did you discuss her symptoms and her past like history
1589 that couple weeks...what she had been doing or anything?
1590 Or trying to get a little bit of an idea what...what
1591 she was like?
Johnson: I didn't...I don't recall that I gave him anymore than
1593 ...you know...immediate...the immediate stuff that he
1594 needed to know.
1595 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1596 Johnson: I...you know...I said that...you know...she's...
1597 she's got a thing about the medical profession and
1598 she needs a nice quiet place. We need to protect
1599 her from the hoo ha of the Emergency Room.
1600 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1601 Johnson: I think that's all I told him about it. I didn't
1602 go into a...a long-winded history.
1603 Det. Sudler: Okay. So you had...just had the one phone call to
1604 Dr. Minkoff then?
1605 Johnson: Yeah.
1606 Det. Sudler: And he said bring her up?
1607 Johnson: Yeah. He said "I'm on duty...get her here".
1608 Det. Sudler: Okay. And then what happened? From that point you
got the map and...
1610 Johnson: Yeah.
1611 Det. Sudler: And I guess you're off on your way.
1612 Johnson: Yeah.

1613 Det. Sudler: Okay. Umm...about what time did you leave?
1614 Johnson: I think it was around 8:00.
1615 Det. Sudler: Okay. Which way did you go?
1616 Johnson: I headed north.
1617 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1618 Johnson: It was up...I think it was 19.
1619 Det. Sudler: North 19 out by the overpass on the east side of
1620 town?
1621 Johnson: Yeah.
1622 Det. Sudler: Okay. And you went straight up 19?
1623 Johnson: I can't remember now if it was...if it was Alt. 19
1624 or if it was 19. Which one would you take to get
to New Port Richey?
1625 Det. Sudler: Either.
1626 Johnson: Alright.
1627 Det. Sudler: You'd kinda go to the same spot.
1628 Johnson: Okay.
1629 Det. Sudler: They both meet up there in that area.
1630 Johnson: I'm not sure which one I...which one it was.
1631 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1632 Johnson: I know I was going north.
1633 Det. Sudler: Alright. Umm...how was Lisa during the transport
1634 up there?
1635 Johnson: Well, she was there in...in the back between Laura
1636 and Paul. And I couldn't...couldn't see very much
1637 in just the rearview mirror.
1638 Det. Sudler: Okay. Was she talking or...?
1639 Johnson: No.
1640 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Was she still conscious?
1641 Johnson: I'm not sure.
1642 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1643 Johnson: And I'm not sure at what...at what point...you
1644 know...she..there was one time...I mean...in
1645

1646 retrospect...you know...now that I know what was
1647 happening with the pulmonary embolism...there was
1648 one time about twenty minutes before we got to the
1649 hospital that I heard her breathing pick up. And
1650 it was deeper and it was faster than usual. And
1651 then it settled right back down to where it was.
1652 If I had to guess, that's the...that's the time that
1653 the...that's one of the symptoms of a pulmonary
1654 embolism.
1655 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1656 Johnson: One has...has trouble breathing and it...they...
1657 they automatically will...will breathe...you know...
 a lot faster. So if I had to guess, that was...that
1659 was when it happened...that that broke off and blew
1660 up into her lung.
1661 Det. Sudler: Okay. That's one of the symptoms of it...that...
1662 the heavy breathing I guess?
1663 Johnson: Uh Huh.
1664 Det. Sudler: Her...her breathing before that had been shallow
1665 or..?
1666 Johnson: Just...just regular.
1667 Det. Sudler: Regular?
1668 Johnson: Yeah.
1669 Det. Sudler: Alright. And would you characterize that as gasps
1670 for air or just regular...?
1671 Johnson: I..I can show you...no, it was...it was more like
1672 HHHHHH...HHHHHH...HHHHHH...HHHHH...
1673 Det. Sudler: Okay. And she did that?
1674 Johnson: Yeah, for about fifteen or twenty seconds and
 then settled back down to...you know...what...
1676 but I didn't hear anything different at that point
1677 from where I was.
1678 Det. Sudler: Okay.

1679 Johnson: But this is hindsight...something...God, when did
1680 that happen..
1681 Det. Sudler: Was there any...was there any point that...during
1682 this that you...you recognized that she had lost
1683 consciousness or did Laura or Paul tell you that
1684 she was having a problem...you know...that they
1685 couldn't tell if she was breathing?
1686 Johnson: No.
1687 Det. Carrasq: Were they saying anything?
1688 Johnson: No.
1689 Det. Sudler: Did they have any conversation with you at all?
1690 Johnson: No.
Det. Sudler: Okay. And Lisa didn't say anything?
1692 Johnson: No.
1693 Det. Sudler: Okay. So there was no conversation whatsoever on
1694 the way to the hospital?
1695 Johnson: No.
1696 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1697 Johnson: And we don't talk around people who are sick or
1698 injured.
1699 Det. Sudler: Okay. Is that a...a practice of the church?
1700 Johnson: No. It's...it's something that's just a good idea.
1701 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1702 Johnson: Based on research.
1703 Det. Sudler: Alright.
1704 Johnson: So it's...it's practiced in many operating rooms
1705 today.
1706 Det. Sudler: Okay. I'm curious why.
1707 Johnson: Because it...it...what happens is like say you
have someone who's asleep under an anesthetic...
1709 they...the drugs do certain things...you know...
1710 with drugs...the drugs will do to the mind to
1711 depress the consciousness...

1712 Det. Sudler: Uh Huh.
1713 Johnson: And things will act as a...a hypnotic suggestion.
1714 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1715 Johnson: So that was just something that in many operating
1716 rooms just isn't done...you know. You don't chatter
1717 and talk and talk about your golf game yesterday and
1718 that kind of stuff.
1719 Det. Sudler: Okay. So it's not like Chicago Hope then or MASH?
1720 Johnson: Uh Uh...well...you know...not quite like MASH.
1721 Det. Sudler: Not quite like MASH...okay...alright. So how long
1722 would you say the...the trip took before you arrived?
1723 Johnson: It seems like it was about an hour.
Det. Sudler: Okay.
1725 Johnson: I thought it was about 40...a 40 minute drive.
1726 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1727 Johnson: But the way the lights were timed at that time of
1728 day, it took about an hour.
1729 Det. Sudler: Okay. And what happened upon arrival at the hospital?
1730 Johnson: Well, I pulled up to the...you know...the..like the
1731 door of the Emergency Room. And I got out and went
1732 in and I'd already talked to them. So they were
1733 ...were expecting us. And I...you know...said...
1734 you know..."We..."...you know..."We need a stretcher".
1735 And...you know...they said "Yeah...yeah..."..you know...
1736 "We'll be there in a little bit"...you know. So I
1737 went back out...opened the door..and said "Okay...okay
1738 guys". And Paul...you know...Paul was...was shaking
1739 his head and saying...you know..."What?" And he goes...
1740 he goes "It doesn't look good". I said "Well, we better
move fast". I ran back in and said "I need...I need
that stretcher now". And they didn't have one. So I
1743 ...I just kept after them until they did something.
1744 And they had a wheelchair, so they brought the

1745 wheelchair out. They...they just said "I'm sorry...
1746 we don't...we just don't have an extra stretcher
1747 right now. I said "Well"...you know..."Hey, look...
1748 this is serious". They...they weren't quite grasping
1749 that this was a serious situation at that point. So
1750 they came out with the wheelchair. We put her in the
1751 wheelchair. To me, at that point it did not look like
1752 ...you know...she was...she was not breathing...I could
1753 not see any...any motion...you know...any motion that
1754 she was breathing.

1755 Det. Sudler: Okay. How was her skin color?
1756 Johnson: Well...you know...it was this funny fluorescent kind
 of light. We all looked funny.

1758 Det. Sudler: Okay. But you couldn't tell if she had any breathing
1759 at that point?

1760 Johnson: No. She didn't look...I mean...like blue.

1761 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright.

1762 Johnson: But she didn't...there was no obvious motion either.

1763 Det. Sudler: So she didn't have a gray cast or...you know...

1764 Johnson: No...no.

1765 Det. Sudler: And at that point she was just taken right into the
1766 ER?

1767 Johnson: Uh Huh.

1768 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. When...I guess...did Dr. Minkoff
1769 tell you in person that she had died or how did you
1770 find out about that?

1771 Johnson: Well, the...the ER nurse was asking us for information
1772 and...you know...I was...I did not have a whole lot of
1773 information.

 Det. Sudler: Okay.

1775 Johnson: I hadn't even thought to...to...to pick up..to pick
1776 up her purse...to find her purse there in the room.
1777 So I didn't have her address or...you know...her

1778 birthdate or anything like that. So I gave them
1779 whatever information I had and that was the correct
1780 ...you know...correct spelling of her name. And
1781 ...I mean...I...I've been around enough to know that
1782 ...you know...I could get from what the nurse was
1783 saying...the nurse wasn't saying anything directly...
1784 Det. Sudler: Uh Huh.
1785 Johnson: But I could get...you know...from what she was saying
1786 that things were not going well.
1787 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1788 Johnson: And when they kept asking "Well, who's her
1789 next-of-kin?"...I mean...I'm not stupid.
Det. Sudler: Okay. Okay. When did they formally...did they
1791 ever formally tell you that she died that night or...?
1792 Johnson: Well, yeah.
1793 Det. Sudler: Who was that? Was it a nurse or a doctor told you?
1794 Johnson: No, it was a nurse.
1795 Det. Sudler: ER nurse?
1796 Johnson: Uh Huh.
1797 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did they say what the cause of death was
1798 they believed to be or anything?
1799 Johnson: No. They...they just asked...you know..."Is she
1800 allergic to anything...does she have any previous
1801 medical history?" And I'm...I'm saying...you know
1802 ..."I don't know of any medical illness that she...
1803 that she's had in the past".
1804 Det. Sudler: Was there...did she still have the bruises on her?
1805 Johnson: She had...as of that night on..on...on Tuesday as
1806 I was helping dress her...she had real...real
' strange looking bruises. It's a different kind of
1808 bruise...it's...was sepsis. What will happen is
1809 that the little blood vessels will develop
1810 inflammation and they'll burst.

1811 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1812 Johnson: So it's a strange looking bruise. It doesn't look
1813 just like...you know...bumped on something. It's a
1814 characteristic strange looking kind of bruise and
1815 that's one..that's one of the things that tipped me
1816 off that this was sepsis. It's hard to...it's hard
1817 to explain. It looks like a bruise because what
1818 happens is the little blood vessels...they burst...
1819 they get inflamed and they...they burst. And so
1820 you do get areas of bruising...you know. Any...
1821 the...the blood vessels get really really fragile.
1822 Det. Sudler: Like a petechial hemorrhage?
Johnson: Yeah.
1824 Det. Sudler: Something like that.
1825 Johnson: Yeah.
1826 Det. Sudler: It has that look?
1827 Johnson: It does like early on but then...you know...as...
1828 as...a bruise is just blood...you know...being loose
1829 under the skin.
1830 Det. Sudler: Uh Huh.
1831 Johnson: And after a certain point...you know...you can't
1832 see the little tiny petechia anymore and it just
1833 looks like...you know...an area bruise. You can't
1834 ...you can't see the...the difference.
1835 Det. Carrasq: Where were those at?
1836 Johnson: Like over...you know...over her knuckles...on...
1837 over her elbows...upon...upon at least one hip I
1838 saw...I saw a bruise. Any place where...like if
1839 she was...if she was lying in bed with pressure
on this point...you know...the blood...the blood
1841 vessels will be so fragile that everywhere that
1842 she puts pressure that they would burst if she'd
1843 get...you know...get areas of bruising. Yeah...

1844 all this would fit with meningitis...meningitis
1845 and...and the staph are the two that are most...
1846 most common that would be most likely to do that
1847 and give that kind of little blood vessels bursting
1848 everywhere. And I've seen people with meningitis
1849 that they were like purple from one end to another...
1850 like just one solid bruise everywhere.
1851

1852 TAPE TWO - SIDE TWO
1853

1854 Det. Sudler: Did...do you know if Lisa had any local physicians
1855 that she dealt with? Did you ever hear that from
anybody you talked to?

1856 Johnson: The only one I knew of was Jeannie Decuyper.

1857 Det. Sudler: And she's a chiropractor?

1858 Johnson: Yeah.

1859 Det. Sudler: But no M.D.'s or anybody that she saw previously...
1860 no OB/GYN's or anything like that?

1861 Johnson: Not that I remembered. I think she stayed as far
1862 away from doctors as she possibly could.

1863 Det. Carrasq: Did you ever why that was?

1864 Johnson: I..I'm guessing that she had some kind of bad
1865 experience but I don't know what it was.

1866 Det. Sudler: I think when I talked to Paul Greenwood, he had
1867 mentioned or...or Benetta Slaughter or somebody...
1868 one of her friends...one of the people said that
1869 ...that the church I guess doesn't believe in using
1870 psychologists or psychiatrists or anything like that
1871 ...that that's not what the church kinda believes
1872 in? Is that pretty much the case?

1873 Johnson: Well, it's not that we're...you know..we're against
1874 any particular...you know...any particular approach
1875 or...or profession.
1876

1877 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1878 Johnson: It's just that we don't feel we really have any
1879 use for psychiatry or psychology.
1880 Det. Sudler: Okay. So..so the religion itself would...would
1881 I guess be what a psychia...a psychiatrist could
1882 do...you can get that through the religion then.
1883 Johnson: Exactly.
1884 Det. Sudler: Okay...alright. So there wouldn't be any reason
1885 to go then?
1886 Johnson: I'm...I'm...not that I can think of.
1887 Det. Sudler: Okay. Alright. Umm...cause it looks...it looks
1888 like...you know...Lisa...you know..she had this
accident. And were you told about what happened
1890 after the accident?
1891 Johnson: Well, I know that she did have both a physical
1892 and a psychiatric examination.
1893 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1894 Johnson: Yeah.
1895 Det. Sudler: Did you know why? Were you told of the circumstances
1896 why she was taken to Morton Plant Hospital?
1897 Johnson: I...I've heard secondhand that she...that she
1898 did something wild...took her clothes off and
1899 walked down the street. That...that's the part
1900 that I heard that she...
1901 Det. Sudler: Pretty wild...a little bit different.
1902 Johnson: Yeah...yeah...something was...something was not
1903 right there.
1904 Det. Sudler: Okay. When...if...I guess...since she's not on
1905 staff, she would be what you'd consider a parishioner
...right?
1907 Johnson: Uh Huh.
1908 Det. Sudler: If somebody had one of those breaks, what would be
1909 the church's function...I mean...if...would they

1910 go...I guess...you know...not being well versed
1911 with the church...but would they go to the church
1912 for counseling or for...would there be somebody
1913 that they would go to...a minister or somebody if
1914 they were in that situation?
1915 Johnson: The church doesn't treat mental illness at all...
1916 I mean...she did the...she did the usual thing.
1917 If you think somebody's mentally ill, then they
1918 go and they get evaluated. You see...the point of
1919 ...of Scientology isn't to treat physical or mental
1920 illness.
1921 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1922 Johnson: It's...it's...it's strictly for spiritual gain.
1923 Det. Sudler: Okay. So it's not like a..a Christian Scientist
1924 thing?
1925 Johnson: Oh no....
1926 Det. Sudler: Where they just don't believe in..in medical...
1927 Johnson: Oh no...no...
1928 Det. Sudler: Practitioners or...you know...
1929 Johnson: In fact our policy and our guideline is that...
1930 the guidelines...if you are sick, you get treated...
1931 you get...you get physically taken care of...you
1932 know. Then...you know...then you...you...you don't
1933 try to...you don't try to...it's not like..it's not
1934 like Christian Science where you avoid all medical
1935 treatments..that's...or...you know..you're supposed
1936 to depend on faith to heal you or something. That's
1937 ...that's not what's going on.
1938 Det. Sudler: Okay. Did...in some of the interviews that we've
1939 talked to, we got information that...that the church
1940 would do...in...in persons with a break like this
1941 or a breakdown or a nervous breakdown...that they
1942 would do something like an introspection rundown

1943 ...a course or something that they would take. Is
1944 that familiar to you?
1945 Johnson: No. I...I don't know of any such course.
1946 Det. Sudler: Anything like that. Okay. And that came from
1947 somebody I talked to. But was Lisa in...involved
1948 in anything like that? Was she...did she go to
1949 the church for any courses or any programs to help
1950 her?
1951 Johnson: No. She...she was simply there to rest.
1952 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1953 Johnson: She was not doing anything as far as a course or...
1954 Det. Sudler: Okay.
 Johnson: She was not in any course. She was just there to rest.
1956 Det. Sudler: So there wouldn't be any like diet or exercise
1957 regiment or counseling or anything that...that she
1958 would do because of her mental condition to try to
1959 improve that?
1960 Johnson: Oh...oh no...no
1961 Det. Sudler: Okay.
1962 Johnson: That's not...that's not the purpose or why she was
1963 ...was there. She simply wanted to have a chance to
1964 get away from whatever pressures that she was under
1965 and chill out and just...just relax and rest.
1966 Det. Sudler: Alright.
1967 Johnson: I know that's...that's not...that's not the purpose
1968 of Scientology...you know...to...to treat any kind
1969 of mental or physical illness.
1970 Det. Sudler: Okay. Would there be anybody that would be assigned
1971 to watch her...to make sure that she didn't...you
 know...injure herself or..you know...completely
1973 I guess completely I guess go across the brink of
1974 ...of sanity?
1975 Johnson: We were depending on...you know...the fact that

1976 she had had an evaluation.

1977 Det. Sudler: Uh Huh.

1978 Johnson: And whoever had evaluated her had said "Okay, yeah

1979 ...she's...she's okay to go...she's not any danger

1980 to herself or to anyone else...and she's...she's

1981 fine to be released". So...I mean..that's...that's

1982 ...that's what I knew was that yeah, she had been

1983 evaluated and she was okay. It was just a temporary

1984 upsetness...something that I guess everyone involved

1985 believed could be cured with some rest and relaxation.

1986 Det. Sudler: Okay. It appears that, at the hospital...you know...

1987 that they had a discussion about psychiatric

1988 evaluations and...and that they would take care of

1989 pretty much...you know...whatever Lisa needed...that

1990 they would rather not her..you know...be evaluated

1991 or...or have a psychiatrist actually treat her or

1992 ...you know. I guess they had a nurse practitioner

1993 just make the general...you know...the legal

1994 determination as to whether or not she was a Baker

1995 Act candidate and ask her some questions. But I

1996 was wondering if there was any structured thing

1997 that she was gonna be a part of...you know...

1998 because like...you know...we have a 72 hour Baker

1999 Act law in this state that...you know...an

2000 involuntary...

2001 Johnson: I'm not sure what that is.

2002 Det. Sudler: Well, an involuntary admission into a health care

2003 facility for 72 hours is the maximum amount of time

2004 by law that a person can stay there against their

2005 will...you know...until a Judge or physician can

2006 make a determination if they're okay to leave. It

2007 would take a court order to keep them longer than

2008 72 hours. So Lisa didn't meet that legal criteria

2009 according to I guess her interaction with the
2010 emergency staff...she wasn't...you know...suicidal...
2011 ...you know...or likely to do injury to others.
2012 But I didn't know if...if because she...you know...
2013 obviously she was having some type of crisis at
2014 that point...whether she would have any structured
2015 program or anything like that with the church that
2016 she would be a part of in order to try and help her
2017 through this difficult time. There's nothing like
2018 that?

2019 Johnson: Well, she simply wanted to be there to...to just
2020 rest and relax. She had not originated that she
wanted to do anything more.

2021 Det. Sudler: Okay.

2022 Johnson: Than just have a place to just be away from the
2023 pressures of life.

2024 Det. Sudler: Okay. So she didn't go there to take a course or
2025 she wasn't part of any program or anything like
2026 that to try to help her out of this situation
2027 she was in?

2028 Johnson: No.

2029 Det. Sudler: Just she needed a break from everything.

2030 Johnson: Yeah. That was the...that was the whole reason
2031 she was there. She wasn't doing anything else
2032 but just relaxing.

2033 Det. Carrasq: And that would've been something she would've
2034 been initiating?

2035 Johnson: Oh yeah...yeah...yeah. She would've...she would've
2036 said "Well yeah...I want to do something" before she
2037 ...I mean...people don't start on a course or
something if it's not their idea to do it.

2038 Det. Sudler: Okay. At anytime did..did Lisa ever mention to you
2039 or anybody about any suicidal tendencies that she

2042 : may have or anything?

2043 Johnson: No, I hadn't heard anything.

2044 Det. Sudler: She didn't display any self-destructive behavior

2045 : or anything?

2046 Johnson: No, except for that one episode when she was angry

2047 : ...angry about something and she pounded on something.

2048 : But...no..that...

2049 Det. Sudler: That was not the answer.

2050 Johnson: Yeah...I mean...not for the purpose of...you know...

2051 : injuring herself. She was just...she was blowing

2052 : off steam.

2053 Det. Sudler: She didn't...okay..she didn't make statements...

2054 : suicidal statements to you or anybody that you're

2055 : aware of that she didn't want to live anymore or...?

2056 Johnson: I never heard any such thing.

2057 Det. Sudler: Was she trying to starve herself to death?

2058 Johnson: I...I'm...I can't really...I mean...I can't really

2059 : say that I knew enough about what was going on in

2060 : her mind and actually what she was doing to say that

2061 : that is or isn't the case.

2062 Det. Sudler: Okay.

2063 Johnson: If I knew a little more, maybe I could give you a

2064 : guess. But I don't feel like I really know enough

2065 : to even say.

2066 Det. Sudler: Yeah. That's why we're trying to fill in that period

2067 : of time...

2068 Johnson: Yeah.

2069 Det. Sudler: You know...Lisa had a family history that I can't

2070 : get into...

2071 Johnson: Okay.

2072 Det. Sudler: But we...we need to have...you know...we want to

2073 : fill in that gap from the time that she had that

2074 : accident to the time of her death about...you know...

2075 her mental and physical well-being...you know...
2076 her condition. Is there anybody that you know that
2077 would have more firsthand knowledge of...of Lisa and
2078 how she was there...I mean...you were pretty much...
2079 you know...you and Laura were there...
2080 Johnson: Yeah.
2081 Det. Sudler: Watching her. And Suzanne. Other than...other than
2082 you and Suzanne and Laura, would there be anybody
2083 else that would know?
2084 Johnson: Well, I don't think so. I think probably I'm...I
2085 could say that Suzanne...you know...definitely
2086 knows more than I do about Lisa...
2087 Det. Sudler: Okay.
2088 Johnson: Just because she was a personal friend. Let's see
2089 if I can remember any other thing that...you know...
2090 Suzanne might have told me. She didn't specifically
2091 say...you know...that Lisa...you know...was starving
2092 herself or trying to harm herself. But I know that
2093 it was a long term problem off and on. It wasn't
2094 always but it would pop up off and on. That much she
2095 had said to Suzanne. But as far as...you know...if
2096 this was the intention of what she was doing...you
2097 know..that I never got any...I never heard anybody
2098 say that directly.
2099 Det. Sudler: Okay. But that didn't present itself to you that
2100 that's what she was trying to do?
2101 Johnson: It crossed my mind that she...you know...was....that
2102 she was not as...well, that we...that at times it
2103 took a lot of encouragement to get her to do those
2104 kind of basic things...you know...to just get her to
2105 ...to eat enough...drink enough. But then...you know
2106 ...somebody who is really upset...yeah, they'll...
2107 they'll neglect themselves that way. So I can't...

2108 yeah...I can't really say that it seemed to be willful
2109 and seemed to be something that was...you know...
2110 planned or...or pre-meditated.
2111 Det. Sudler: Okay.
2112 Johnson: I'm not saying it couldn't...it wasn't...but...
2113 you know...I can't...I just can't say that I
2114 definitely saw that.
2115 Det. Sudler: Okay. Is Suzanne still in...in that position as
2116 medical office director or...?
2117 Johnson: No...no...
2118 Det. Sudler: Okay. Where is she at now?
2119 Johnson: I believe she's in Switzerland.
2120 Det. Sudler: Okay.
2121 Johnson: That's where she's from.
2122 Det. Sudler: Alright. Alright. And Laura's in Mexico.
2123 Johnson: Uh Huh.
2124 Det. Sudler: You want to travel Bob? You'd have a pretty
2125 good vacation there.
2126 B. Johnson: I'd rather go to Switzerland.
2127 Det. Sudler: Yeah. Would there be anybody else over at the
2128 church or any other staff member that would have
2129 more information about this?
2130 Johnson: Better...like her personal life before him?
2131 Det. Sudler: Yeah or during that...who actually dealt with
2132 her or had any contact with her during that
2133 two week period of time.
2134 Johnson: I think probably Suzanne and I knew as much or more
2135 than anybody else would in..about those...those
2136 couple of weeks.
2137 Det. Sudler: Okay. Is Suzanne on vacation or is she working
2138 over there now...is she back home...is that...?
2139 Johnson: No, she's not on staff anymore...she's...
2140 Det. Sudler: Okay.

2141 Johnson: She's doing other things.
2142 Det. Sudler: Alright.
2143 Det. Carrasq: When you say on staff, does that mean like you're
2144 employed by the church?
2145 Johnson: Uh Huh.
2146 Det. Carrasq: That is your job or...?
2147 Johnson: Yeah.
2148 Det. Carrasq: So she just quit the church?
2149 Johnson: Uh Huh. Well, she...she wanted to do other things.
2150 And...you know...no...nobody's pushed to stay if they
2151 don't want to stay.
2152 Det. Sudler: During...
2153 Det. Carrasq: Is she still a member of the church though?
2154 Johnson: Oh yeah.
2155 Det. Sudler: During the transport up to the hospital in New
2156 Port Richey, was there ever a time that you thought
2157 about getting immediate medical help for...for Lisa...
2158 you know...and..I mean...you were driving and you
2159 just looked in the rearview mirror...but...you know...
2160 when she had that breathing problem, did it ever
2161 occur to you or did you ever think about calling 911
2162 or getting a...you know...an advance life support unit
2163 there or anything like that?
2164 Johnson: Well, not really. I mean...like I said...that was...
2165 you know...kinda one of these hindsights in retrospect
2166 ...you know. I didn't think anything of it at the
2167 time.
2168 Det. Sudler: Okay. And Paul and...you know...Laura didn't update
2169 you as to her condition or anything like that during
2170 the drive?
2171 Johnson: No.
2172 Det. Sudler: Okay. Det. Carrasquillo...any questions?
2173 Det. Carrasq: Nothing I can think of right now.

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2174 Det. Sudler: Mr. Johnson?
2175 B. Johnson: No...nothing.
2176 Det. Sudler: Okay. Thank you very much Janis. I'm gonna go
2177 ahead and conclude the interview. The time is now
2178 11:27 a.m.

OFC. REPORTING: Det. Ron Sudler/elg ID NO: 608 DATE: 5/29/96

CASE STATUS: Active EXCEPTION TYPE: _____ DATE CLEARED: _____

CLEARANCE TYPE _____
1. Arrest _____ 1. Extradition Declined
Adult _____ Juv _____ 2. AR of Prim. Offense, Secondary Offense. w/o Pros
3. Death of Offender 5. Prosecution Decl
4. V/W Refused to Cooperate 6. Juv./No Custody
Exceptional _____
Unfounded _____

OFC. REVIEWING: _____ DATE: _____ SA INFO: _____