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2 **ANDERSON, CASSANDRA**

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4 **LEGEND:**

5 **DET. TEFFT: DET. JOHN TEFFT, SDPD**

6 **ANDERSON: WITNESS CASSANDRA ANDERSON**

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8 **BEGINNING OF TELEPHONE CALL**

9 DET. TEFFT: Today's date is, uh, August 5th, 1999, and, uh, the time is 0830 hours and I'll be
10 making a telephone call to, uh, [Personal data deleted]. (Unin).

11 ANDERSON: Hi John.

12 DET. TEFFT: How are you doin'?

13 ANDERSON: I'm doin' okay. Could you hold on one second for me?

14 DET. TEFFT: You, you bet.

15 ANDERSON: Thanks. Sorry about that.

16 DET. TEFFT: No problem. Uh, I left a message with you last night, I don't know if you...

17 ANDERSON: ...right.

18 DET. TEFFT: Okay. Do you have a couple of minutes to talk to me today, or is...or right now, or is
19 this a bad time?

20 ANDERSON: I do, that's fine.

21 DET. TEFFT: Okay, uh, the reason why I'm telephoning you is, uh, I'm one of the detectives that is
22 investigating the officer involved shooting that happened on July 24th...

23 ANDERSON: ...right...

24 DET. TEFFT: ...1999, over here in Mission Beach.

25 ANDERSON: Uh huh.

26 DET. TEFFT: And yesterday, uh, uh, Laura Milligan...

27 ANDERSON: ...Laura, uh huh...

28 DET. TEFFT: ...came in and, uh, came in and told us what she saw. And I've since interviewed her
husband Shawn.

ANDERSON: Uh huh.

1 DET. TEFFT: And she talked about the other people that were in the vehicle that evening.
2 ANDERSON: Right.
3 DET. TEFFT: Now, uh, up until yesterday, we didn't know you, you folks were possible witnesses,
4 and so, uh, in these kind of matters obviously we're gonna investigate, and we want
5 to interview everyone no matter, you know, what they saw, no matter how, how
6 much or how little.
7 ANDERSON: Uh huh.
8 DET. TEFFT: And that's why I'd like to talk to you a little bit about, uh, what happened that
9 evening.
10 ANDERSON: Okay.
11 DET. TEFFT: And if you could maybe just start off..., oh maybe what you were doing prior to that
12 and then where you were, and how you were driving, and, and what you did after
13 that. Just maybe kind of, you know, just give me a narrative here and I'll take some
14 notes...
15 ANDERSON: ...okay...
16 DET. TEFFT: ...and then I may just have some questions afterwards, so...
17 ANDERSON: ...okay.
18 DET. TEFFT: Okay? [Personal data deleted]
19 ANDERSON: So, uh, after the barbecue, my mom went home and, uh, we all hopped in Laura's
20 truck and, uh, started down to the roller coaster.
21 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
22 ANDERSON: We were...and I can't tell you the cross street, I don't remember, it's been years since
23 I've...
24 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
25 ANDERSON: ...you know, lived down there...
26 DET. TEFFT: ...sure...
27 ANDERSON: ...but, uh, we were on Mission Boulevard...
28 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.

1 ANDERSON: ...um, and we were, you know, havin' fun, talking in the truck, and looked over, uh,
2 looked over on the right side, out the right side window, it's a, uh, extended cab, so
3 we were in the back seat.
4 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh. Uh huh.
5 ANDERSON: Looked out the right side window, and, uh, there was a little convenience store, don't
6 remember the name of it. Uh, little...you know, liquor convenience store right there
7 on Mission Boulevard.
8 DET. TEFFT: Right.
9 ANDERSON: And, we saw a black man fighting with two officers.
10 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
11 ANDERSON: I saw what, what looked to me like, um, the man had a pair of nunchakus in his
12 hand.
13 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
14 ANDERSON: And, one of the policemen were...was holding on to the nunchakus, and it was kind
15 of like a dog playing tug-of-war.
16 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
17 ANDERSON: And he was holding on to the nunchakus, and the black guy was just like whipping
18 him back and forth.
19 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
20 ANDERSON: Um, while he kept holding on. And then one of the other policemen I saw, he had
21 his night stick out, and he was trying to, you know, get the guy to release the
22 nunchakus, um, he was hittin' him on the knee. I saw him hit him on the knee. I saw
23 him hit him on the shoulder. Uh, and then, let me think...and after that, I saw...I
24 think I looked away for a minute. We were all kind of, you know, looking around at
25 each other in the truck, you know, my goodness.
26 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
27 ANDERSON: And, looked back, I saw, I saw the black man, he...I don't know if he...there was a
28 parked car there, so I don't know if he knelt down, or, you know, went all the way
down onto his chest, or, or what he had done...
DET. TEFFT: ...uh.

1 ANDERSON: But I saw him kind of hit the ground, uh, and this whole time, you know, the
2 policemen were yelling; stop, drop it, freeze, that kind of thing, um, while they were
3 trying to get him to let go.
4 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
5 ANDERSON: Uh, and then after I saw him hit the ground, I looked away, looked back, and I saw
6 one of the policemen had his gun drawn, uh, you know, straight armed out. Uh, the
7 whole time they're still yelling, uh, for him to stop and to freeze...
8 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
9 ANDERSON: ...um, and then, I looked away, uh, Dave had said he saw the man get back up off the
10 ground...
11 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
12 ANDERSON: ...um, I didn't see it. Whether he was holding a, you know, knife, gun, I didn't
13 know...
14 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
15 ANDERSON: ...he got back up and right after that I heard a pop, pop...pop, pop, pop, and that was
16 it. And Laura really didn't get to, to see too much. I think the car in front of her was
17 trying to stop. She was trying not to hit him.
18 DET. TEFFT: ...uh...
19 ANDERSON: ... And kind of trying to get out of the area. We didn't know which way the gun was
20 pointing...
21 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
22 ANDERSON: ...where the stray bullets...
23 DET. TEFFT: ...sure.
24 ANDERSON: ...were gonna go, anything like that. So we're kind of like, no, keep goin', keep goin'.
25 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh, right.
26 ANDERSON: But, uh, and that's all I saw. I didn't see anything, uh, really after I saw him hit the
27 ground. Dave said he saw him get back up, and then we heard the shots, and then it
28 was it.
DET. TEFFT: Okay.

1 ANDERSON: Uh, after that we kept driving down Mission, uh, turned into the parking lot at the
2 roller coaster. Uh, we're all, you know, pretty church going folks. We said a prayer
3 for everyone who was involved, uh, when we were sittin' in the truck. And then, uh,
4 Jeanette was a little upset. She, you know, kind of started crying, um, I think most
5 of, most of us in the truck were just kind of like wow. Wow, that was kind of weird.

6 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

7 ANDERSON: And then, lets go ride the roller coaster.

8 DET. TEFFT: Right.

9 ANDERSON: So, I mean, not that we're, you know, not compassionate people, but it was kind of
10 like, wow, you know...

11 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.

12 ANDERSON: ...come on, lets go.

13 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

14 ANDERSON: And, uh, and then that was it. Rode the roller coaster, went to (unin) shopping', and
15 went home.

16 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh. Okay.

17 ANDERSON: (Unin), you know, went home watched the news, that kind of thing. And then I went
18 back to my mom's place.

19 DET. TEFFT: Okay. All righty. Okay, now let me, uh, let me just go over this with you just a
20 couple times, uh, just to make sure I got it all correctly.

21 ANDERSON: Okay.

22 DET. TEFFT: [Personal data deleted]

23 DET. TEFFT: Okay, and you were all in, uh, their car.

24 ANDERSON: Right. Laura's...she had a Dodge Ram.

25 DET. TEFFT: Right. Now, had any of you been drinking that evening?

26 ANDERSON: No.

27 DET. TEFFT: Okay. All righty.

28 ANDERSON: Yeah (LAUGH), we're church goin' people we...(unin)...

DET. TEFFT: ...well, you know, but, I mean, church goin' people sometimes, you know, drink, I
mean, it doesn't have to be excessive. But...

1 ANDERSON: ...right, no, not at all.

2 DET. TEFFT: [Personal data deleted]

3 DET. TEFFT: Oh, okay. All righty. And so you were, uh, uh...anyway, so you guys were, uh,
4 goin' down Mission Boulevard and you saw a little convenience store here on that...

5 ANDERSON: ...right.

6 DET. TEFFT: And when you saw it, you saw a black male who was fighting with the officers.

7 ANDERSON: Right.

8 DET. TEFFT: Okay, now, uh, the police officers...how did you know they were police officers?
9 What...?

10 ANDERSON: Um, well gosh, if I remember correctly, um, and I won't let you hold me to this, but
11 it seemed like they were wearing the blue shorts, white shirts, uh, I saw a gun belt,
12 uh...

13 DET. TEFFT: ...okay, basically they had a uniform on that you...

14 ANDERSON: ...yeah, a uniform...

15 DET. TEFFT: ...identified as a police officer...

16 ANDERSON: ...kind of a beach patrol type uniform maybe.

17 DET. TEFFT: Okay.

18 ANDERSON: Like the shorts and...

19 DET. TEFFT: ...all right.

20 ANDERSON: Yeah.

21 DET. TEFFT: All right. That's, that's fine. Now, the black male that you saw...

22 ANDERSON: ...uh huh.

23 DET. TEFFT: Could you describe him to me the best that you could?

24 ANDERSON: Gosh, you know, I could not. He looked like he might have had a muscular build.

25 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

26 ANDERSON: Um, didn't seem to look to tall. I mean, it, it wasn't obvious to me that he would be
27 like, you know, like seven feet or anything. He, he just seemed...

28 DET. TEFFT: ...huh.

ANDERSON: ...like a, just a, a normal height really...

DET. TEFFT: ...okay.

1 ANDERSON: ...and I hate to say normal cause it's not...(LAUGH)...

2 DET. TEFFT: ...right...

3 ANDERSON: ...helpful at all.

4 DET. TEFFT: Right.

5 ANDERSON: But, uh, I, I want, you know, I just don't, I just don't remember...

6 DET. TEFFT: That's fine. Okay.

7 ANDERSON: ...any, any, you know, descriptive...

8 DET. TEFFT: ...all right. Now when you say that the three of them were fighting...

9 ANDERSON: ...uh huh.

10 DET. TEFFT: Can you maybe describe to me a little bit..., what that fight was like. You used...

11 ANDERSON: ...well...

12 DET. TEFFT: ...you use an analogy of a dog fight, uh...

13 ANDERSON: ...well...

14 DET. TEFFT: ...and then whipping around. What, what would you mean by that?

15 ANDERSON: ...right, I saw something like, uh, you know when, when a dog, when you're holding
16 a rope for a dog...

17 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

18 ANDERSON: ...to play tug of war?

19 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

20 ANDERSON: And, how it, how a dog holds it in his mouth, and, and you kind of whip him side to
21 side.

22 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

23 ANDERSON: And the dog holds on, he's not really in control, but he's holdin' on, and, and he's
24 just kind of goin' side to side. This is...that's the same thing one of the policemen
25 was doing.

26 DET. TEFFT: ...okay, so that...did...?

27 ANDERSON: It looked like he was holding on to maybe the chain part...

28 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh...

ANDERSON: ...of the nunchakus, and I, and I say nunchakus, it's just because I, I saw the, the
black man had like one thing in each hand...

1 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.

2 ANDERSON: ...and then there was something in between which looked something like a chain.

3 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

4 ANDERSON: And, the, the cop was holding on to what looked like the chain part...

5 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.

6 ANDERSON: ...you know, he was holding on to something in between the hands of the black man.

7 And he was just kind of goin' from side to side. It looked like the black man was

8 just tryin' to pull it away from him.

9 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.

10 ANDERSON: You know, and he was kind of movin' from side to side, backing up trying to, trying

11 to get it away from him still, to get the cop to let go.

12 DET. TEFFT: Okay.

13 ANDERSON: And the cop was just hanging on, movin' right along with him.

14 DET. TEFFT: All right, so that's a very good analogy. I know exactly what you're talking about

15 with the dog when you play with it with a rope. And then, now, did you say you saw

16 one of the other officers with a baton, or nunchakus, hit him?

17 ANDERSON: Right, it looked like it, it was his nun...his night stick, his baton. Um, and I, I saw

18 him hit him down towards the knees. Um, and also on the shoulders, trying to, you

19 know, make him stop, or, or let go of the nunchakus.

20 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh. Okay.

21 ANDERSON: Uh, and, and that's really all I saw the other officer doing, but he did have his night

22 stick, and he was hitting him. Like I said, it wasn't on his head, it wasn't on his face.

23 What I saw was down on his knees, down below on his knees, and then on his, uh,

24 shoulders.

25 DET. TEFFT: All right, and then you heard the officers yellin', uh, words to the effect, stop, drop

26 it, freeze?

27 ANDERSON: Right.

28 DET. TEFFT: Things like that? Okay. Now, you said you saw the black man hit the ground. Uh,

what do you mean by that?

1 ANDERSON: Well..., I can't say that he actually hit the ground like you would think, you hit the
2 ground to do a push-up.
3 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
4 ANDERSON: I can't say that he was all the way down on the ground, like laying on his chest
5 because the parked car was in the way.
6 DET. TEFFT: Uh huh.
7 ANDERSON: Uh, but I did...uh, he bent down, or lowered himself lower than the parked car...
8 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
9 ANDERSON: ...cause I, I couldn't see over that anymore. But he was out of my sight, and not out
10 of my sight on either side, it was out of my sight up and down. Um, I, you know,
11 he...
12 DET. TEFFT: ...uh huh.
13 ANDERSON: ...he dropped to where his head went below the parked car...
14 DET. TEFFT: ...okay...
15 ANDERSON: ...um, and, and, you know, whether he was on his knees, or, or...
16 DET. TEFFT: ...okay.
17 ANDERSON: ...like I said, if he decided to...
18 DET. TEFFT: ...okay, so he lowered himself in some fashion that obstru...and the car obstructed
19 your view...
20 ANDERSON: ...right.
21 DET. TEFFT: ...so you're not really sure what he did, but he was lower than the, than your, your
22 field of view.
23 ANDERSON: Right, uh huh.
24 DET. TEFFT: Okay. And then, then you heard...and then after that, that's when you heard...and
25 then...did you see him get back up?
26 ANDERSON: I didn't see him get back up. Dave said that he had seen him get back up...
27 DET. TEFFT: ...right.
28 ANDERSON: ...and then after that time, I heard the...what sounded...
DET. TEFFT: ...okay, but, okay and that's...
ANDERSON: ...like five shots...

1 DET. TEFFT: ...and we'll interview Dave. But what I need to do is just find out exactly...and
2 you're doing great, I just need to find out exactly what you saw.
3 ANDERSON: I, I did not see him get back up...
4 DET. TEFFT: ...okay, and then you heard, you heard some popping noise.
5 ANDERSON: Right, I heard what sounded like five shoots, uh, broken in two. It was like pop,
6 pop...pop, pop, pop.
7 DET. TEFFT: Okay.
8 ANDERSON: And then we kept going.
9 DET. TEFFT: Okay. All righty. And, uh, and you went from there. Okay, and then you went
10 down to the coaster...
11 ANDERSON: ...uh huh.
12 DET. TEFFT: ...and then you said you guys, uh, uh, you guys, uh, uh, you guys were a little upset
13 about what you saw, and you guys...
14 ANDERSON: ...well of cour...right, and...
15 DET. TEFFT: ...right, no that's cool...
16 ANDERSON: ...and in a compassionate way of course we were upset...
17 DET. TEFFT: ...right.
18 ANDERSON: ...um, you know, said a prayer for all that was involved. We didn't know...see, we
19 didn't know where the gun shots came from.
20 DET. TEFFT: Correct.
21 ANDERSON: We didn't know if it was a cop, we didn't know if it was him, if he had pulled
22 something, if he had something on him.
23 DET. TEFFT: Right.
24 ANDERSON: So, you know, it was...
25 DET. TEFFT: ...sure...
26 ANDERSON: ...for everyone.
27 DET. TEFFT: No, I'm with you.
28 ANDERSON: ...right.
DET. TEFFT: I, I'm with you on that, no problem. And, uh, Jeanette was a little upset, she was
cryin' a little bit?

1 ANDERSON: Right.
2 DET. TEFFT: Okay. And then, uh, then you guys were able to kind of salvage your evening a little
3 bit.
4 ANDERSON: Right.
5 DET. TEFFT: Okay. All righty, and, uh, I think I pretty much have it all here. Now, you know
6 what, what I need to do here, before I forget, I need to get all your information. I
7 have Anderson, and we have Cassandra.
8 ANDERSON: Uh huh.
9 DET. TEFFT: And, Cassandra, what is your middle name?
10 ANDERSON: Lee, L-e-e.
11 DET. TEFFT: [Personal data deleted]C
12 DET. TEFFT: No, that's true. All right, well, uh, Cassandra, thanks for your time, and, um...if you,
13 if...you have my name and number, and if somethin' comes up that you think, oh
14 man, I forgot to tell this officer that...
15 ANDERSON: ...okay.
16 DET. TEFFT: ...feel free to give me a call.
17 ANDERSON: Okay, great.
18 DET. TEFFT: All right. Talk to you later.
19 ANDERSON: Thank you.
20 DET. TEFFT: Bye bye.
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